

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Available on the Jackson, Germantown, and Hendersonville Campuses;

with special attention to the needs of smaller independent

The Ed.D. degree is guided by the conceptual framework of the Educator Preparation Program: *a teacher-student dynamic of sensitivity, reflection, and faith*. The university's mission is "to provide Christ-centered higher education that promotes excellence and character development in service to Church and society."

Ed.D. Definition and Purpose

The Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) is the highest professional degree in education. Individuals who have earned this degree are recognized for their wide knowledge of theory and research and for their commitment to the application of knowledge for the improvement of educational policy and practice. The Union Ed.D. is designed for active professionals who will graduate ready to assume leadership and teaching roles in Preschool-Grade Twelve schools, universities, government and business. Ed.D. graduates can positively contribute to administration, teaching, policy and curriculum formation, and research. Each doctoral degree is designed to be a blend of theory and practice, classic knowledge and current research, analysis and synthesis, macro-perspective and micro-functionality.

Union University offers the doctoral degree in educational leadership with two areas of specialization:

1. The Ed.D. in Educational Leadership with a specialization in Preschool-Grade Twelve (P-12) School Administration, and
2. The Ed.D. in Educational Leadership with a specialization in Higher Education.

The Ed.D. in Educational Leadership P-12 School Administration degree has two areas of concentration offered on the Jackson, Germantown, and Hendersonville campuses: Instructional Leadership (P-12) and Teacher Leadership (P-12). A third area of concentration, Leadership in School Reform, is offered fully online.

The Ed.D. in Educational Leadership Higher Education degree, offered only on the Jackson campus, is designed to prepare college and university professionals to serve as administrators, teachers, policy-makers, and researchers,

- Official Transcripts: Official transcripts from ALL undergraduate and graduate schools attended. The minimum requirement for admission is an official Master's degree transcript from a regionally accredited college/university with a minimum GPA of 3.20. In addition, students must ensure that transcripts received from non-US institutions are translated and evaluated by a recognized agency, and forwarded directly to Union University to the address indicated below.
- Test Requirements: Official test scores from the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) must be forwarded to Union University (Institution Code: 1826), reflecting scores for all three sections of the GRE (verbal, quantitative, and writing). Results must be current within the last five years. For all applicants who are not native English speakers, a TOEFL test is required and official test scores must be forwarded to Union University (Institution Code: 1826).
- Documentation of at least five years of relevant professional experience in the Education sector (Verification of Experience form).
- Career Aspiration Essay: Students must submit an essay, typewritten and not to exceed 750 words, that addresses their reasons for seeking this degree and program, their leadership career aspirations, and their future professional goals.
- Recommendations: Rating forms from four persons: one from the applicant's employer (principal or supervisor for P-12 specialization); one from a previous graduate professor; and two from professional colleagues.
- Interview: Once the application has been reviewed, students may be scheduled for a personal interview with the program director.
- Leadership Role: Students are expected to have served a minimum of two years in a leadership position.
- Students applying for admission to the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership Program with a specialization in P-12 School Administration Instructional Leadership license concentration must provide the following additional items:
 1. Proof of teacher licensure
 2. Personal Summary including brief professional development plan and documentation of data showing improvement in student achievement (summary of TVAA/TCAP data, Gateway scores, etc.); copy of most recent performance appraisal (In TN, the Framework for Evaluation and Professional Growth).
 3. Verification of Experience form completed by applicant's school system documenting at least 3 years of teaching experience.
 4. Recommendation form completed by the Director of the school system where the applicant is employed.
 5. Current professional resumé.

6. Instructional Leadership Screening Committee Interview. Candidate is interviewed by an admission screening committee comprised of university and public school personnel who will make a recommendation to the Dean and Graduate Admission Committee concerning admission to the Instructional Leadership program.
- Mailing Address: Applications, fees, and supplementary materials should be sent to:

Union University Box 1876
Office of Graduate Studies in Education
1050 Union University
Jackson, TN 38305-3697

OR

Union University Germantown
Office of Graduate Studies in Education
2745 Hacks Cross Road
Germantown, TN 38138

OR

Union University Hendersonville
205 Indian Lake Blvd.
Hendersonville, TN 37075
 - Notification: Each student will be notified in writing of the decision regarding his/her admittance into the program.

The Graduate Education Admission Committee Review. The Graduate Education Admission Committee must screen all students who have completed application for admission to the Doctor of Educational Leadership program. Incomplete applications will not be presented to the committee. The committee, charged with selection of the best candidates for admission, reviews and evaluates each student's potential for admission according to a portfolio of the admission criteria.

The appointed Graduate Education Admission Committee utilizes uniform evaluation forms. After study of the student's admission portfolio, the committee recommends *full* acceptance, *provisional* acceptance, or *rejection*. A student provisionally accepted must complete designated criteria before being fully accepted to the program; however, she/he must take a maximum of 9 course credits on a provisional basis.

Program of Study

At the time of admission, a student may petition to 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 Program Director. In addition, students in the P-12 School Administration specialization may petition to transfer a maximum of 15 semester hours of education specialist credit from regionally accredited institutions. 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.

Academic Re i emen e fo P og e e e i on, P oba i on, and S e e n e i on

Students in the Doctor of Education program must maintain an overall Grade Point Average of at least 3.2 to remain in Good Academic Standing.

After completion of nine graduate hours at Union University, an Ed.D. student whose cumulative program GPA from courses taken at Union is below 3.2 will be placed on academic probation. A student placed on academic probation has one semester to increase his/her Ed.D. program GPA to 3.2 or higher.

If the student fails to attain the required minimum 3.2 GPA during the probationary semester, the student will be suspended from the Ed.D. program. While suspended from the program, the student may repeat courses in which a grade of B, C, or F has been earned in an effort to improve the GPA. The student may apply for readmission to the program after the cumulative Ed.D. program GPA has been raised to 3.2 or higher.

A student suspended from a graduate program is not eligible for Veterans Administration Benefits.

Time Limi a ion e

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 College. After successful completion of coursework, doctoral students must maintain continuous enrollment status until graduation by enrolling in EDR 790 Dissertation each session.

G ad a ion Re i emen e

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. Submission and presentation of The Qualifying Paper (P-12 School Administration Specialization).
3. Successful completion of the written and oral Comprehensive Examinations.
4. Submission of approved Dissertation.
5. Successful defense of the Dissertation.

Financial Info ma ion

Tuition for the Ed.D. program for the 2014-2015 year is \$560.

The following are non-refundable fees:

Application Fee:	\$ 50
Practicum/IL:	\$200
Graduation Fee:	\$25
Lab Fees, EDR 710, 720, 725:	\$15
IL Portfolio Fee (when applicable)	\$150

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

1. Payment may be made by the semester with 50% due before classes begin and 50% due one month later.

2. FACTS monthly electronic draft from checking or savings.
3. **Financial Aid.** The Federal Stafford Loan (subsidized or unsubsidized) is available to Ed.D. students who need financial assistance. A Master Promissory Note must be on file in the Student Financial Planning Office. To qualify for a student loan, the graduate student must:
 1. Be accepted 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
 4. Complete all applicable Graduate Application forms for Financial Assistance.

Doc o al P o c e e e e e

The Qualifying Paper. Required of students who specialize in P-12 School Administration, the Qualifying Paper is a substantial critical analysis of the theoretical and empirical literature related to educational leadership, which may or may not be the related to the student's dissertation topic. The Qualifying Paper is completed by doctoral students in EDR 707-Leadership Research Seminar during a 9-month period (Sept.–May) in the student's first year and a half of enrollment. This seminar serves as experimental ground for creating a scholarly community among doctoral students while they explore communication essentials, such as evaluating research articles, writing academic pieces including abstracts and literature reviews, and examining

the Qualifying Paper to a symposium of doctoral students, faculty, and community as an exit requirement for EDR 707.

The Comprehensive Examinations. Upon completion of all courses prior to the dissertation, the student will receive clearance to take the written and oral Comprehensive Examinations when:

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Areas of Concentration

The Union University doctoral degree in Educational Leadership with a specialization in P-12 School Administration is offered on the Jackson, Germantown, and Hendersonville campuses as well as online for the Leadership in School Reform concentration. In each, doctoral courses and processes form a scholarly community to support students in their personal transformation and in identifying and addressing critical educational issues at the local, state, national, and international levels. The degree program has three areas of concentration:

1. Instructional Leadership (IL). The IL concentration offers a license program which can earn the graduate the Tennessee Instructional Leadership License. Through this concentration, which includes a practicum or internship that is closely supervised and directly related to the student's individual needs, doctoral students can earn licensure as a principal or supervisor under national standards approved by NCATE and Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium (ISLLC).
2. Teacher Leadership. The Teacher Leadership concentration is identical to the IL concentration; however, the Teacher Leadership concentration does not require the practicum/internship course necessary for Tennessee Instructional Leadership License (Teacher Leadership students take EDU 613 instead). This area of concentration is for doctoral students who desire the knowledge, skills, and dispositions of a school leader without the licensure.
3. Leadership in School Reform. The purpose of the Leadership in School Reform concentration is to

create and actualize a vision for leadership in 21st century schools, embodying the best of research and practice in policy, child development, learning, teaching, and leadership within the context of school reform. In keeping with the trend of modern students and technology in learning, this degree is delivered fully online.

Course of Study

The Ed.D. in Educational Leadership P-12 School Administration degree requires completion of a minimum of 60 semester hours with a maximum of 9 hours allowable for transfer by petition from regionally accredited masters programs and an additional transfer of 15 hours permissible from regionally accredited education specialist programs. Thirty-six of the first 39 hours (EDR 707 enrolls only Ed.D. students) of Union's doctoral program are cross listed with the Union Education Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership. Ed.S. and Ed.D. students enroll in common courses in cohort style, with Ed.D. students meeting doctoral level expectations in research and reflection in all courses. Doctoral students complete a total of 60 semester hours of educational leadership courses that are designed to meet doctoral standards at the national level through NCATE and ISLLC.

Students who have completed the Union Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S.) and desire to return to complete the Ed.D., after having met doctoral admission standards, must complete a set of two "bridge" doctoral seminar courses before enrolling in the final 21 hours of doctoral research courses. The courses are EDR 707, Leadership Research Seminar, which includes the Qualifying Paper, and EDU 711, Seminar in Politics, Policy, and Instruction.

Cyclical Information for the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership

Specialization: P-12 School Administration

Concentration: Instructional Leadership / Leadership in School Reform / MCID 638 BDC BTnS DC BTiP

Leadership Research (27 hours)

EDR 700—Research Issues in Educational Leadership

EDR 707—Leadership Research Seminar

EDR 712—Dissertation Seminar

EDR 710—Intermediate Statistics

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—Research in Higher Education
EDR 751—Dissertation Research
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

Core Decisions

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.

712. Pre-Candidacy Resources (0)

Non-credit, non-graded course for graduate students to allow access to university resources while they are not actively completing coursework. Upon receiving special permission from the Dean's office, doctoral students have access to the library, applicable tools and software.

737. Leadership Practicum I (1)

Prerequisite: approval from Office of Graduate Studies in Education.

The practicum for the Administration and Supervision concentration (Standard Route) is an eight-month, mentored experience in a cooperating school system. It is the application in a workplace environment of the strategic, instructional, organizational and contextual leadership program standards. Students in the Education Specialist Administration and Supervision concentration develop and present a “Leadership Growth Paper” in the context of their practicum work. Pass/Fail.

738. and 739. Leadership Practicum II (1) and III (1)

Continuation of 737 using a graded format.

740. Leadership Internship in Higher Education (3)

The Internship is an approved, mentored, experience that provides the Higher Education student the opportunity to engage with issues impacting the nature and function of higher education in a workplace environment. Students prepare an “Executive Summary” that reflects the context of their internship experience.

741. Leadership Development Research Project I (3)

Students critique and present new and original research relevant to leadership development. The goal is to develop a community of scholars for dialogue, presentation, and exhibition while including seminal issues in the field.

742. Leadership Development Research Project II (3)

Prerequisite: EDU 741

Students critique and present new and original research relevant to leadership development. The goal is to develop a community of scholars for dialogue, presentation, and exhibition while including seminal issues in the field.

745. Higher Education Policy and Assessment (3)

Current policy and assessment issues in with specific attention to the nature and function of policies that impact administrative posts in higher education as well as assessment strategies and procedures in diverse higher education settings.

750. Proseminar in Higher Education

This Series introduces the student to the diverse, interdisciplinary issues of higher education while considering current issues and trends in higher education and encouraging engagement between the areas of practice, research, and theory.

751. Dissertation Proposal Development (3)

Prereq: successful completion of all EdD coursework and Comprehensive Exams.

Doctoral-level course offers an opportunity, within one semester, to extend the time needed by EdD students to develop the dissertation proposal. Special permission for this course should be requested through the Dean’s office. Pass/Fail.

786. Seminar: Multicultural and Diversity Issues in Education (3)

A seminar course dealing with the theoretical and applied bases of educational administration in multicultural contexts. Students examine through readings the needs and characteristics of various cultural groups with the focus on translation to practice and policy.

788. Special Studies (1-3)

A variable topics course in either Leadership Issues or Leadership Practice that do not appear in regular course offerings. These group studies may be offered as needed.

Education Research (EDR)**700. Research Issues in Educational Leadership (3)**

Students learn to locate, critique, and report research findings; apply introductory methods of analyzing, synthesizing and evaluating research evidence; compare types of qualitative and quantitative educational research; and design a “Problems Paper” utilizing action research in an educational leadership context.

707. Leadership Research Seminar (1, 3)

Prerequisite: EDR 700

This course provides students opportunity to demonstrate clear understanding of the interrelated nature of the experiences from the educational leadership courses in their doctoral program through critical discourse on contemporary issues. The seminar series will serve as experimental ground for creating a scholarly community among doctoral students while they explore communication essentials, such as evaluating research articles, writing academic pieces including abstracts and literature reviews, and examining effective presentation skills. The final product of the 3rd segment of the seminar is the completion of the Qualifying Paper, a

substantial critical analysis of the theoretical and empirical literature related to educational leadership, which may or may not be related to the student’s dissertation topic. The first enrollments are graded IP (In Progress) if work is satisfactory or F if not. The final satisfactory enrollment will award 3 graded hours that repeat the IP from the previous enrollments such that the student earns a total of 3 hours when fully successful.

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.

712. Dissertation Research Seminar (1, 3)

Prerequisite: EDR 707

This course is offered in seminar format in 3 segments. It serves as experimental ground for creating a scholarly community among doctoral students, coinciding with enrollment in EDR 710, 720 and 725. The seminar assesses researchable questions in leadership and administration in a student's area of specialization resulting in a Dissertation Proposal. Repeated for a maximum of 3 hours credit. The first enrollments are graded IP (In Progress) if work is satisfactory or F if not. The final satisfactory enrollment will award 3 graded hours that repeat the IP from the previous enrollments such that the student earns a total of 3 hours when fully successful.

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 proposal.

750. Research in Higher Education (3)

The Series introduces students to the diverse, interdisciplinary issues of higher education while considering current issues and trends in higher education and encouraging engagement between the areas of practice, theory and research.

751. Dissertation Research (3)

Prerequisite: EDR 750

This course advances the student's development as researcher and scholar through the assessment of researchable questions in higher education resulting in a dissertation proposal. (Prerequisite: EDR 750)