

M.S. Ed. Literacy Degree Program

Directions and Scoring Rubric for the Personal Statement

Directions: Prepare a carefully crafted statement demonstrating a commitment to and interest in literacy education, as well as an ability to write clearly and well by responding to the following:

- 1) What does it mean to be literate in the 21st century?
- 2) Calkins (1994) noted that to be a teacher of reading and writing, one must be a reader and writer oneself. Describe your views about this statement and indicate something about yourself as a reader and writer.
- 3) In what way will the literacy specialist degree support your long-term professional goal?

Format Directions:

- 1) Essay should be: typed, double-spaced, 10 – 12 pt font size, preferable font Times New Roman, two or more pages, at least one inch margins, all three questions/statements must be clearly addressed.

Failure to observe format directions will automatically disqualify the essay.

Category	Target	Acceptable	Unacceptable
Clarity of Ideas	Clear, Specific, Focused	Reasonably Clear	Unclear
Depth of Content	Substantive, Specific Knowledge	General Knowledge	Limited Knowledge
Organization	Logical, Cohesive	Reasonably Logical, Cohesive	Unclear, Confusing
Writing Conventions	No Errors	Few Errors	Multiple Errors