

EDUCATION (PH.D.)

<https://cola.unh.edu/education/program/phd/education>

Description

The program of Education offers a Ph.D. in education with specialization in fields related to the areas of:

1. children and youth in communities;
2. curriculum and instruction/teacher education;
3. experiential/outdoor education;
4. leadership and policy studies

The doctoral program is designed to engender a broad understanding of the field of education by encouraging focused scholarly inquiry grounded in the reality of educational practice across varied formal and informal settings. Professors and students work to place educational issues in philosophical, socio-cultural, and policy-related contexts. The program enrolls full- and part-time students.

An individual program of study is planned by the student and her or his guidance committee. Each student's program includes a set of common core courses, specialized study, a number of selected electives from across areas of inquiry, and required research preparation. Students must meet specific University, department, and program requirements. Within this framework, individual programs can vary widely from student to student depending upon the student's own interests and goals.

The Ph.D. in education provides students with preparation for research, teaching, and leadership in a variety of settings. Graduates hold positions at all levels of schooling, from colleges and universities to K-12 schools. Former students are also involved in work as policy makers, community agency directors, consultants, and research analysts.

Program information: Contact the Education Department by phone: (603) 862-2310 or email: education.department@unh.edu. (education.department@unh.edu)

Admission

Students admitted to the program must have completed a master's degree in education or a related field. Entering students are generally expected to have some experience working in areas related to education, broadly conceptualized. To apply, candidates must submit a Graduate School application and transcripts of all undergraduate and graduate coursework.

In addition to the personal statement required on the Graduate School application, candidates must submit an essay on an educational issue. This essay should discuss one issue in the field of education that is of interest to the candidate. It should explore the opportunities and challenges this issue poses and explain why the applicant finds it personally compelling (1,000 to 1,500 words in length).

Prior to completing and submitting the application, it is highly recommended that the candidate contact the Director of the Division of Educational Studies, who directs the Ph.D. in Education program, to arrange a phone, skype, or on-campus appointment to discuss their interests and fit with current research of faculty in the Education Department. Contact the EducationDepartment by

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Requirements

Degree Requirements

Candidates for the degree must meet admission requirements, develop and complete an approved program of study in consultation with their guidance committee, complete required coursework, undergo an annual assessment review by the Doctoral Advisory Committee, develop and submit a passing qualifying paper, establish a dissertation committee, develop an approved dissertation proposal to advance to candidacy, write and present the dissertation, and pass the final oral examination.

Program of Studies

Students typically complete **52 to 64** hours in graduate coursework following their matriculation. These hours do not include (EDUC 999 Doctoral Research).

At least five of the below common core courses are required of all students:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Common Core Courses		
EDUC 902	Doctoral Pro-seminar	4
EDUC 904	Qualitative Inquiry in Research	4
EDUC 905	Critical Inquiry in Education	4
EDUC 906	The Literature Review in Educational Research: Interdisciplinary Perspectives	4
EDUC 981	Quantitative Inquiry: Methods and Techniques of Educational Research	4
Pre-requisites for EDUC 981:		
EDUC 881	Introduction to Statistics: Inquiry, Analysis, and Decision Making	4
EDUC 978	Applied Regression Analysis in Educational Research	4
Specialization Areas and Requirements:		
Children and Youth in Communities		
Childhood Focus required courses: ¹		
HDFS 930	Child Development in Context	
EDUC #948	Leadership and Advocacy in Early Childhood Education	
EDUC 950	Understanding Culture in Research on Learning and Development	
RMP 970	Teaching Practicum	
Adolescent Focus required courses*: ¹		
EDUC 950	Understanding Culture in Research on Learning and Development	
HDFS #950	Contemporary Issues in Adolescent Development	
RMP 970	Teaching Practicum	
Curriculum and Instruction/Teacher Education		
Select five courses from the following:		
EDUC 950	Understanding Culture in Research on Learning and Development	
EDUC 958	Analysis of Teaching and Learning	
EDUC 959	Issues in Education	
EDUC 960	Curriculum Development	
EDUC 986	Philosophy of Education	
EDUC 991	Curriculum Theory I	
EDUC #992	Curriculum Theory II	
Experiential/Outdoor Education		
Select five courses from the following:		
EDUC 986	Philosophy of Education	
KIN 882	Therapeutic Applications of Adventure Programming	
KIN 883	Psych Factors of Adventure Ed	
KIN 884	Historical Foundations of Outdoor Experiential Education	
KIN #885	Program Models and Evaluation in Outdoor Education	
KIN #886	Organization and Administration of Outdoor Education Programs	
KIN 895	Advanced Studies	
KIN 897	Advanced Topics in Outdoor Education	
Leadership and Policy Studies		
EDUC 964	Human Resources in Education	

P-12 Focus required courses:

EDUC 973	Policy, Politics, and Planning in Education
EDUC 977	Leadership: The District Level Administrator

Higher Education Focus required courses:

EDUC 970	Foundations for Leadership in Higher Education
EDUC 976	Policy and Governance in Higher Education

Select a minimum of eight credits of elective coursework from the following:

EDUC 897	Special Topics in Education (Topics: Students, the Law & Higher Education, and Faculty & Higher Education Law)
EDUC 959	Issues in Education
EDUC 962	Educational Finance and Business Management
EDUC 967	School Law
EDUC 968	Collective Bargaining in Public Education
EDUC 995	Independent Study (School Facilities)

¹ Additional required electives chosen in consultation with student's Guidance Committee. Students complete a minimum of five courses (20 credits) within, or directly related to, their chosen area of inquiry.

Integrative Coursework

Select two advanced inquiry education courses (e.g., EDUC 979 Applied Multilevel Modeling), courses in a different specialization, or courses taken in another department (e.g., psychology, sociology, economics, family studies).

Qualifying Paper

As a step toward Ph.D. candidacy, students must satisfactorily complete a qualifying paper as well as all other program requirements. After completing most of their coursework, and under advice of the student's guidance committee, students may formally undertake the qualifying paper. The student formally proposes a qualifying paper concept to the guidance committee and undertakes writing the paper once the proposal is approved. The paper is evaluated by the student's guidance committee. The qualifying paper is used to evaluate the student's general knowledge in relevant areas of inquiry, and their fitness for engaging in research, particularly in the subject proposed for the dissertation.

Dissertation

To complete the degree, the student must present and defend a dissertation of original research and publishable quality.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will demonstrate general knowledge of the field of educational research, including types of research questions and methods of inquiry used in the field.
- Students will learn to critique and design qualitative and quantitative educational research, and they will be able to identify and craft good argumentation in educational scholarship.
- Students will demonstrate expertise in at least one form of data analysis or a non-empirical form of inquiry (e.g., historical, philosophical, literary).
- Students will gain expertise in one or more substantive areas of inquiry in educational research.