Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
Literacy Leadership Reading Endorsement
Department of Educational Methodology, Policy, and Leadership

Who should choose the Literacy Leadership emphasis for their Reading Endorsement?
Both Reading Endorsement emphases offered by the College of Education aim to develop reading interventionists: educators who are able to intervene effectively when students struggle with reading, writing, and/or oral language. The Literacy Leadership emphasis offered in the Department of Educational Methodology, Policy, and Leadership (EMPL) is designed to prepare interventionists who want to be leaders in some capacity outside their own classroom. The best candidates for this emphasis will be teachers and administrators with three or more years of experience who are interested in taking a leadership role in literacy with a systems-level perspective in their school, district, or state. In short, students in the Literacy Leadership emphasis learn not only how to provide intensive, research-based reading interventions, but also how to shape education systems in ways that best support effective literacy instruction.

What sorts of leadership roles can reading endorsed teachers fill?
Literacy leaders can work in a wide range of positions including as Title I teachers, as classroom teachers who lead grade-level or data-based decision-making teams, as instructional coaches, or as building, district, or state administrators. Leadership roles involve thinking beyond a single student or instructional group and considering additional aspects of the educational system supporting students. Literacy leaders typically coordinate curriculum, assessment, professional development, and other reading supports at a level beyond a single classroom (i.e., in their grade level, school, district, region, or state). At the grade or school level, the leadership role typically includes working directly with both teachers and students to improve all students’ literacy.

What is meant by “literacy leadership”?
As noted above, literacy leaders work not only with students, but also with other adults in their system to deliver more effective instruction. Some may choose to work exclusively with school, district, or state personnel to address systems level planning and implementation of literacy initiatives. In all cases, those receiving their reading endorsement with a leadership emphasis will be well prepared to:

a) Develop and establish **essential literacy goals** for students in grades K-12;
b) Develop, implement, evaluate, and refine **assessment systems** for a range of assessment purposes (e.g., screening, progress monitoring, diagnosis, outcome evaluation);
c) Develop, implement, evaluate, and refine a **data-based decision making system** that captures the full-range of reading assessment products (e.g., screening, progress monitoring, diagnosis, outcome evaluation) and utilizes a real-time, web-based database for representing and reporting student

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reading performance results for purposes of instruction, planning, resource allocation, and systems evaluation;

d) Develop, implement, manage, and evaluate **multi-tiered research-based systems** of reading and literacy instruction;

e) Provide ongoing **instructional leadership** at the school, district or state level that utilizes student reading performance data in all aspects of decision making;

f) Plan, stage, and staff effective **professional development** that is anchored to the features of a data-based decision making model of reading and literacy instruction; and

g) Build a **community of support and commitment** among staff at the school, district, or state levels to implement a results-oriented reading model and a data-based decision making approach to student reading performance and resource management.

**What will my coursework look like if I am in the Literacy Leadership emphasis?**

Your coursework consists of a 3-credit practicum that will be completed across three terms (1 credit per term) and six 4-credit courses, for a total of 27 credits. The timing of your coursework will depend on how quickly you wish to complete the endorsement. The shortest possible timeline is 4 academic terms completed in one calendar year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Summer Admission</th>
<th>Fall Admission</th>
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| 1    | Summer | EDST 616 – Language, Power, and Education – 4  
EDLD 613 – Reading Research – 4 | EDST 616 – Language, Power, and Education – 4  
EDLD 612 – Reading Interventions – 4  
EDLD 609 – Practicum – 1 |
| 1    | Fall | EDLD 610 – Measurement and Assessment I – 4  
EDLD 610 – Reading & Writing in the Content Areas I – 2  
EDLD 609 – Practicum – 1 | EDLD 610 – Measurement and Assessment I – 4  
EDLD 610 – Reading & Writing in the Content Areas I – 2  
EDLD 609 – Practicum – 1 |
| 1    | Winter | EDLD 618 – Data-based Decision Making – 4  
EDLD 610 – Reading & Writing in the Content Areas II – 2  
EDLD 609 – Practicum+ – 1 | EDLD 618 – Data-based Decision Making – 4  
EDLD 610 – Reading & Writing in the Content Areas II – 2  
EDLD 609 – Practicum – 1 |
| 2    | Summer | EDLD 613 – Reading Research – 4 | EDST 616 – Language, Power, and Education – 4  
EDLD 613 – Reading Research – 4 |

**NOTE:** Classes listed in bold font are required for all Reading Endorsement students regardless of chosen emphasis.

**Do I need to complete my Reading Endorsement with a Literacy Leadership emphasis in one year?**

No! Although the program is designed so that working professionals can complete it in one year, you have the option of completing the endorsement over up to two years. However, taking longer than two years is strongly discouraged.
Can I earn a Master’s degree while earning my Reading Endorsement with a Literacy Leadership emphasis?
Yes! If you would like to obtain your endorsement and a Master’s simultaneously, you can. EMPL offers a Master’s degree with a Reading Specialization. Those seeking a Master’s will need to take a minimum of an additional 21 credits.

Students seeking a Master’s in addition to the Endorsement must take:
- **EDLD 659**, Professional Writing (4 credits)
- **EDUC 611**, Survey of Education Research Methods (3 credits) – intended for students who do not plan to pursue a doctoral degree in the future – OR **EDUC 612**, Social Science Research Design (4 credits) – intended for students who do plan to pursue a doctoral degree in the future
- **EDLD 620**, Educational Leadership (4 credits) OR **EDLD 641**, Standards and Accountability Systems (4 credits)

Together these required classes account for 15-16 credits, leaving students with a maximum of 5 elective credits. These elective credits must be taken in EMPL and may be taken during any term, including summer.

Can I transfer credits toward my Reading Endorsement with a Literacy Leadership?
Students seeking a Master’s degree along with an endorsement may transfer a maximum of 15 graduate credits. Decisions about transfer credits are made on a case-by-case basis.

For students seeking an endorsement without a Master’s degree the answer here is generally no, although exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis, particularly for courses taken at UO. For example, similar courses taken at UO are usually accepted.

How do I apply for the Reading Endorsement with a Literacy Leadership emphasis?
If you want to earn your Reading Endorsement only, you must apply using the application procedures and checklist found on the Reading Endorsement web page ([http://education.uoregon.edu/reading](http://education.uoregon.edu/reading)).

If you want to earn a Master’s degree as well as your Reading Endorsement, you do not need to use the procedures and checklist on the Reading Endorsement page. Instead, you must apply to the general Educational Methodology, Policy, and Leadership Master’s program ([http://education.uoregon.edu/EMPL](http://education.uoregon.edu/EMPL)).

Whom do I contact if I still have questions?
Please contact Angela Pellerin ([pellerin@uoregon.edu](mailto:pellerin@uoregon.edu); 541-346-1492). You can also find more details on the Reading Endorsement website: [https://education.uoregon.edu/program/reading-endorsement](https://education.uoregon.edu/program/reading-endorsement).