

Standards:

This course aligns to the Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (NPBEA) Standards 4, 6, and 10 by equipping leaders to implement rigorous literacy systems, develop teachers' capacity in reading instruction, and engage in evidence-based literacy improvement.

Strong literacy instruction starts with effective leadership. Principals and administrators play a key role in aligning instruction with the Science of Reading and fostering student success. This professional development equips school leaders with the tools to evaluate, improve, and sustain evidence-based literacy programs.

Participants will explore how children learn to read, identify reading difficulties and interventions, and implement best practices in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Emphasis is placed on supporting multilingual learners, strengthening writing instruction, and using data to drive literacy outcomes.

Through self-assessment and action planning, school leaders will develop strategies to align instruction with research-backed methods. By the course's end, participants will have a clear plan to enhance literacy leadership and ensure high-quality reading instruction for all students.



Official Transcript:
1 Post-Baccalaureate
Credit



100% Online



Quiz and Assignments



Course Outline

Section 1: An Introduction to Early Reading Skills

- Early Reading Skills
- Teaching and training reading skills in the early years
- Language development in children
- QUIZ: Science of Reading for Administrators
- QUIZ: Phonological Awareness
- QUIZ: Early Reading Skills

Section 2: Writing and Handwriting Skills

• QUIZ

Section 3: Language and Origins

• QUIZ

Section 4: Science of Reading Comprehension

QUIZ

Section 5: Implementation Tools and Resources for Administrators

- Grade Level Literacy Instructional Goals and Resources
- Administrator Literacy Resources







Resources & Tools for Professional Learning Plans



Course Outline

Section 6: Literacy Leadership CHECKLIST and ACTION PLAN

Over the next 10 hours, immerse yourself in your school's literacy environment. Walk through classrooms, observe instruction, review curriculum materials, and talk to educators about their practices. Use the Literacy Leadership Checklist as your guide, asking critical questions about curriculum alignment, instructional support, professional learning, and assessment systems.

Where is your school excelling? Where are there gaps? Who are the champions of literacy instruction, and where is additional support needed? This is not just a checklist—it's a framework to evaluate, reflect, and take action.

At the end of your observations, your final grade will be based on your responses in this assessment. Take the time to carefully evaluate, reflect, and develop a thoughtful, strategic plan to enhance literacy leadership in your school. Your structured Reflection and Action Plan should identify strengths, challenges, priority areas, and concrete next steps to drive real improvement in literacy instruction. We invite you to reflect thoughtfully on your school's literacy practices as you complete this assessment.

Section 7: End of Course Assessment

• QUIZ: Comprehensive Review of Course Content



Practice Skills



Download Resources



Classroom
Instruction Demos



Course Objectives

By the end of this course, school principals and administrators will be able to:

1. Understand the Science of Reading and Its Application

- Analyze how cognitive and neurological processes impact reading development
- Evaluate the historical context of reading instruction and its implications for best practices

2. Identify and Address Reading Challenges

- Recognize reading disorders such as dyslexia and implement early screening and intervention strategies
- Support structured literacy instruction to meet diverse student needs

3. Enhancing Literacy Instruction Across Early and Advanced Reading Skills

- Develop foundational literacy skills by promoting phonemic awareness, vocabulary, and oral language to support early reading development
- Implement systematic phonics and decoding strategies to strengthen word recognition and reading fluency
- Apply evidence-based approaches to improve writing instruction, spelling, and written expression
- Support multilingual learners by addressing language development, morphology, and spelling structures
- Strengthen reading comprehension through research-based strategies, differentiation, and critical thinking skills

4. Lead and Align Schoolwide Literacy Practices

- Evaluate and align literacy instruction with the Science of Reading
- Implement data-driven decision-making to improve student outcomes

5. Develop a Literacy Leadership Action Plan

- Use the Literacy Leadership Checklist to assess current practices
- Create and implement a strategic plan for literacy improvement

This professional development systematically builds leaders' capacity to implement and sustain evidence-based literacy practices by connecting theoretical understanding to practical leadership actions, ensuring that knowledge translates into measurable improvements in literacy instruction and student outcomes.

