



**University of Houston-Downtown  
College of Public Service  
Department of Urban Education**

**Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) in Curriculum and Instruction with an area of expertise  
in English Language Arts and Reading**

The Master of Teaching (MAT) degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an area of expertise in English Language Arts and Reading prepares program graduates for literacy teaching and leadership positions in a variety of educational settings. Program graduates teach English Language Arts, reading, and reading intervention in EC-12 schools. At the college/university level, program graduates teach developmental reading and writing or serve as adjunct professors for literacy education courses. Additionally, the program prepares graduates to assume educational leadership and teacher training roles in a variety of educational settings.

**Master Reading Teacher Certificate** (pending approval from TEA): Completing READ 5313, READ 5315, READ 5317, READ 5321, MAT 6310, READ 6370, and READ 6380 (which includes a 160 clock-hours of field-based practicum) leads to eligibility to test for the Texas Education Agency Master Reading Teacher Certificate. A Master Reading Teacher's primary duties are to teach reading and to serve as a mentor in the field of reading instruction to other teachers.

(Note: This certificate requires candidates to have a valid teaching certificate and at least three years of verifiable experience as a classroom teacher.)

**Reading Specialist Certificate** (pending approval from TEA): Completing the entire Master of Arts in English Language Arts and Reading degree (36 credit-hours), which includes 160 clock-hours of field-based practicum, leads to eligibility to test for the Texas Education Agency Reading Specialist Certificate. Reading Specialists teach in regular or special classrooms and clinics (EC-12), or they facilitate regular and special literacy development programs.

(Note: This certificate requires candidates to have a valid teaching certificate and at least two years of verifiable experience as a classroom teacher.)

*Note: The courses in this degree plan are taught using a hybrid of face-to-face and online instruction.*

**English Language Arts and Reading Courses (24 credit-hours)**

READ 5313 Literacy Curriculum, Methods, and Assessment in the EC-8 Classroom (spring)

READ 5315 Visual Literacy, Multimedia, and Poetry in the Language Arts Classroom (spring)

READ 5317 Reading Curriculum, Methods, Assessment, and Diagnosis for Special Populations (summer)

READ 5321 Literacy in Middle and Secondary Schools (spring)

MAT 6310 Reading in a Multicultural Classroom (fall)

READ 6370 Developing Literacy Teacher Educators (fall, spring, and summer) (\*prerequisite: departmental approval)

READ 6380 Practicum in Teaching Reading (fall and spring) (\*prerequisite: departmental approval)

READ 6390 Scholarly and Creative Activities in Literacy Education (\*prerequisites: MAT 6315, 6316 & 6317) (fall, spring and summer)

### **MAT Core Courses (12 credit-hours)**

MAT 6315 Introduction to Educational Research (fall)

MAT 6316 Advanced Methods for the Culturally Diverse Classroom (fall)

MAT 6317 Classroom-Based Research (\*prerequisite 6315) (spring)

MAT 5301 Technology Application for Curriculum Development & Instruction (summer)

*The MAT degree program requires completion of a minimum of 36 semester credit-hours. For degree completion, at least 30 credit-hours must be completed at UH-Downtown with a grade point average of 3.0. In addition, students must successfully complete a directed studies project (READ 6390) with approval of the director of graduate programs and under the supervision of an appointed literacy education professor. This master's degree does not include initial Texas Teacher Certification.*

### **How to Apply and Admission Requirements**

- Minimum GPA of 2.5 (Note: Applicants with a GPA of 3.0 or higher are exempt from the GRE requirement)
  - Official transcript which depicts an earned baccalaureate degree from an accredited university and any graduate credit earned (Note: Applicants with 10 or more years since enrollment and/or since earning an undergraduate degree are required to take and submit GRE scores)
  - GRE scores (Quantitative and Verbal combined: 150 or higher, and Analytical Writing: 4 or higher)
  - 3 professional recommendation letters
  - Written personal statement (**250 words minimum**)
  - Earned required number of points based on the MAT admission multiple criteria index
  - Submitted TOEFL scores (if applicable)
  - Application Due: July 15<sup>th</sup> for Fall; November 15<sup>th</sup> for Spring
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- Submit all materials via [www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org) or to Mr. Rubenjack Long in UHD Graduate Admissions (Office: N-353, [longr@uhd.edu](mailto:longr@uhd.edu), 713-223-7935)
  - For admission assistance or to check if your application is complete, please contact Mr. Rubenjack Long at UHD Graduate Admissions (contact information above).

### **Total MAT Tuition/Fees (12 classes)**

\$13,908 (Texas resident, based on Fall 2016 tuition/fees, taking two classes per semester)

Note: Tuition prices can change, and taking fewer than two classes per semester will raise the total program price of tuition/fees. This program cost estimate does not include books, materials, and living expenses. Tuition for non-Texas residents and international students is higher. UHD

Graduate Tuition/Fees information is available here: <https://www.uhd.edu/student-resources/cashiers/Pages/cashiers-grad-tuition2017.aspx>

### **Scholarship Assistance**

All UHD MAT students are encouraged to apply for the Gordon and Mary Cain Graduate Academic Merit Scholarship. This scholarship will pay for half the price of UHD MAT tuition/fees. Students can earn this scholarship more than once during the course of their MAT program. Application: [https://www.uhd.edu/academics/public-service/urban-education/Documents/scholarship-graduate-gordon\\_mary\\_cain.pdf](https://www.uhd.edu/academics/public-service/urban-education/Documents/scholarship-graduate-gordon_mary_cain.pdf)

### **Contacts**

Dr. Bernardo Pohl (Urban Education Graduate Programs Coordinator): [pohlb@uhd.edu](mailto:pohlb@uhd.edu)

Dr. Diane Miller (MAT in ELAR Mentor): [petersond@uhd.edu](mailto:petersond@uhd.edu)

Mr. Rubenjack Long (Graduate Admissions Coordinator): [longr@uhd.edu](mailto:longr@uhd.edu)

**UHD MAT Website:** [www.uhd.edu/mat](http://www.uhd.edu/mat)