

READING/WRITING/LITERACY, PHD

The Ph.D. in Reading/Writing/Literacy program prepares scholar-practitioners for positions in research universities and other educational organizations with a primary mission related to furthering knowledge in literacy and literacy education.

Students focus on developing their understanding and expertise in particular aspects of the field (e.g., teacher education, pedagogy and curriculum, leadership, policy, urban education, multicultural education, adult and community based literacy in and out of school, literacy in international contexts, etc.) and in learning to conduct research on critical issues and problems in literacy. Students are encouraged to develop one or more areas of concentration. Students choose electives from across the divisions in GSE and from other departments in the university.

For more information: <http://www.gse.upenn.edu/rwl/rwl/phd> (<http://www.gse.upenn.edu/rwl/rwl/phd/>)

View the University's Academic Rules for PhD Programs (<http://catalog.upenn.edu/pennbook/academic-rules-phd/>).

The total course units for graduation is 20. The requirements include 7 core courses, 3 additional research courses, 1 distribution course, and the remainder your choice of elective courses.

Code	Title	Course Units
Core Courses		
EDUC 7323	Multicultural Issues in Education	1
EDUC 8334	Theories of Reading	1
EDUC 7313	Responding to Literature: An Interdisciplinary Perspective	1
EDUC 7337	Research in Teaching Writing	1
EDUC 8336	Issues in Instructional Leadership in Reading and Writing	1
EDUC 7324	Literacy: Social and Historical Perspectives	1
EDUC 9320	Research Seminar in Reading and Writing (Research Course)	1
Research		
Select three courses		3
Distribution		
May be waived for a research requirement		1
Electives		
Select nine electives (5000 level and above)		9
Total Course Units		20

Required Milestones

Qualifications Evaluation (Also known as Program Candidacy)

A Qualifications Evaluation of each student is conducted after the completion of 6 but not more than 8 course units. The evaluation is designed by the specialization faculty and may be based on an examination or on a review of a student's overall academic progress.

Preliminary Examination (Also known as Doctoral Candidacy)

A Candidacy Examination on the major subject area is required. The candidacy examination is a test of knowledge in the student's area of specialization, requiring students to demonstrate knowledge and reasoning in the key content areas in their specialization as defined by their academic division. This examination is normally held after the candidate has completed all required courses.

Oral Proposal

All doctoral candidates must present their dissertation proposals orally and in person to the dissertation committee.

Final Defense of the Dissertation

The final dissertation defense is approximately two hours in length and is based upon the candidate's dissertation.

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2023 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.