



BELLARMINE UNIVERSITY
IN VERITATIS AMORE

Rank 1 Post-Masters Program

Mission

The Annsley Frazier Thornton School of Education prepares caring, effective educators in the Catholic liberal arts tradition of Bellarmine University to teach and lead in diverse settings. The Rank I Non-Degree Post Masters programs offer a best practice, research-based curriculum with a foundation in the liberal arts. Candidates demonstrate proficient to distinguished performance through the following criteria: individual course assessments, field and clinical evaluations, disposition assessments, anchor assessments, and standardized exams.

“Educator as Reflective Learner”

As our theme “Educator as Reflective Learner” suggests, our candidates are integrally involved in on going reflective practice as master educators in their classrooms, schools and communities. Reflective teachers use the world of practice, knowledge of pedagogy, knowledge of the learner, and knowledge of content personally to evaluate their effectiveness. This continuous process provides master teachers with a basis for self-evaluation that results in leadership development for school improvement.

Advanced teacher candidates will participate in ongoing evaluation through the use of an individualized Professional Growth Plan, Anchor Assessments within identified courses, Disposition Assessments at specified transition points, and a final culminating project within the candidate’s emphasis or endorsement area. Each candidate will work closely with his/her faculty advisor to regularly review progress toward program completion.

NCATE Accreditation

All Bellarmine University Annsley Frazier Thornton School of Education teacher education programs at the advanced level recognized by the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board are fully accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), 2010 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20036.

RANK I POST-MASTERS PROGRAM WITH A LITERACY SPECIALIST ENDORSEMENT

Bellarmino University's Rank I Post-Masters Program option with a Literacy Specialist Endorsement (Grades P-12) offers educators an in-depth study of teaching and learning, and literacy leadership. This endorsement will allow the classroom teacher to explore literacy issues related to elementary, middle, and high school students with an emphasis in issues related to struggling readers. In addition, the candidate will examine theoretical models and processes of literacy and will investigate the political underpinnings of literacy in America.

All students seeking an endorsement as a Literacy Specialist must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.67 throughout this program and successfully complete both the practicum experience and exit interview. Acceptance into this program requires the student to hold a valid classroom teaching certificate. Successful completion of all courses and passing the appropriate state required Praxis are required to obtain the Literacy Specialist endorsement.

Graduate Core Requirements: 6 hours

EDUG 644 Teacher Leadership for Equity in Schools and Community

LITR 621 Literacy Assessment and Instruction I

Literacy Specialization Requirements: 24 hours

EDUG 673 Teacher Leadership for Communities of Practice

LITR 622 Literacy Assessment and Instruction II

LITR 627 Teaching Writing: A Workshop Approach

LITR 630 21st Century Literacies and Technology

LITR 640 Second Language Learners

LITR 645 Teaching Leadership Practices in Academic Literacy

LITR 663 Advanced Diagnostics and Interventions for Struggling Learners

LITR 670 Clinical Practicum in Literacy Leadership

Additional hours necessary for full Rank I status, if needed, will be determined with the faculty advisor given the candidate's academic background and professional goals.

Special note: Students who already have Rank I status, but seek to obtain the Literacy Specialist Endorsement, will follow a 27 hour program. Students will follow the same sequence of courses listed above, but will not be required to take LITR 640.

RANK I POST-MASTERS PROGRAM WITH A TEACHER LEADERSHIP ENDORSEMENT

Bellarmino University's Rank I Post-Masters Program option with a Teacher Leadership Endorsement (Grades P-12) is designed to develop teacher leaders who will be challenged to reflect continuously upon: leadership skills and their development; coaching and mentoring; data analysis of assessment results to impact instruction; strategies for closing the achievement gap through instructional best practices; the need to address equity and diversity in schools; and collaborative efforts to include colleagues, parents, and the community in comprehensive efforts for school improvement.

All students seeking an endorsement in Teacher Leadership must successfully complete 18 credit hours of designated coursework including a Capstone Project selected from the following options: Action Research Project, National Board Certification Project or Master's Thesis. Acceptance into this endorsement program requires that candidates actively hold a teaching position (with valid teaching certificate) and have a recommendation from their current school principal or designee. Recommendation forms are available with the information packet.

Teacher Leadership Endorsement: 18 hours

- EDUG 644** Teacher Leadership for Equity in Schools and Community
- EDUG 670** School Improvement Through Assessment, Evaluation and Data Analysis
- EDUG 671** Teacher Leadership to Improve Student Achievement
- EDUG 672** Dynamic Teacher Leadership
- EDUG 673** Teacher Leadership for Communities of Practice

Capstone experience in Teacher Leadership requires one of the following:

- EDUG 697** Applying Research to Practice
- EDUG 699** Master's Thesis in Education

Additional hours necessary for full Rank I status will be determined with the faculty advisor given the candidate's academic background and professional goals. Generally, the candidate is encouraged to choose from the following graduate courses:

- EDUG 601** Research Methodology for School Leaders
- EDUG 640** Individual Professional Development (P-12) for Teacher and Instructional Leadership
- EDUG 641** Special Topics in Professional Development (P-12) for Teacher and Instructional Leadership
- LITR 645** Teacher Leadership Practices in Academic Literacy

RANK I POST-MASTERS PROGRAM WITH A LEARNING AND BEHAVIOR DISORDERS CERTIFICATION (P-12)

Bellarmine University's Rank I Post-Masters Program option for a Learning and Behavior Disorders Certification (Grades P-12) is designed for the classroom teacher with certification in Elementary, Middle School or Secondary general classroom areas. This is not a program designed for someone currently certified in Special Education. Candidates seeking an additional certification in P-12 Learning and Behavior Disorders (LBD) explore special education foundations, curriculum and instruction, assessment, and current issues as preparation to work successfully with students with disabilities.

In addition to completing required coursework, benchmark assessments, and passing the state required PRAXIS II exam in learning and behavior disorders, candidates must complete successfully a minimum of 90 clock hours of field experiences (EDUG 612) in diverse settings with students with exceptionalities prior to the start of the culminating project/professional semester. EDUG 613, the culminating project/professional experience, requires the candidate to engage in a professional semester experience where he/she is actively planning instruction, teaching, and assessing students with disabilities. Candidates in the Rank I program develop the requisite knowledge and skills for teaching students with learning disabilities and behavior disorders as determined by the Council for Exceptional Children Standards for initial certification.

Learning and Behavior Disorders Courses:

21-24 credit hours for the individual with current certification in Elementary Grades

SPED 510	Nature and Needs of Children with LBD
SPED 515	Speech and Language Development and Culture
SPED 520	Special Education Transition: Early Childhood through Early Adulthood
SPED 525	Procedures for Children with LBD
SPED 526	Methods and Procedures for Children with LBD II
SPED 540	Educational Measurement
EDUG 612	Advanced Field Placement
EDUG 613	Advanced Professional Placement

27-30 credit hours for the individual with current certification in Middle School or Secondary Education will include all courses required for the Elementary candidate (with the exception of SPED 520) and:

LITR 535	Teaching of Reading
MATH 523	Foundations of Math
SPED 530	Teaming and Collaboration

Additional hours necessary for full Rank I status will be determined with the faculty advisor given the candidate's academic background and professional goals.

RANK I POST-MASTERS PROGRAM IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

The Curriculum and Instruction Rank I/Non-Degree Post Masters Program is an individualized program of study developed between the Rank I/Non-Degree seeking student and the faculty advisor. This program includes coursework based on a Professional Growth Plan that is designed to enhance the depth of knowledge and skills of the candidate, within a selection of advanced education courses offered through the School of Education and/or approved professional study. For example, a candidate may wish to increase his/her knowledge of strategies for struggling readers as well as ways to collaborate with special educators to address the needs of learners with disabilities. This program is designed to further develop the candidate's master's level study and requires that a minimum of 15 graduate credit hours be taken at Bellarmine University.

PROGRAM COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL RANK I STUDENTS

- Requires 60 hours of graduate level course work (including the masters degree) with a minimum of a 3.0 cumulative (on a 4.0 scale) grade point average throughout the program of study.
- Requires 15 hours of graduate credit earned in residence at Bellarmine University for the School of Education to recommend a candidate for Rank I status. All credit hours must have faculty advisor approval.

TUITION AND FEES

The tuition cost for Rank I programs will be **\$390 per credit hour**. The chosen endorsement may be completed in five or six semesters attending two evenings per week OR one evening and Saturday sessions.

Funding Assistance

Enrollment in the Rank I program identifies the student as non-degree seeking and, as such, the student is ineligible for traditional forms of federally supported student aid. Students are encouraged to work with the Bellarmine University Bursar's Office in establishing a payment plan. Students enrolled in the Learning and Behavior Disorder's certification may be eligible for support under the WHAS Crusade for Children Grant (contact the School of Education for more details at 502.272.8076). Private sources of funding may also be available.

PRIORITY APPLICATION DEADLINES

Priority application dates are August 15 for a fall semester start, December 5 for the spring semester start and May 1 from the summer semester start. Applications submitted after these dates may still be

considered on a space available basis.

REQUIRED TEST

The Rank I and/or Non-Degree Post-Masters program may require passing PRAXIS score(s) for a chosen endorsement. These scores are not used to determine admission status. For the most current information on required PRAXIS, visit www.ets.org/praxis or the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board at www.epsb.ky.gov.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Sarah Shumway Schuble 502.272.8271 or 1.800.274.4723 x8271 or sshumway@bellarmine.edu

PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION

1. Submit online application at www.bellarmino.edu/applynow and pay the \$40 application fee unless a BU alumna/e. If so, please use promo code: BUALUMFREE.
2. Valid Professional Teaching Certificate.
3. A written descriptive professional development plan based on self-identified goals and objectives (details on the right).
4. Two completed recommendation forms: one from the current school principal or his/her designee; and one from an individual who has supervised the applicant in some capacity attesting to the applicants potential as an advanced graduate student, such as teaching colleague, department chair, current/past employers, or former professors.
5. Final official transcript(s) from each college or university attended should be mailed to the Office of Graduate Admission and should not be marked "Issued to Student." If any transcript(s) or undergraduate degree(s) is from an international institution, you must provide an official copy to be evaluated by the Bellarmine International Programs Office. The Office of Graduate Admission reserves the right to request a certified copy of the original transcript(s).

EDUCATIONAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Using standard margins, double spacing, and 12-point font, complete an educational autobiography and professional development plan. Include your own educational background and experiences from pre-school to graduate work; work experiences; a discussion of your strengths and weaknesses; factors leading to your decision to pursue graduate level studies; your academic, intellectual, and professional objectives relative to being a teacher leader; and your commitment to your professional development at Bellarmine University. This document is an important part of the application review process. You should take great care to produce a thoughtfully planned and well written statement. Your work should be limited to 1000

words. Your completed work should be labeled Attachment C and include your name.

INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS

Please complete the items under Procedure for Admission and submit the following:

Language Proficiency. All students are expected to have appropriate English-language proficiency to be admitted to the university. The language proficiency is required to ensure students are adequately prepared and well positioned to succeed.

Financial Affidavit. All applicants must provide credible evidence (e.g. a bank statement, letter on bank stationary attesting to the availability of funds, etc.) of the ability to fund the cost of attending Bellarmine University for one academic year. If funds are provided by another person on behalf of the student, an affidavit must accompany the financial information.

Proof of Passport. Scan of passport ID page must show validity for 6 months post completion of the program.

Bellarmino University admits qualified students of any age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, disability, color, religion, and national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, disability, color, religion, or national or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs. Bellarmine University will not tolerate any form of sexual misconduct, which includes, but is not limited to, sexual harassment, non-consensual sexual contact, non-consensual sexual intercourse, sexual exploitation, rape or retaliation arising out of any of the above acts, as more fully defined in the Bellarmine Sexual Discrimination and Misconduct Policy in the Student and Employee Handbooks. Bellarmine University is an equal opportunity employer.

6/13/2016