







Director. The degree program begins a new cohort each June on the Jackson campus and is delivered in a combination of campus, blended online/campus, and fully online courses to ensure service to a national community. Its goals include the university's guiding principles of academic excellence, Christian values, development of the whole person, and future-driven scholastic agendas. For a schedule of courses in the Higher Education specialization, please visit the Union University website at www.uu.edu.

Curriculum for the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership Specialization: Higher Education

The Doctor of Education curriculum for the specialization in Higher Education has three components: Leadership Issues, Leadership Practice, and Leadership Research. The Higher Education Program courses for each component are categorized below:

Leadership Issues (15 hours)

EDU 701—Leadership, Organizations and Change

EDU 710—History and Philosophy of Higher Education

EDU 723—Faith and Ethics in Educational Leadership

EDU 728—Strategic Planning and Marketing for Higher Education

EDU 745—Higher Education Policy and Assessment

Leadership Practice (15 hours)

EDU 702—Engaged Learning

EDU 705—The American College Student

EDU 720—Curriculum Design and Evaluation in Higher Education

EDU 730—Service-Learning in Higher Education

EDU 740—Leadership Internship

OR EDU 750—Proseminar

OR EDU 788—Special Studies

Leadership Research (30 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 750—Proseminar: Leadership Seminar

EDR 750—Proseminar: Dissertation Seminar

EDR 790—Dissertation (12)

Exit Assessments

Successful Completion of:

- Minimum of 3.2 GPA in Ed.D. courses
- Dissertation Proposal (with Approval by Committee)
- Comprehensive Examination
- Oral Defense of Comprehensive Examination
- Dissertation
- Oral Defense of Dissertation

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Education (EDU)

610 History and Philosophy of Education (3)

A study of the history and philosophy of American education with attention to European antecedents, and philosophical movements such as Idealism, Realism, Perennialism, Essentialism, Progressivism, Reconstructionism, and Existentialism.

613 Brain-Based Learning (3)

A study of teaching strategies which focus on student learning such as constructivism, brain-based teaching and learning, integrated thematic instruction, inquiry and multiple intelligence learning styles.

701 Leadership, Organizations and Change (3)

A critical examination of key theories, functions and practices involving leadership and organizations with specific emphasis on individual and organizational responses to change. In addition to traditional applications, students will analyze leadership styles and organizational case studies through multiple frameworks.

702 Engaged Learning (3)

A contemporary account of the principles of learning with emphasis on engaging the learner in the classroom. Topics: Concepts of teaching, learner characteristics, designs for learning environments, and effective teaching. Research in cognition, learning, and teaching forms a foundation for the course.

703 Supervision (3)

Analysis of supervisory models and techniques, management techniques and group processes, staffing patterns and organizational structures to support teaching and learning. Students develop skills in all aspects of instructional planning.

705 The American College Student (3)

The social, psychological, cultural and historical contexts of the student in higher education. Current trends, projections and models for practice will be considered and analyzed.

706 Organizational Decision Making (3)

Theoretical approaches to understanding complex organizations are examined and applied to educational organizations, drawn from organizational theory, development and behavior. Students develop effective solutions for interpersonal, structural, and organizational problems experienced in contemporary educational communities. Strategic planning for educational change, including technological, is studied.

707 Legal Issues in School Governance (3)

Areas of the law as it impacts school administrators are studied including, but not limited to, sources of the law and the courts; the law, students and educational personnel; desegregation and its effects; school finance issues and school district liability; federal law; and regulations involving special education.

708 Curriculum and School Improvement (3)

Study and evaluation of modern practices and strategies in curriculum development with the emphasis on school improvement. The process of curriculum planning with a focus on system accountability and student learning is studied.

709 Legal Issues in Higher Education (3)

Legal processes as well as legal rights, responsibilities, duties and liabilities of faculty, administrators and students within the context of higher education. Included will be studies from constitutional, statutory and case law.

710 History and Philosophy of Higher Education (3)

An examination of the historical and philosophical system of education in the United States considering issues to include: American system of education, survey of theories of education, and factors and forces changing American education philosophies.

711 Leadership Seminar: Politics, Policy, and Instruction (3)

This seminar is offered to Union Ed.S. students only as one of the two bridge courses for admission to the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership—Specialization in P-12 Administration. This course is designed to allow the doctoral student to analyze and synthesize current knowledge related to issues in politics, public policy and school instructional practices. The course will focus on relationships between public policy and education; recognizing policy issues; and relating policy initiatives to student welfare. Current philosophical and cultural issues reflective of local, regional, national and global contexts will be studied.

714 Leadership Issues I: Theories and Strategies (3)

A thorough introduction to the essential issues of educational leadership including strategic planning, theories of leadership development, the change process, school improvement, comprehensive reform in schools, systems perspectives and more.

715 Leadership Issues II: Planning and Finance (3)

Prerequisite: EDU 704

An application of leadership issues related to planning and finance, including school improvement planning, policies for equity and diversity, the management of collective bargaining, fiscal and non-fiscal resources for districts, budget planning and management collaborative planning, use of media and more.

719 Comparative Higher Education (3)

A comparative study of selected delivery systems, theoretical constructs, cultural influences and implications, governmental involvement as well as educational outcome expectations.

720 Curriculum Design and Evaluation in Higher Education (3)

Curriculum planning, design, implementation and evaluation by examination of purpose, content and context of college curriculum with emphasis on the best practices for design and evaluation.

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