This Literacy Learning and Literacy Difficulties MA will provide students with a deeper understanding of the processes involved in learning to read, write and spell, the sources of difficulties, and approaches to intervention.

Degree summary

This programme provides students with the opportunity to draw on the strengths of a team with research expertise in literacy and experience in evaluating early literacy interventions. They will also investigate literacy acquisition and problems in depth, covering reading, writing and spelling.

The Department of Learning and Leadership at UCL Institute of Education (IOE) has developed an internationally-recognised reputation for early childhood and pre-school and primary education studies.

The department has a vibrant teaching programme and offers a range of enriching events including research seminars and conferences in the field of early childhood and primary education.

In all its work, the department is strongly committed to working in partnership with government agencies, education authorities, schools, early years and community groups and other departments within the IOE.

Sessions for all modules are offered face-to-face in the evenings, supplemented by online discussion and reading. Dissertation/report group sessions are also delivered in the evening and are supplemented by one-to-one supervision. All 30-credit modules are assessed via the equivalent of a 4,000-word assignment.

Degree structure

Mode: Full-time: 1 year; Part-time: 2 years; Flexible: up to 5 years
Location: London, Bloomsbury

Part-time students will usually attend one evening per week

Students undertake modules to the value of 180 credits. The programme consists of two core modules (60 credits), two optional modules (60 credits) and either a dissertation (60 credits) or a report (30 credits) and an additional elective module (30 credits).

CORE MODULES
- There are two core modules and all students should take these to qualify for the MA. The dissertation or report are also compulsory. Both of these modules are taken in year one of the programme
- Research Methods in Literacy
- Literacy Development

RECOMMENDED OPTIONAL MODULES INCLUDE:
- Reading and Spelling Difficulties
- Literacy Practice in Writing and Comprehension
- Students can also choose one or two optional Master’s level modules from across the IOE offering

DISSERTATION/REPORT
- All students submit either a 20,000-word dissertation (60 credits) or a report (30 credits).
Your career

Graduates of this programme are currently working across a broad range of areas. Some are working as literacy co-ordinators and special educational needs co-ordinators, while others have jobs as literacy advisers and specialists. Graduates can also be found working as teachers and as independent literacy intervention tutors.

Employability

Students learn to diagnose a range of literacy difficulties and then to be able to consider appropriate interventions for those struggling with their reading and/or writing. Those graduating from the programme usually enhance their career prospects and can demonstrate a deeper understanding of literacy learning and supporting struggling readers and writers. Graduates usually move into coordinator/literacy management roles.
Entry requirements

A minimum of a second-class Bachelor’s degree from a UK university or overseas qualification of an equivalent standard and preferably some relevant experience working with children in schools.

English language proficiency level

If your education has not been conducted in the English language, you will be expected to demonstrate evidence of an adequate level of English proficiency.

The level of English language proficiency for this programme is: Good.

Information about the evidence required, acceptable qualifications and test providers is provided at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/english-requirements

Your application

Students are advised to apply as early as possible due to competition for places. Those applying for scholarship funding (particularly overseas applicants) should take note of application deadlines.

When we assess your application we would like to learn:

// why you want to study Literacy Learning and Literacy Difficulties at graduate level
// why you want to study Literacy Learning and Literacy Difficulties at UCL
// what particularly attracts you to the chosen programme
// how your academic and professional background meets the demands of this challenging programme
// where you would like to go professionally with your degree

Together with essential academic requirements, the personal statement is your opportunity to illustrate whether your reasons for applying to this programme match what the programme will deliver.

FEES AND FUNDING 2017/18 ENTRY

// UK: £7,925 (FT), £3,930 (PT)
// EU: £7,925 (FT), £3,930 (PT)
// Overseas: £17,190 (FT), £8,470 (PT)

The tuition fees shown are for the year indicated above. Fees for subsequent years may increase or otherwise vary. Further information on fee status, fee increases and the fee schedule can be viewed on the UCL Current Students website.

Fees for flexible, modular study are charged pro-rata to the appropriate full-time Master’s fee taken in an academic session.

Full details of funding opportunities can be found on the UCL Scholarships website: www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applicants: 1 September 2017

Details on how to apply are available on the website at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/apply

CONTACT

Dr Susan Taylor, Programme Leader

Email: sue.taylor@ucl.ac.uk

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7612 6829

EU referendum

For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to
www.ucl.ac.uk/eu-referendum