

## **General Information about Reading Endorsement**

The Department of Middle and Secondary Education, Department of Educational Psychology, Special Education, and Communication Disorders offer graduate courses in literacy which apply to Georgia's Reading Endorsement for classroom teachers. These courses focus on three areas (a) understanding readers and the reading process, (b) linking assessment and instruction, and (c) using instructional strategies in specific content areas. All students who wish to obtain a reading endorsement must attend a MSE orientation session and complete an exit requirement of a portfolio. The portfolio will be aligned with the PSC requirements and will require the demonstration of the ability to teach reading at the applicable levels of the base certificate.

The Reading Endorsement Program presupposes certification at least at the bachelor's level. Successful completion of **three** of the following courses qualifies a person for the bachelor's, master's, or specialist level endorsement, depending on the current level of certification. This endorsement qualifies an individual to be considered 'in field' in reading at the level of the base certificate. Teachers pursuing the reading endorsement may be enrolled as nondegree students or may be enrolled in specific programs.

### **Strand 1: Understanding Readers and the Reading Process**

Select one (3):

- [EDRD 6600](#) Introduction to Materials and Methods in Reading Instruction (3)
- [EDRD 7600](#) Theory and Pedagogy in the Study of Reading (3)

### **Strand 2: Linking Assessment and Instruction**

Select one (3):

- [EDRD 7550](#) Linking Literacy Assessment and Classroom Instruction (3)
- [EDRD 7650](#) Individualized Literacy Assessment and Instruction (3)

### **Strand 3: Using Instructional Strategies in Specific Content Areas**

Select one (3):

- [EDRD 7630](#) Literacy in the Content Areas (3)
- [EXC 7190](#) Alternative Approaches to Literacy for Students with Disabilities (3)

**Total hours required for reading endorsement: minimum of 9 semester hours**

## **Livertext and Steps Toward Completing Reading Endorsement Portfolio**

The Reading Endorsement Portfolio Portal is available for you to create and submit your Reading Endorsement Portfolio. Three classes comprise the Reading Endorsement (EDRD 7600 or EDRD 6600; EDRD 7630 or EXC 7190; and EDRD 7550 or EDRD 7650). The portfolio is submitted and evaluated after you have completed the 3-course sequence, however it is advisable to go ahead and access the portfolio, which you will use throughout your program to document your course work and experiences. You must have a LiveText account and must upload your portfolio via LiveText.

**Please follow the steps below for completing the portfolio required for a reading endorsement:**

1. At the point you plan to obtain a reading endorsement you must send an email to Dr. Muhammad ([gmuhammad@gsu.edu](mailto:gmuhammad@gsu.edu)) stating your intentions to complete the reading endorsement requirements and portfolio. This is a required step because there is no way to know which students across the entire College of Education have intentions toward pursuing a reading endorsement certification.
2. Dr. Muhammad will email you back and notify you that a LiveText reading endorsement portfolio has been shared with you. This template will have your name attached to it.
3. Log in to your LiveText account. (If you have not purchased your LiveText account yet, please follow this link: [https://secure.touchnet.com/C20797\\_ustores/web/store\\_main.jsp?STOREID=109&STCATID=6](https://secure.touchnet.com/C20797_ustores/web/store_main.jsp?STOREID=109&STCATID=6))
4. Locate the shared document by going to your LiveText Docs tab
5. Open the portfolio file and read the overview and accompany parts carefully. Next go to each course tab and for each course, upload/attach all of the assignments you have completed for that specific course. Next type in the course you took (as there are two course options per tab) and list all of the assignments completed under the corresponding standards in the text box. Do this for each of the three courses you have taken.
6. Open the “Documentation of Experiences” file. Here, you should respond to each of the items. You should type in the level(s) of your certification and describe all of the experiences you have had with each grade level related to your base certificate. Do not keep grade levels of your base certificate blank.
7. Remember, you should paint a clear and descriptive picture of the reading endorsement requirements. Once you have completed portfolio, share the file with Dr. Muhammad on LiveText and then send Dr. Muhammad ([gmuhammad@gsu.edu](mailto:gmuhammad@gsu.edu)) an email stating you have completed your portfolio and it is ready for review. She will then email you if there are any missing areas or discrepancies. If the portfolio is complete, she will send you an email (with OAA copied) confirming that you have completed the requirements.

If you have questions about using LiveText, go to “Help” under the LiveText website or email Dr. Muhammad for questions about the portfolio.