

## Specialization - Special Education

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### **Ed.D. in Education**

**Description**  
The Ed.D. is the terminal degree offered historically by schools of education to prepare educators for teaching and administration in K-12 schools and college settings. Since 2007 the Ed.D., or "professional practice doctorate", has emerged as the degree of choice for educational practitioners from the efforts of the Carnegie Project on the Education Doctorate (CPED) Consortium. Professional practice doctoral degree programs are intended to prepare education professionals for leadership in the field and especially, the advanced application of innovative methods, the generation of new knowledge to improve practice through scholarly reading and inquiry, and the stewardship of the profession by socialization to the skills and dispositions needed for effective teaching and administration. CPED Ed.D. programs involve an additional focus on equity, ethics, and social justice feature completion of practice-orientated dissertations known as the Dissertation in Practice (DIP).

### **Minimum Total Credit Hours: 30** **Emphasis - Teacher Education**

**Description**  
The Ed.D. with an emphasis in teacher education is 48 credit hours above the master's/specialist's degree(s). Candidates in the program acquire deeper and broader skills and knowledge of the field of education. Emphasis is on developing thoughtful and reflective practitioners through focusing on critical-thinking and decision-making skills.

Doctoral degree graduates complete a program of study that requires a minimum of 48 graduate hours of coursework post master's/specialist's degree(s), which includes 15 hours of dissertation. Each doctoral candidate will successfully complete and defend a written comprehensive examination and a dissertation in practice representing independent and original research.

### **Course Requirements**

Below is a listing of the courses to complete in order to satisfy the Ed.D. with emphasis in teacher education. The courses are organized here to convey thematic categories within the degree program rather than to reflect the chronological order or exactly how they will be grouped when listed on the Department of Teacher Education advising forms or website. More information on each course is available through the course listings in the Graduate Catalog. The degree program requires at least 48 hours of coursework.

#### **Professional Core (9 hours)**

- Edci 703-Seminar on the Learner and Learning
- Edci 757-Improvement Science
- Edfd 713-Education and Society

#### **Inquiry & Analysis (12 hours)**

- Edrs 700-Models of Inquiry & Literature Review
- Edrs 701-Statistics II
- Edrs 704-Qualitative Research
- Edrs 705-Education Research II

#### **Specialization Courses (12 hours)**

Candidates will work closely with their academic advisers to select specialized courses in their area of specialization that align with the candidates' professional and academic goals.

#### **Dissertation in Practice (15 hours)**

#### **Other Academic Requirements**

Selected applicants who meet the entrance requirements may be invited to interview with the doctoral admissions committee. As a result of the admissions process, faculty will recommend whether the Ed.D. program is an appropriate degree for the applicant's goals. If not, faculty may recommend another degree or next steps for the applicant.

Candidates who enter the program are expected to possess an understanding of basic statistics as evidenced by documented successful completion of a graduate-level statistics course. Candidates who lack this statistics course experience will be required to successfully complete statistics modules prior to enrollment in the program.

Being accepted to the program is not a guarantee of completion of the degree.

Application deadline for the Ed.D. program is March 1 (summer or fall admission).

## **Specialization - Special Education**

**Description**  
The Ed.D. in teacher education with a specialization in special education is 48 credit hours above the master's/specialist's degree(s). Candidates in the program acquire deeper and broader skills and knowledge of the field of education. Emphasis is on developing thoughtful and reflective practitioners through focusing on critical-thinking and decision-making skills.

Doctoral degree graduates complete a program of study that requires a minimum of 48 graduate hours of coursework post master's/specialist's degree(s), which includes 15 hours of dissertation. Each doctoral candidate will successfully complete and defend a written comprehensive examination



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