

Doctor of Education

Available on the Jackson and Germantown Campuses

Program Purpose

The Ed.D. in Educational Leadership is a blend of theory, research, scholarly inquiry, and best practice in a context of Christian values designed to prepare instructional leaders who can articulate the central issues and solve the salient problems of contemporary educational society.

Objectives of the Program

The six objectives of the Union Ed.D. are to:

1. Focus on issues, practice, and research in the field of educational leadership.
2. Foster scholarly inquiry in areas of professional and intellectual interest.
3. Provide highly individualized experiences which meet individual career goals.
4. Foster analysis and problem solving skill and expertise.
5. Prepare leaders who effectively deal with the real issues of school improvement.
6. Encourage ethical service in a framework of Christian values.

These objectives and statement of purpose for the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership emphasize commitment to service in education within a framework of Christian ideals, the essence of the institution's mission and purpose. The Ed.D. program objectives stated above are met within the context of a set of standards developed by the Educational Leadership Constituent Council of the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

Assessment of Outcomes

In addition to each course in the Ed.D. program reflecting the student outcome standards of

program with a course offered on Saturdays in April and May, 8 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. over 5 1/2 Saturdays, followed by an intensive two months in which students complete 6-7 semester hours utilizing Saturdays in June and July, and mornings two days a week in June and July. Time is provided during the summer for library research, group projects, independent reading, and Practicum hours. In the fall, instruction occurs on Saturdays, 8 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. on 5 1/2 Saturdays for a course in September and October, followed by other courses offered on Saturdays in November-December, January-February, March-April, and May-June-July. Saturdays are utilized for courses offered January through May. The

later than the Spring semester of the first year of

Leadership Research (24 hours)

EDR 700—Research Issues in Educational Leadership

EDR 710—Intermediate Statistics

EDR 720 – Research Methods and Design

EDR 725 – Advanced Statistics and Design

EDR 790 – Dissertation

Total: 60 hours

*Standard Program Route Only

**Internship Program Route Only

Exit Assessments:

Completion of the Practicum or Internship

Completion of SLLA exam

Presentation of Problems Paper

Completion of Comprehensive Examinations

Completion of Dissertation

Completion of Dissertation Oral Defense

Curriculum: Ed.D. in Educational Leadership: Curriculum and Supervision

Prerequisites: Human Growth and Development, Instructional Technology, Educational Assessment

Transfer Credit By Petition: Maximum of 9 semester hours may be applied

Curriculum. The Ed.D. curriculum has three components: Leadership Issues, Leadership Prac-

Admission Information

Classes for new cohorts begin each April. Students may be admitted throughout the year in an ongoing process so they can begin the necessary prerequisites and complete their doctoral admission file. All files must be complete by January 15 for classes that begin in April of that year. Students who have completed the first 39 hours of the program or who are currently enrolled in the Ed.S. program must submit all application materials by March 15. Their classes begin in September of that year.

The items below must be submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies in Education in Jackson or Germantown. After they have been received, the applicant may be contacted to schedule a formal interview with graduate faculty in education. When a decision is reached, students will be notified of their status by letter.

All candidates for admission to the Ed.D. Degree Program in Educational Leadership must submit an *Application to Graduate Studies in Education* along with a non-refundable application fee (\$50) and arrange for official transcripts to be sent directly to the Office of Graduate Studies in Education from previously attended colleges or universities. In addition, a completed *Certificate of Immunization* will be required of all students.

If not documented on an official transcript, the student must complete coursework in instructional technology, human growth and development, and assessment or educational measurement before graduating from the Ed.D. Degree program.

Admission Criteria. Candidates for admission to the Ed.D. program will meet the following criteria:

- Baccalaureate and Master's degrees from regionally accredited institutions
- Documentation of at least 5 years of relevant professional experience in the Education sector
- Grade Point Average—Undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher; Graduate GPA of 3.2 or higher.
- Teacher licensure—Teacher licensure and three years of teaching experience by program's completion (for A&S candidates).

- Student Goals—A letter to the Dean expressing the candidate's professional goals
- Recommendations—Rating forms from three present or former employers who can attest to the candidate's leadership potential.
- Interview—submission to an interview by Education graduate faculty pertinent to the candidate's potential for doctoral study
- Graduate Record Examination—submission of scores from the GRE taken within the past 5 years. A minimum total score of 1600 will be utilized in admission decisions following this formula: Graduate or Ed.S. GPA X 200 +

Program of Study

At the time of admission, a student may transfer up to 9 graduate semester hours (recent "A" or "B" work from a regionally accredited institution) into the doctoral program with the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies in Education. Transferred credits become a part of an official Program of Study that is furnished to the student. It is the student's responsibility to follow the Program of Study carefully in scheduling classes.

Residency Requirement

Students are expected to complete the first 30-39 hours during the first 16 months of the program with a minimum GPA of 3.2. Continuous enrollment is expected. Students who interrupt the residency requirement may be dropped from the program.

Time Limitations

All requirements for the doctoral degree must be completed within 6 years from the first semester of enrollment. Students needing more than 6 years to complete the degree must file a time extension petition with the Dean of the School.

Graduation Requirements

All students completing the Doctor of Education Degree in Educational Leadership must meet the following criteria for graduation.

1. Successful completion of the required 60 semester hours of coursework with a minimum GPA of 3.2.
2. Successful presentation of the Problems Paper.
3. Successful completion of the written and oral Comprehensive Examinations.
4. Submission of approved Dissertation.
5. Successful defense of the Dissertation.

In addition to the above criteria, students completing the Administration and Supervision licensure track must:

1. Successfully complete the required Practicum or Internship.

2. Successfully complete the School Leader Licensure Assessment Exam.

Financial Information

Tuition and Fees. Tuition for the 2003-2004 cohort is \$245 per semester hour, or \$7350 for the required minimum of 30 semester hours to establish residency. Tuition for the 21 semester hour Research-Dissertation component is \$305 per semester hour.

The following are non-refundable fees:

Application Fee:	\$ 50
EDS Practicum/Internship Fee (A&S)	200
Graduation Fee:	25
Lab Fees, EDR 710, 720, 725	15

Financial Aid

The following payment plans are available for students in the Ed.D. program.

1. Full payment may be made for the program of 30 semester hours. Tuition is discounted by 5% when payment for 30 semester hours is received prior to the advent of the program. Tuition must be paid on an individual basis for courses required for completion of the program which are in addition to the required 30 semester hours.
2. Payment may be made by the semester with 50% due before classes begin and 50% due one month later.

Financial Aid. The Federal Stafford Loan (subsidized or unsubsidized) is available to Ed.D. students who need financial assistance. To qualify for a student loan, the graduate student must:

1. Be admitted to the Ed.D. Degree program.
2. Not be in default on a former loan or owe a refund on any grant.
3. Complete the FAFSA and Union Financial Aid Application. A Master Promissory Note must be on file in the Financial Aid Office.

Course Descriptions

Education Research (EDR)

710 Intermediate Statistics (3)

Prerequisite: EDR 700.

This course is designed to provide the student an opportunity to analyze data from experimental designs using analysis of variance and multiple regression and to apply the data for school improvement.

720 Research Methods and Design (3)

Prerequisite: EDR 710.

This course is designed to provide the student an opportunity to explore the issues, procedures, and problems associated with methods and design of qualitative and experimental models. Students are required to begin the dissertation prospectus process during this course.

725 Advanced Statistics and Design (3)

Prerequisite: EDR 720.

This course is designed to address multivariate statistical analysis and advanced design analysis in educational research. Specific attention is given to individual student research and the completion of the dissertation prospectus.

790 Dissertation (4)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Ed.D. oral and written comprehensive examination.

The doctoral dissertation is the culminating experience of the Doctor of Education degree involving a scholarly inquiry into an area of professional and intellectual interest. The student will conduct research and produce a quality report of the findings involving a written and oral defense of the research. Students will register for a total of 12 hours of credit.