

**HERE,
WE BRING
LEARNING
TO LIFE.**

Master's Degree Programs at the
Ella Cline Shear School of Education

GENESEO



APPLYING FOR YOUR MASTERS DEGREE

NCATE ACCREDITATION

The Ella Cline Shear School of Education is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), the standard of excellence in teacher preparation. NCATE accreditation indicates that the school meets the rigorous standards in all categories set forth by the professional education community, and assures the public that graduates have acquired the knowledge, skills and dispositions necessary to help all students learn.

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

- April 1: for summer and fall admittance
- April 1: required for assistantship consideration
- November 2: for spring admittance

Applications received after the published deadlines will be reviewed on a space-available basis.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

A complete application must include:

- ☐ Completed online application
- ☐ \$50 application fee payable to SUNY Geneseo
- ☐ Official transcript(s) from all institutions of higher education attended
- ☐ Results of a high-stakes test sent directly to the Office of Admissions at the address below. Please see our website for details.
- ☐ Two letters of recommendation from persons who can attest to the academic potential for graduate study and personal character of the applicant
- ☐ Essay
- ☐ Proof of New York State initial certification or equivalent certification from another state



TO LEARN MORE, CONTACT:

Michael R. George, M.S.
Director of Graduate Admissions
GradAdmissions@geneseo.edu

SUNY Geneseo
Office of Admissions
1 College Circle
Doty Hall, Room 200
Geneseo, NY 14454
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For more information, visit:
www.geneseo.edu/graduate_admissions

EXCEL IN THE CLASSROOM

From Learning
to Teaching

You're already invested in your teaching career, and there's no better place to get your masters in education than Geneseo—and no better time than now. From our dedicated students to our incredible faculty, excellence is what Geneseo is all about. We understand the joy and reward that comes along with teaching, because we live it every day. Our community is full of heart, and we know you'll fit right in.



GENESEO

OUR PROGRAMS

READING AND LITERACY B-12 PROGRAM

The Reading and Literacy B-12 program is clinically-based and requires candidates to work directly with students on developing reading proficiencies. Applicants to the program must hold initial classroom teaching certification in either Early Childhood, Childhood or Adolescence education. Successful completion of the program yields initial certification in Reading & Literacy B-12 and eligibility for New York State professional certification as a literacy teacher when all other professional requirements have been met.



PHILOSOPHY: Reading and Literacy

We believe meaning construction is the goal of reading and reading instruction.

Our program aims to create reading and literacy specialists who:

- understand that reading is comprehension
- develop strategic readers (enabling students to independently apply a variety of strategies as they read and respond to texts)
- integrate reading with the language arts and across content-area instruction
- highlight content-area reading
- become global citizens through literacy
- read for enjoyment
- empower through literacy
- integrate ongoing assessment with instruction

An effective reading teacher understands that literacy instruction is student-centered and instructs students in what they need to know, building upon their background knowledge. Reading teachers constantly assess student achievement and strategy through formal and informal methods to provide individualized instruction. This includes a variety of materials, both narrative and expository, and encourages self-selection. The goal is to move the student from dependence to independence, so she or he is able to construct meaning from print, set purposes for reading, monitor comprehension, reflect on reading, and apply effective strategies to all reading situations. Ultimately, our reading and literacy teachers foster the love of reading.



M.S. IN ADOLESCENCE EDUCATION (Grades 7-12)

Our M.S. in Adolescence Education program aims to deepen and broaden teachers' understanding of adolescent students, related pedagogical options and the content area of the teacher's preparation. Teachers are guided by experts in the content areas and the discipline of education to consider innovative ways of designing learning experiences for adolescents, envisioning curriculum and creating the classrooms of the 21st century.

Candidates who complete this program are eligible for New York State professional certification in Adolescence Education (Grades 7-12). Four areas of academic specialization in grades 7-12 are available: English, French, Social Studies, and Spanish.



THE GENESEO IDENTITY

Students talk about Geneseo like it is a person, rather than an institution. Over the years, our incredible students and faculty have breathed an energy into Geneseo that truly makes it a one-of-a-kind place to be. Our small graduate student body is filled with enthusiastic students who are dedicated, persistent and excited to learn. Our students take full advantage of the engaged, warm atmosphere every time they are on campus.

Geneseo is here to work with you—we're not here to put up barriers; we're here to break them down. We want to see you succeed as a teacher, and our faculty are committed to help you get your certification done in a timely manner through high-quality instruction. Our programs mix foundations, practical application and teaching theory to make students confident in the classroom. With the option of dual certifications to enhance your degree, Geneseo is sure to be the best investment in your future.



A COMMUNITY Unlike Any Other

Whether you are commuting from a nearby town, have made the plunge to move to Geneseo, or will be living on-campus, our programs make it easy for you to get involved and feel like you are a part of something larger. Professors are aware that students may be working and commuting, so class schedules strive to be accommodating and flexible to fit the needs of all students. While most of our students feel strongly that face-to-face time is essential in a teaching environment, Geneseo also offers hybrid models for classes, as well as select online classes to allow for increased flexibility in scheduling.

Although some of our graduate students previously attended Geneseo for their undergraduate degree, we welcome you no matter where you are coming from. We encourage you to find out why our graduate students are so enthusiastic about their Geneseo education.

COST AND VALUE

We reward academic achievement by awarding a limited number of merit-based scholarships to well-qualified degree candidates. Scholarships are available to new students enrolling in a graduate program for summer, fall or spring. Best of all, there's no additional scholarship application. Simply submit your application for admission and we'll automatically determine your eligibility for a scholarship.

We encourage students to apply for our graduate assistantships in addition to need-based financial aid. The assistantship process consists of a simple application, essay and interview. The work you are able to do in the School of Education through an assistantship gives you even more valuable hands-on experience.

Visit www.geneseo.edu/graduate_admissions or contact admissions for more information on your specific program and costs.



ASSISTANTSHIPS: Unforgettable Experiences

"As a graduate assistant in the Xerox Center for Multicultural Teacher Education at SUNY Geneseo, I gained incredibly valuable experience. Working closely with the director, we educated teacher candidates on-campus about historically underrepresented populations through seminars and guest speakers. By playing an active role in the Xerox Center, my understanding of diversity was challenged and deepened. Not only did it prepare me to work with students of varying backgrounds, but it also prepared me to support fellow teachers in expanding their knowledge of diversity.

Furthermore, as a graduate assistant with the Xerox Center, I coordinated the Rochester Young Scholar Academy—a weekend tutoring program for students in the Rochester City School District. The tutoring program allowed me to remain active in teaching while working directly with students, despite studying full-time at SUNY Geneseo."

—*Nicholas "Nico" Damiani, Reading and Literacy Class of 2016*

"I am so grateful for the opportunities that I gained through my graduate assistantship in the School of Education. Aside from providing me with the financial support to continue my education at Geneseo, my second home, my assistantship enabled me to spend time in countless classrooms in local schools. These experiences helped me to grow as an educator and earn my first teaching job. I formed positive, lifelong relationships with professors, teachers and faculty members as a result of my graduate assistantship, and I am so thankful for the opportunities with which I was provided."

—*Virginia "Ginny" Tate, Reading and Literacy Class of 2016*

OUR FACULTY

The Core of Our Programs

Faculty are committed to strengthening partnerships with K-12 facilitators, helping to give shape to the graduate programs by creating open conversations about what today's ever-changing needs are. In addition, professors take a direct interest in placement for student teaching locations and are committed to

students' success both in and out of the classroom. You'll find our faculty engaged in all types of events, whether inside or outside of their own departments. After graduation, faculty stay connected to alumni and continue to help you access our already incredible alumni network.

"Our excellent and dedicated faculty and our outstanding students are our biggest assets. Faculty work collaboratively and incorporate cutting-edge research into their classes, guide teachers and teacher candidates to become advocates of their own students and the profession, and support a deep and thoughtful preparation in theory and pedagogy that embodies the principles and ideals of a liberal arts education. Our programs emphasize the tenets of diversity, inclusivity, global awareness, and innovation."

—*Dr. Anjoo Sikka, Dean, Ella Cline Shear School of Education*



*From left to right:
Sherray Brown, '19
Dr. Katie Rommel-Esham
Ginny Tate, '16
Daniel Staton, '16*

"Professors treat us like we are professionals, and their equals."

—*Virginia "Ginny" Tate, Reading and Literacy Class of 2016*

WHY CHOOSE GENESEO

for Your Graduate Education?

Our small classes at the Ella Cline Shear School of Education are nearly all taught by full-time doctorate professors, and advisers are full-time faculty in our Education Masters programs. Working together with our incredible faculty, Geneseo students graduate with the competence and confidence to pursue careers working in many diverse facets of education. Upon graduation, Geneseo students are highly sought-after because they are well-versed in both theory and practice.



THE TIMING IS PERFECT

to Become a Teacher

While it's been difficult in past years to find a teaching position, the job landscape is quickly shifting in your favor. One third of New York State's classroom teachers are approaching retirement age¹, and there has been a 50% decline in students pursuing a teaching career². With these two factors in mind, there is a looming teacher shortage that will vastly open up the job market for certified teachers, not only statewide but also nationally. New York State alone is projected to need 1,800 new teachers per year over the next decade. From Bilingual Education to Reading Specialists³, the need for quality teachers is soon to explode—our exceptional teaching programs will help prepare you for one of the most rewarding jobs in the world.

1. "As shortage looms, state rethinks how it recruits and treats its teachers," Keshia Clukey, Politico New York

2. "Report Issued on Teacher Shortage in New York State," Jeff Stone, Nextstar Broadcasting, Inc.

3. "Teacher Supply and Demand Reports," EngageNY.org

OUR STUDENTS KNOW BEST

Voices from our Reading & Literacy Program



Marissa Zinone
Class of '16

Geneseo awarded Marissa Zinone with a graduate assistantship that focused on the LIVES program, which is a college-age program for students with disabilities. “As the LIVES (Learning Independence, Vocational, and Educational Skills) Program teacher, I was able to work with eleven unique, hard working, courageous students with various disabilities in a college setting. The program prepared the students to be independent and career-ready, and prepared me with practical teaching skills to take into my classroom. The experience was irreplaceable and the best year of my life. Not only was I carrying out all of the skills I learned in my undergraduate career, I was continuing to learn how to teach and prepare students to be lifelong learners and work with some of the best students I had ever met. It was an incredible privilege and something I am so happy that Geneseo offers.”

After completing an undergraduate degree in Spanish at Geneseo, Nico Damiani decided there was no better place to pursue his graduate studies than in the community he already knew and loved.

“I was excited to discover that I continued to meet new people in my small graduate classes, forming new friendships and welcoming new faces.” One of the deciding factors for Nico attending Geneseo was cost. “I would love to move to New York City or go abroad to teach, which is a realistic plan for me since I was able to get my master’s degree with very little debt.”

Nico also noticed the value of his Geneseo education when going on job interviews: “In the New York City area, educators are very aware of the Geneseo name and go out of their way to look for it. Geneseo’s reputation has pull—it’s what schools are looking for.

Nico Damiani
Class of '16



Catherine Martin received her undergraduate degree from Le Moyne College, but found Geneseo to be an easy choice for her graduate studies. “Geneseo attracted me because of the low cost and the rave reviews from my brother, a Geneseo alum. I fell in love with the community and town of Geneseo when visiting my brother on campus.”

Catherine was thrilled to be awarded an assistantship, which gave her full tuition plus a stipend to study at Geneseo. “During my assistantship, I aided in supervising undergraduate education students in the field and established strong connections with the teachers who hosted them. The mentorship was a really rewarding experience that makes me confident looking into the future.”

Catherine Martin

Class of '16



Andre Doeman

Class of '17



With a passion for language and literacy, Andre Doeman found a perfect path at Geneseo. “In my last year of my undergraduate program as an English Adolescence Education major, I began to understand that language is the essence of existence. It occurred to me that if I was going to impact students’ learning and inspire the desire in them to promote change for betterment, then I needed to go back to the basics: the fundamentals of language. Geneseo’s Reading and Literacy (B-12) program was the perfect avenue for that. The plethora of strategies I was given as well as the evidence-based readings which highlighted and regarded students’ cultures and learning styles – as a way for them to relate to instruction and control their learning using their own individual and unique abilities – were quite invaluable. In addition, the professors I had at Geneseo were rather open-minded in their teaching. As educators who teach about how to teach, it is a necessity for them. In turn, they lead by example and I feel prepared for my career ahead.”

When asked about her experience at Geneseo, Ginny Tate had nothing but rave reviews. “The town of Geneseo is integral to the life and community of the school. Our professors are the best advocates for getting students into jobs, using their wide-reaching networks and constantly looking out for our best interests. I also had a great community of peers at Geneseo – we all shared our experiences together, and that helped us to form ideas on what we wanted our futures to be when we graduated. A Geneseo education is extremely valuable, both in cost and experience. Providing additional certifications and practical clinical experience prepared me for my career. Professors were mindful that we were also working, and were accommodating and flexible with class times and assignments. They genuinely wanted us to succeed.”

Ginny Tate

Class of '16

