Reading and Language Arts Courses

RAL 220/Literacy Strategies, Assessment and Instruction—Special Education (fall)
Through readings, class activities and field experience, this course will develop students' understanding of comprehensive/balanced literacy instruction. Students will become familiar with the different instructional modes of literacy, the concept of reading levels, the stages of reading and writing development, and, the components of the literature focus lesson and the literacy mini-lesson. Through direct experience with materials and methods, students will be prepared to plan appropriate instruction in areas of emergent literacy, word identification, fluency, comprehension, the writing process, and literature response. Field assignments in elementary schools will allow students to apply course content.

RAL 221/Literacy Strategies, Assessment and Instruction—Elementary Education (fall and spring)
Corequisite: ELE 201
Through readings, class activities and field experience, this course will develop students' understanding of comprehensive/balanced literacy instruction. Students will become familiar with the different instructional modes of literacy, the concept of reading levels, the stages of reading and writing development, and, the components of the literature focus lesson and the literacy mini-lesson. Through direct experience with materials and methods, students will be prepared to plan appropriate instruction in areas of emergent literacy, word identification, fluency, comprehension, the writing process, and literature response. Field assignments in elementary schools will allow students to apply course content.

RAL 222/Literacy Strategies, Assessment and Instruction—Early Childhood (fall)
Corequisite: ECE 201
Explores the fundamentals of emergent and early language and literacy. These fundamentals include the complex cultural and social issues that influence the way teachers of young children approach all aspects of language and literacy development, e.g., language acquisition, language structure and variation; the role of oral language in early literacy development; the role of play in literacy development and how play space encourages and supports literacy development, how teacher talk provides a foundation for early vocabulary development; and how the quality and number of children's trade books influences children’s literacy development. Field experiences in K-3 classrooms included.

RAL 225/Children's Literature and Storytelling: A Multicultural Perspective (fall and spring)
A multimedia approach is utilized in this course to examine children’s literature. It includes an in-depth look at the historical background of both the literature and illustration, establishes criteria for selecting books for children from various genres, includes extensive examination of children’s books from each genre of literature, and explores the oral tradition and techniques of storytelling. The course includes psychological, developmental and social perspectives on children’s interaction with literature.

RAL 300-Level Special Topics

RAL 320/Literacy Learning Across the Curriculum — Special Education (spring)
Through readings, class activities and field experience, this course will develop students' understanding of the literacy processes associated with the fluent reader, and the literacy experiences that nurture these processes. Through direct experience with materials and methods, students will be prepared to plan appropriate instruction for children and adolescents in areas of word identification, fluency,
comprehension, the writing process, and literature response, with an emphasis on informational text and the planning of instructional units. A practicum will allow for application of course content.

**RAL 321/Literacy Learning Across the Curriculum—Elementary Education**

1 course unit

*Corequisites:* ELE 301, SOM 203

Through readings, class activities and field experience, this course will develop students' understanding of the literacy processes associated with the developing fluent reader, and the literacy experiences that nurture these processes. Through direct experience with materials and methods, students will be prepared to plan appropriate instruction for children and adolescents in areas of word identification, fluency, comprehension, the writing process, and literature response, with an emphasis on informational text and the planning of instructional units. A practicum in elementary schools will allow for application of course content.

**RAL 322/Literacy Learning Across the Curriculum—Early Childhood Education**

1 course unit

*Corequisite:* SOM 203

Through readings, class activities and field experience, this course will develop students' understanding of the literacy processes associated with the developing fluent reader, and the literacy experiences that nurture these processes. Through direct experience with materials and methods, students will be prepared to plan appropriate instruction for children and adolescents in areas of word identification, fluency, comprehension, the writing process, and literature response, with an emphasis on informational text and the planning of instructional units. A practicum in K-3 classrooms will allow for application of course content.

**RAL 390/Discipline Specific Research Course**

Variable course units

Permission of instructor

Guided research in a related field of study under the direct tutelage of a faculty member.

**RAL 400/400-Level Special Topics**

Variable course units

Permission of instructor