

SECOND SESSION

CODE: _____

FOUR HOURS

**Western Oregon University
Final Written Comprehensive Examinations**

**Master of Science in Education
Reading**

All questions should be written in appropriate academic style and voice. Please include specific, concrete details from your coursework, readings, research, and appropriate theories/theorists to support your answers. As time allows, please carefully reread and proofread your answers. Comprehensive exam questions encompass the key standards of the International Reading Association; include references to coursework, research, and readings across your program of study as appropriate.

Standard 1: FOUNDATIONAL KNOWLEDGE

Describe your knowledge of psychological, sociological, linguistic, and literary theories that should inform literacy practice and research. Consider key reading research, tracing historical developments in literacy education and research, language development and reading acquisition, and how theory informs practice in today's schools.

Standard 2: INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES & CURRICULUM MATERIALS

Describe your knowledge of key instructional practices to meet the needs of students with differing: abilities, cultural & linguistic backgrounds, and socioeconomic levels. Consider differentiation, instructional grouping, use of technology, choice of materials, etc.

Standard 3: ASSESSMENT, DIAGNOSIS, AND EVALUATION

What are some of the significant assessments that guide reading and writing instruction? How does a Reading Specialist apply the knowledge of assessment instruments (used to monitor and evaluate student progress in reading) to guide instructional decision making at the levels of PreK-Grade 12? Consider the main pillars of reading instruction.

Standard 4: CREATING A LITERATE ENVIRONMENT

Describe the core components in literacy that must be considered when working with children and/or young adults. How would you integrate foundational knowledge, instructional practices, and curriculum materials to create a literate environment that fosters reading and writing? Consider: classroom setting, choice of materials/texts, technology, methods of instruction, and basic structures that foster literacy development.

Standard 5: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Reading professionals are expected to model and provide leadership within educational settings. Describe the knowledge and skills you have gained through your MSED Reading program that will allow you to: mentor other educators, promote professional development opportunities and model leadership in the field of literacy education