The M.S.Ed. in Literacy Education with a Focus on Reading is nationally recognized as an exemplary program by the International Reading Association (IRA). As a competency-based program, each course builds upon the previous course(s) and is aligned with the standards for reading professionals developed by the IRA and approved by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. Completion of the program leads to the K-12 Reading Specialist Endorsement. The M.S.Ed. program requires 33 semester hours of graduate credit and generally takes 2 years plus one semester to complete. The Reading Teacher Endorsement requires 24 semester hours in reading (Phases I & II). The courses are 3 credits each and generally delivered in the following sequence:

**Phase I. Foundations in Literacy (15 credits)**
- LTRE 500—Improvement of Reading in the Elementary School
- LTRE 505—Teaching Reading in the Middle School
- LTRE 511—Content Area Reading
- LTIC 515—Bilingualism and Reading
- LTLA 543—Writing Instruction

**Phase II. Diagnosis and Remediation (9 credits)**
- LTRE 520—Diagnosis and Treatment of Reading Difficulties
- LTRE 530—Practicum in Diagnosis of Reading Difficulties
- LTRE 531—Practicum in Problems of Teaching Reading

**Phase III. Leadership in Literacy (6 credits)**
- LTRE 701—Supervisory Problems in Reading
- LTCY 586—Internship (can be completed while teaching full-time)

**Core Course (3 credits)**
- LTCY 536—Literacy Research (or other approved research course)

The program is delivered to cohorts located at various sites through the region. Cohorts may be located at NIU-DeKalb, NIU-Naperville, and NIU-Hoffman Estates as well as at schools within the NIU service area.

An interested candidate may obtain a graduate application by going on-line to the NIU graduate school homepage [www.grad.niu.edu/grad/apply/index.shtml](http://www.grad.niu.edu/grad/apply/index.shtml) and applying as a Degree Seeking student or Student-at-Large (non-degree status). The completed M.S.Ed. application packet including the completed application form, career goal statement, two letters of recommendation, college transcripts, test scores (GRE or MAT), and the application fee should be sent to the NIU Graduate School. A candidate may take a course as a Student-at-Large while waiting to be officially admitted into the program.

**For more information, contact:**
Gail Schumacher
Academic Advisor, Graduate Programs
Department of Literacy and Elementary Education
Graham Hall 199E
DeKalb, IL 60115
gschumacher@niu.edu
815-753-7948