Doctoral Degrees

The University of West Florida offers a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree in Curriculum and Instruction. The doctoral degree in Curriculum and Instruction prepares students for leadership roles by providing learning and enrichment in the areas of diversity, quantitative and qualitative research, educational theory and philosophy, educational technology, and multicultural education. The extensive coursework offered through the Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction at UWF may assist educators in designing innovative methods for providing instruction to struggling students, designing and modifying curricula, researching and assessing school programs, and leading change in educational organizations. In addition to the core coursework, students have the opportunity to determine an area of specialized study. The specialization areas encompass Administration and Leadership, Curriculum and Assessment, Diversity Studies, Higher Education, Instructional Design and Technology, Health and Physical Activity, and Virtual Social Science Research.

The Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction is designed to meet the educational needs of a wide variety of professionals with backgrounds that include, but are not limited to, education and training professionals; community college, state college, and university personnel; social and health-related personnel; community civic leaders; and military personnel. The Ed.D. program prepares professionals to assume administrative, higher education, and other leadership positions. The successful candidate will conduct and evaluate applied research studies that emphasize local, regional, and state issues and problems within their respective fields.

Student performance and eligibility in the doctoral program will be continually assessed by faculty and require a B or better in all coursework. Students who earn below a grade of B in more than two courses may not be permitted to enroll in additional coursework. Students who earn two unsatisfactory grades during the dissertation phase may not be permitted to enroll in additional hours of dissertation and may be removed from the program. Students must successfully complete 48 semester hours of coursework and 18 hours of Dissertation credits. The dissertation hours are broken down as follows: there are four structured Doctoral Seminars including Doctoral Seminar I focusing on an extensive background paper during the 33-36 credit hours; Doctoral Seminar II, which covers the comprehensive examination and defense; Doctoral Seminar III, which is the pre-proposal and defense; Doctoral Seminar IV, which covers the dissertation proposal and defense. After these structured and guided processes for the dissertation, students will have six more credits to complete the fieldwork, analysis and write for their dissertation. Students must successfully defend their dissertation and submit an approved dissertation to be eligible for graduation. The submission processes and policy are spelled out in the Argo Docs 12 Step Dissertation Submission Process.

Policy on Full-Time Registration

Doctoral students are required to complete 66 semester hours (sh) of coursework, including 30 sh in the professional core and 18 sh in their selected specialization. The remaining 18 sh are reserved for the dissertation requirement as broken down above.

A full-time load of coursework is 6 sh per semester, which is generally 2 courses. Because of the rigor of doctoral courses full time enrollment within the UWF Ed. D. Program is defined to be 6 hours per semester. Students will be unable to enroll in more than 6 hours per semester. If for any extenuating circumstances a student wishes to take more than the full time load of 6 credits, permission must be obtained through an official application. The application should address the following:

- GPA must be higher than 3.75
- The application by the student should state and explain the extenuating circumstances dictating the need to take extra credits.
- The student must submit an updated graduation plan, recommended by the academic advisor and the specialization coordinator indicating how the additional course will be accommodated in the rotation of courses and its impact on the student’s pathway to graduation.
- The application should be routed through, signed and dated by the following for approval: Specialization Coordinator, Department Chair, Director of Doctoral Studies, and CEPS Dean.

Admission Requirements

In addition to the University graduate admission requirements described in the Admissions section (http://catalog.uwf.edu/graduate/admissions) of the catalog, each department bases decisions for regular admission on a holistic review of credentials in which the following criteria are used to assess the potential success of each applicant:

- Submission of one of the following graduate admission tests*:
  - Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
  - Miller Analogies Test (MAT)
  - Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT)
  - Master’s GPA (A master’s GPA below 3.5 requires competitive GRE, GMAT, or MAT scores)
  - Submission of a resume
- Submission of three professional reference forms where at least two references are able to speak to your academic work, writing skills and sustainability for rigorous doctoral academic work.
- Submission of a letter of intent that includes answers to the following prompts:
  - What personal and professional goals do you hope to meet through earning a doctorate, and why do you think the UWF Doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction is a good fit for your goals?
  - What special knowledge, skills, and experiences would you bring to the chosen specialization and how are these aligned with the mission of the doctoral program in Curriculum and Instruction as a whole? If you have had experiences that may have affected your academic performance, please provide explanatory context.
  - Clearly articulate how your skill set and experiences align with goals of the selected specialization, and show how these will impact your career trajectory.

Note: Your responses to the three prompts should be no less than six double-spaced pages, 12 font size in Times New Roman.

- Overall fit with the program

* The graduate admission test may be waived for the following:

- Applicants must have a master’s degree with a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Some specializations admit applicants once per year; contact the specialization’s program coordinator for specific admission deadlines or visit the Curriculum & Instruction, Ed.D. (https://uwf.edu/
Dissertation Requirement (18 sh)
Specialization Area (18 sh)

Professional Core Requirements (30 sh)

- EDF 7404 Quantitative Methods and Educational Statistics I 3
- EDF 7191 Psychological Foundations for Education: Cognition, Curriculum, and Instruction 3
- EDF 7407 Quantitative Methods and Educational Statistics II 3
- EDF 7475 Qualitative Research I - Methods 3
- EDF 7685 Philosophical Foundations of Education 3
- EDF 7790 Foundations of Doctoral Research and Writing 3
- EDF 8609 Perspectives of Contemporary Social Theories 3
- EDF 8289 Curriculum Design 3
- Choose one Advanced Quantitative or Qualitative Methods course: 3
  - EDF 7468 Advanced Program Development and Evaluation
  - EDF 7476 Survey Research
  - EDF 7489 Mixed Methods Research Design
  - EDF 8446 Instrument Development and Validation
  - EDF 8785 Research Ethics
  - Choose one Critical Issues Elective: 3
    - EDF 7638 Social Change and Reform
    - EDG 7241 Social Justice, Inequalities, and Power: A Global Overview
    - EDF 7346 Advanced Analysis of Curriculum and Instruction
    - EME 8608 IDT Foundations, Issues and Trends

Total Hours 30

Specialization Area (18 sh)
Dissertation Requirement (18 sh)

- EDF 8931 Doctoral Seminar I: Background Paper 3
- EDF 8932 Doctoral Seminar II: Comprehensive Exam 3
- EDF 8935 Doctoral Seminar III: Pre-proposal 3
- EDF 8933 Doctoral Seminar IV: Proposal 3

Choose one:
- EDF 8980 Dissertation 6
- EDG 8980 Dissertation 6
- EME 8980 Dissertation 6

Total Hours 18

Administration and Leadership Studies Specialization

The Administration and Leadership Studies Specialization focuses on educational systems, change theory, leadership theory, and professional ethics.

Students will select 18 semester hours of required course work in this specialization.

- EDA 8103 Theories of Administration and Leadership 3
- EDF 7730 Administration and Leadership Communication Techniques 3
- EDF 8937 Research Applications 3
- PAD 7409 Strategic Management in Administration 3
- PAD 7003 Administrative Ethics 3
- PAD 7004 Public Budgeting and Finance 3

Total Hours 18

Curriculum and Assessment Specialization

The curriculum and assessment specialization is designed for individuals in public and private sectors who want to specialize in the theory, development, and implementation of curriculum and assessment. This specialization is grounded in theories and models of curriculum and assessment. The core courses and the specialization courses will be taken in conjunction with four dissertation seminars. These specialization courses along with the concurrent dissertation seminars provide the student with the competencies necessary to produce a scholarly written research proposal. This research proposal is then implemented and completed during the final 10 semester hours of the program.

The following courses are required in this specialization:

- EDG 7354 Test, Measurement, & Data Literacy 3
- EDF 7573 Contemporary Curriculum Issues and Theories 3
- EDG 7008 Assessment Literacy 3
- EDG 7256 Assessing Curricula and Educational Programs 3
- EDG 8938 Seminar: Advanced Methods in Curriculum and Instruction 3
- EDF 8668 Curriculum and Instructional Strategies for Adult Learners 3

Total Hours 18

Diversity Studies Specialization

The specialization in Diversity Studies is designed to promote an understanding of contemporary discord related to historical events, philosophical perspective, civil rights, race relations, gender equity, socioeconomic status, and censorship of groups, institutions, and ideas. Graduates in this specialization will be able to develop possible solutions for social justice concerns and inequities while...
making connections based upon historical perspective, ideological considerations, and research. Majors in Diversity Studies would bring expertise to the following fields: community health, social work, the military, social services, education, law, research, and non-profit groups. This is a face-to-face program of study that meets on the Pensacola campus and requires some field experience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDF 8698</td>
<td>Censorship</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDF 8936</td>
<td>Advanced Qualitative Research and Strategies: Special Topics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDF 8088</td>
<td>Diversity &amp; Civil Rights in Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advisor approved electives related to the specialization</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 18

**Higher Education Specialization**

The specialization in higher education will prepare students for leadership in colleges and universities. Graduates of the program in higher education will master a body of knowledge related to the field of higher education. The program will provide a broad overview of the institutions, policies, practices, personnel, programs, and services of institutions of higher education. Students who earn the degree in higher education will contribute to higher education practice and research regionally, nationally, and globally. Students will acquire a professional knowledge and understanding of colleges and universities as social and cultural institutions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDH 6405</td>
<td>Legal Issues in Higher Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDH 6505</td>
<td>Budgeting &amp; Financial Management in Higher Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDH 7205</td>
<td>Curriculum Development in Higher Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDH 7632</td>
<td>Leadership in Higher Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDH 7635</td>
<td>Organization and Administration of Higher Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDF 8937</td>
<td>Research Applications</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 18

**Instructional Design and Technology Specialization**

The Instructional Design and Technology Specialization offers two concentrations: Performance Technology and Distance Learning. The Performance Technology option targets individuals who want to investigate how instructional technology and systems thinking can be used to improve performance and learning in various organizational settings. The Distance Learning concentration targets individuals who want to develop expertise in the theoretical constructs and best practices associated with the design, development, implementation, evaluation and administration of distance learning. All students complete a common core, providing them with foundational knowledge related to the theory and practice of instructional design and technology in addition to electives within the chosen concentration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EME 6609</td>
<td>Principles of Instructional Design</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EME 7676</td>
<td>Advanced Instructional Design Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EME 7938</td>
<td>IT Research Design Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 9

**Performance Technology Option**

Students will select 9 semester hours of required course work in this specialization.

| Total Hours | 9 |

**Distance Learning Option**

Students will select 9 semester hours of required course work in this specialization.

| Total Hours | 9 |

**Health and Physical Activity Specialization**

This specialization is intended for experienced professionals in the fields of health, fitness, K-12 teacher education, and sport who are seeking advanced training in leadership and administrative positions in:

- health and fitness higher education preparation
- K-12 education and administration
- health agencies and non-profit organizations
- health care services
- community-based health promotion
- worksite wellness programs

The HPA specialization places emphasis on preparing graduates to: 1) lead health programs and organizations; 2) teach undergraduate/graduate courses in colleges or universities; 3) plan, design, manage, and assess health promotion initiatives; 4) conduct quality research in health, physical activity, and education professions; 5) collaborate with health, physical activity, and education professionals on translational research and service projects; 6) write and publish research in high profile journals; and 7) exhibit skilled work ethic and expert behaviors as a professional in health, physical activity, and education fields. Students may focus coursework toward personal areas of interest/experience that relate to health and physical activity fields.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HLP 7001</td>
<td>Promoting Physical Activity for Youth and Adults</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLP 8515</td>
<td>Development and Administration of Health and Physical Activity Programs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLP 8002</td>
<td>Leadership in Health and Physical Activity</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLP 8003</td>
<td>Health and Physical Activity Research Methodology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HLP 7306</td>
<td>Planning and Designing Health and Physical Activity Programs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSC 7609</td>
<td>Advanced Theories of Health Behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours: 18