Master of Science (M.S.) Degree in English Education: Preparation 7-12

**English Education at SU**

The School of Education’s Reading and Language Arts Department prepares English educators to promote the active learning and academic achievement of all students in inclusive environments and to serve as principled leaders and advocates for students in their schools, communities, and profession. The program prepares students to become English educators who are proficient in five areas:

- Critical reflection and explanations of practice
- Content knowledge
- Inclusive and culturally responsive pedagogy
- Assessment of student learning
- Professional conduct and collaboration

**This program offers teacher candidates:**

- 40-credit hour program taken full-time that exposes students to cutting-edge ideas in education in courses taught by faculty specialists.
- The opportunity for those holding a bachelor’s degree with the appropriate English and other prerequisites, but no prior coursework in teaching, to prepare for New York State initial adolescence certification as English teachers (grades 7-12) while earning a master’s degree.
- Special emphasis on working with struggling students, serving diverse student populations, using technology to promote active learning, and teachers as researchers of professional practice and builders of practical theory.
- 5 field placements allowing each candidate to learn from a variety of urban and suburban school settings, teachers, and youth with diverse backgrounds and abilities.
- Shared professional development with a cohort of students in English education, and in other secondary programs, through several common core courses.

**Admission to the Program:**

**Program course prerequisites:**

- A bachelor’s degree with a 30 credit major or concentration in English, or its equivalent.
- Equivalency for those without an English major:
  - A minimum of 30 English credits with acceptable grades (with advanced planning, up to 6 of these might be completed as part of the master’s program). Appropriate credits from related fields may also be considered.
- 18 (of the 30) should be upper division credits or equivalent as determined by the faculty.

- All students should have at least 9 credits of writing instruction or writing intensive courses, including at least one with significant writing instruction.

- Other General Education course prerequisites include successful completion of:
  - A course with emphasis on artistic expression; or significant recent participation in the arts;
  - A history/historical focus course;
  - A social science other than history or psychology;
  - A college-level mathematics course;
  - A college-level science course;
  - A language other than English (including American Sign Language) through the first year of college study or equivalent, met through appropriate college or high school (Level III) courses.

- Applicants who have not completed these prerequisites should consult the program coordinator. All applicants are encouraged to have early transcript reviews so that any possible missing prerequisites can be identified in time for coursework to be taken prior to entry.

Admission is competitive, with decisions based on overall and English grade point averages, recommendations, and the candidate’s stated goals. The minimum undergraduate grade point average for admission is typically 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Interviews are not required, but are encouraged.

In addition, to initial admissions criteria, enrolled students must be successful in earlier program courses to be eligible for student teaching semesters. This is evidenced by skill in writing, productive engagement in the assigned field experience, grades of “B” or better in graduate courses, and display of a professional disposition.

APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION:

Although applications for admission may be submitted either online or on paper, on-line applications are processed more swiftly and are strongly encouraged. On-line applications may be found and completed at: https://apply.embark.com/grad/syracuse/

All applications are processed by Admissions Processing which forwards materials to the program coordinator (and notifies the applicant) once all required information has been received. Candidates who want to apply for an SU scholarship should submit separate applications for both admission and a scholarship by February 1. Applications for admission submitted after February 1 will be considered on a space available basis.

SAMPLE PLAN:

FALL SEMESTER:

- EDU 605: Understanding Teaching  3  
  (25+ hours of field experience)
- EDU 607: Principles of Teaching and Learning in Inclusive Classrooms  3  
  (25+ hours of field experience)
- RED 625: Literacy Across the Curriculum  4  
  (30+ hours of field experience)

SPRING SEMESTER:

- EDU 508: Student Teaching/candidacy  3  
  (120 hours of student teaching M-F mornings for several weeks (including full-time during Spring Break) and 25 hours of pre-student teaching field experience
- EDU 614: Developing Writing Competence: The Composing Process  3
- SED 613: Methods & Curriculum in Teaching English  3
- SED 609: Adapting Instruction for Diverse Student Needs  3

SUMMER SEMESTER:

- Education or English elective  3
- Education or English elective  3

FALL SEMESTER:

- EDU 508: Student Teaching  6  
  (11 weeks full time)
- SED 615: Teacher Development/English  3

REQUIRED NON-CREDIT PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Child Health and Life Safety On-line Seminars

PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENT

Portfolio presentations take place three times over the course of the program: near the end of the first semester, at the end of the candidacy semester, and at the end of the standard student teaching semester.

The final requirement is the completion of an Intensive Examination. The master’s thesis is not an option in this program.

Course descriptions can be found in the graduate catalog, which is available online at: http://coursecatalog.syr.edu

TEACHER CERTIFICATION

This program is a New York State (NYS) approved teacher preparation program. Those completing it are eligible for institutional recommendation for NYS initial adolescence certification in English 7-12. English education graduates may, of course, apply for certification in other states. State requirements and reciprocity agreements between states vary.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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Department of Reading and Language Arts
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315-443-4755

Apply online at https://apply.embark.com/grad/syracuse