Education

Degree Offered

- Doctor of Philosophy

Nature of the Program

The Doctor of Philosophy degree program provides a rigorous course of study along with mentored research and teaching experiences to enable students to achieve core educational objectives as scholars in one of the four specialization areas: Educational Leadership and Policy; Learning, Instructional Design and Technology; Curriculum, Literacy and Cultural Studies; Human Development and Family Studies. Several thematic contexts, critical to our state and region, provide the platform for the study of education and achieving the competencies in each specialization area. These unique themes include: the rural nature of our state context, the poverty many children and families live in throughout the region, and the cultural context of Appalachia, all as they impact education. The research interests of faculty members participating in the program address aspects of these themes. Research and scholarly experiences prepare graduates who plan to pursue a research agenda in higher education or in educational research/policy centers.

The primary objective is to prepare students who have both breadth and depth of knowledge in education and who will (a) conduct original research and (b) contribute to the production and development of knowledge in the discipline. Candidates who achieve these objectives will be well prepared to serve as members of academic communities at peer institutions of higher education, and researchers and leaders in educational research and policy centers. The educational objectives of the program are clearly connected to the mission of West Virginia University; specifically, conducting focused research and providing professional service to the state and nation based on that research.

1. Students will become conversant with the Theoretical Foundations of Education in one of the four specialization areas; Educational Leadership and Policy, Learning, Instructional Design and Technology, Curriculum, Literacy, and Cultural Studies and Human Development and Family Studies, plus the Nature of Inquiry.

2. Students will demonstrate research competencies sufficient to design, conduct, analyze, and report qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods research on topics of relevance to their selected specialization.

3. Students will demonstrate teaching competencies sufficient to design, deliver, monitor, and revise instruction at the undergraduate and/or graduate level on content relevant to their selected specialization.

4. Students will demonstrate intellectual competencies sufficient to deliver instruction, conduct research, and provide service at the level of a university faculty member in specializations of relevance to their selected specialization.

5. Students will propose, conduct, analyze, and write a dissertation composed of original research that makes a contribution to the literature in their selected specialization.

Admissions

Applicants for the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Education must:

- Submit WVU Graduate application for admission, found at https://admissions.wvu.edu/how-to-apply (https://admissions.wvu.edu/how-to-apply/). Applications must be dated, completed and received in the department by 12-2-2019. (Be sure to upload all required information, see below)

- Have earned at least a 3.0 undergraduate GPA and at least a 3.5 graduate GPA.

- Submit scores for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), 300 new score (before 2011) or 1,100 (combined score of verbal and quantitative sections) or Miller Analogies test (MAT) of at least 410-416.

- International applicants must provide TOEFL scores of at least 80 (internet version), 213 (computer-based), or 550 (paper-based) 79-80 iBT or IELTS 6.5.

  Note: Test scores may be no older than five years.

Required Supplemental Materials

Applicants are required to upload the following information to their on-line graduate application. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

- Scholarly writing samples that demonstrate the student’s academic writing skills.

- Three letters of recommendation that clearly attest to the students ability to be a successful doctoral student. (Addressed to Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Education Review Committee).

- A Statement of Purpose, discussing research goals and how they can be met through the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program. We expect students to indicate scholarly connections with CEHS faculty and how specific faculty might help them achieve their research goals. The Interdisciplinary Ph.D. program has four specialization areas applicants must identify their specialization. The connection between the applicants interests and their specialization area should be clearly related to the statement of purpose.
Specialization Areas

1. HO88 – Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
2. HO89 – Learning, Instructional Design and Technology
3. HO90 – Curriculum, Literacy and Culture Studies
4. HO95 – Human Development and Family Studies

- A face-to-face, phone, or Internet-based video interview may be required as part of the application process before students are formally admitted.

Doctor of Philosophy

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

**Theoretical Foundations Core**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCFD 781</td>
<td>Nature of Inquiry 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCFD 782</td>
<td>Nature of Inquiry 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCFD 783</td>
<td>Nature of Inquiry 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Select one of the following Educational Leadership and Policy Area of Emphasis courses:

- EDLS 603 Principles of Educational Leadership
- HIED 650 Higher Education Administration
- HIED 652 Assessment in Higher Education

Select one of the following Learning, Instructional Design and Technology Area of Emphasis courses:

- EDP 700 Psychological Foundations of Learning
- EDP 640 Instructional Design
- EDP 740 Principles of Instruction

Select one of the following Curriculum, Literacy, and Cultural Studies Area of Emphasis courses:

- SCFD 600 Sociology of Education
- SCFD 620 Philosophy of Education
- SCFD 640 History of American Education
- C&I 701 Curriculum Development
- C&I 707 Theories, Models and Research of Teaching
- C&I 709 Curriculum Theories

Select one of the following Human Development and Family Studies Area of Emphasis courses:

- HDFS 793 Families and Human Development in Educational Contexts
- HDFS 793 Family Issues/Problems
- HDFS 793 Human Development within Families
- HDFS 793 Families/Human Development in Rural and Appalachian Contexts

**Research Core**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDP 612</td>
<td>Introduction to Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDP 613</td>
<td>Statistical Methods 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCFD 615</td>
<td>Qualitative Research Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDP 614</td>
<td>Statistical Methods 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Survey Research Elective *

**Mentored Research/Teaching Practica**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research (6 credit hours)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching (6 credit hours)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Area of Emphasis coursework 30

Total Hours 72

* Elective should be related to research methodology employed for dissertation. This may require that the specific course not be specified on program of study, but rather identified during prospectus development.

Admission to Candidacy and Dissertation Requirements
Program Features

The Doctor of Philosophy degree program provides a rigorous course of study along with mentored research and teaching experiences to enable students to achieve core educational objectives as scholars in four specialization areas, as described below. Several thematic contexts, critical to our state and region, provide the platform for the study of education and achieving the competencies in each area. These unique themes include: the rural nature of our state context, the poverty many children and families live in throughout the region, and the cultural context of Appalachia, all as they impact education. The research interests of faculty members participating in the program address aspects of these themes.

Mentored Research/Teaching Practica. All students will complete a two-semester mentored research practicum [6 hours] that involves guidance from a faculty mentor who represents the student’s area of emphasis. This will result in a research document submitted for presentation and/or publication. This mentored research practicum is separate from and prior to the dissertation research project.

All students will complete a two-semester mentored teaching practicum [6 hours] that involves guidance from a faculty mentor who represents the student’s area of emphasis. This will result in an implemented and evaluated course design.

All students will attend periodic seminars designed to support their efforts and allow for discussion of those efforts with other doctoral students and faculty members mentoring those efforts throughout the Mentored Research and Mentored Teaching practica.

Candidacy and Dissertation Requirements. All students will be asked to show mastery of their area of interest by successful completion of the Candidacy Examination (preliminary comprehensive) designed by the student’s doctoral committee using guidelines developed by each area of emphasis faculty.

After students pass their comprehensive exams, they will complete a dissertation proposal/prospectus that will provide an in-depth overview of their research ideas for their dissertation. Upon approval of the dissertation proposal by (a) their doctoral committee and (b) the institutional review board, students will conduct their dissertation research. The faculty will assess the dissertation and its oral defense and will recommend approval based upon the quality of work. You have five years to complete your dissertation upon being admitted as a doctoral candidate.

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND POLICY AREA OF EMPHASIS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Emphasis courses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Additional courses selected by the student and the doctoral committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>30</td>
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LEARNING, INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY AREA OF EMPHASIS

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CURRICULUM, LITERACY AND CULTURAL STUDIES AREA OF EMPHASIS

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HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY STUDIES AREA OF EMPHASIS

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Major Learning Outcomes

EDUCATION

The learning goals for the Doctor of Philosophy program in Education are to prepare students who:

- Have commitment and skills to engage in life-long learning;
- Are effective communicators;
- Recognize that teaching is a professional, moral, and ethical enterprise with well-developed ethical frameworks which facilitate effective teaching;
- Will serve as a facilitator of learning for all students;
- Possess in-depth knowledge of both pedagogy and content, and the relationships between them;
• Are reflective practitioners;
• Are aware of, and have respect for, human diversity;
• Value and integrate knowledge from a wide variety of fields, are creative and open to new ideas, and are able to act constructively in a world characterized by technological, cultural, and societal diversity and change.