# DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Available online.

#### School of Education Mission Statement/Conceptual Framework

The mission of the School of Education is to prepare educators of character and competence who reflect Christ as they serve and lead in their schools and communities. 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. Description 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

- 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

maintain continuous enrollment status until graduation by enrolling in EDR 790 Dissertation each session.

#### **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. 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 Information**

Tuition for the Ed.D. program for the 2021-2022 year is \$695 per semester hour.

The following are non-refundable fees:	
Application Fee	\$50
General Student Fee	\$24/hour

Practicum	/II.	\$200
Practicum	/IL	\$200

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

- The University accepts payment via Self-Service, in person, or by phone or mail. Debit or credit card payments are subject to a convenience fee of 2.5%.
   Payment plans are available if needed, and may be established through the Office of Business and Financial Services.
- 2. FACTS monthly electronic draft from checking or savings.
- 3. Financial Aid. Financial aid information for graduate students is available on our website at www.uu.edu/financialaid/graduate/. Generally, graduate students may be eligible for Federal Direct student loans or private alternative student loans, depending on the program of study and the eligibility of the borrower. Union University is also approved by the Department for Veterans Affairs to offer educational benefits to veterans, reservists, and dependents of veterans who qualify for Veterans Benefits. Any person who qualifies for VA Benefits should check with the Office of Student Financial Planning as soon as possible after acceptance into a graduate program.

#### **Doctoral Processes**

**The Qualifying Paper.** Required of students who specialize in P-12 School Administration tudT1 1 T3 (aduon )0.qualify for VetETID 734pm10 S4.6547 Tmualr

of the faculty. Working with a dissertation chair early in the program and with faculty throughout the coursework, the student develops a research problem and proposal. Using the expertise and knowledge developed in the research core courses and under the direction of a dissertation chair and committee, the student conducts the research and produces a quality report of the findings. It is expected that the dissertation will follow standard accepted research methodologies and format. Requiring a broad-based understanding of theory and research, the Ed.D. dissertation should integrate knowledge and provide solutions to problems in the educational community, focusing on a specific setting. Results should include specific solutions or changes in educational practice. As a final demonstration of scholarly competence, the student conducts an oral presentation in defense of the research.

**The Dissertation Committee.** Doctoral students are assigned a dissertation committee chair by the program director

#### Leadership Research (27 hours)

EDR 700-Research Issues in Educational Leadership

EDR 707-Leadership Research Seminar

EDR 710-Intermediate Statistics

EDR 712-Dissertation Seminar

EDR 720-Research Methods and Design

EDR 725-Advanced Statistics and Design

EDR 790, 791, 792, 793–Dissertation (9)

#### **Exit Assessments**

Completion of:

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- The Qualifying Paper
- Dissertation Proposal (with Approval by Committee)
- Comprehensive Examination
- Oral Defense of Comprehensive Examination
- Dissertation
- Oral Defense of Dissertation

# Curriculum for the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership

#### **Course of Study**

The Ed.D. in Educational Leadership Higher Education degree requires completion of a minimum of 60 semester hours with a maximum of 9 hours from regionally accredited graduate programs applied in transfer by petition and upon approval of the Ed.D. Program Director. A waiver of up to 12 hours is possible for students who graduated from a related master's program with a formal articulation agreement. A maximum of 15 hours of transfer credit is possible for students who have earned an Education Specialist degree in Higher Education from a regionally accredited institution. The degree program begins a new cohort each June on the Jackson campus and is delivered in a combination of summer residency and fully online courses to ensure service to a national community. Program 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/edd/he.

## 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 (18 hours)

#### 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 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.

#### 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 714

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.

#### 716. Purpose and Plan for Action Research (3)

Purpose and Plan for Action Research exposes students to the basic principles of action research. Emphasis is given to what constitutes action research and how it differs from other types of research. Topics include the process of scientific inquiry and data-driven decision making in an era of school reform. Students will learn how to generate research questions, collect and analyze data, and evaluate programs. Students will develop their own research projects, using relevant ideas based on the evaluation of initiatives in their own schools or school districts.

#### 717. Entrepreneurial School Leadership (3)

In this course, students will learn the entrepreneurial side of school leadership. Emphasis will be placed on the school structure of charter schools and independent schools, especially the organizational differences between these types of schools and traditional public schools. Topics will include financing, student enrollment, and legal issues related to non-traditional and for-profit schools. Students will investigate the attributes of an entrepreneur (such as vision casting, risk taking, and innovating) and determine how these could be applied in the age of school reform.

#### 718. The Changing Superintendency (3)

This course examines leadership at the superintendent/director of schools level, and includes study of the impact of school reform on public and private education. Topics include leadership theory and behavior, organizational development, and change. Students study the diagnosis of organiz0.5 (547 Tm{inno)1

### 728. Strategic Planning and Marketing for Higher Education (3)

The role of strategic planning and marketing in higher education utilizing case studies methods and applications. The student will develop strategic plans for utilizing integrated marketing approaches for higher education.

#### 730. Service-Learning in Higher Education (3)

A comprehensive examination of service-learning as a philosophy of education, pedagogy and program type. Successful models of service-learning programs will be analyzed and students will explore the benefits and challenges of this form of engaged learning. To include the design of a service-learning program.

#### 732. Leadership Growth Paper (3)

The Leadership Growth Paper is the culminating experience of the Ed.S. Program. The paper affords the Educational Leadership student the opportunity to engage in action-oriented research on a problem tied to school improvement. The problem is identified in EDU 708, and data is collected at the school or school system level. This course provides a context for completion of the paper by Curriculum and Supervision students.

#### 734. Leadership Internship (3)

Prerequisite: Approval from Office of Graduate Studies in Education.

The internship for the Instructional Leadership track of the Ed.S. in Educational Leadership is a five-month, mentored experience involving two or more settings and multiple levels with an introductory field practicum of one month. It is the application in a workplace environment of the strategic, instructional, organizational and contextual leadership program standards. Students in the Education Specialist Instructional Leadership program develop and present a "Leadership Growth Paper" in the context of their internship work.

#### 737. Leadership Practicum Summer (1)

#### 738. Leadership Practicum Fall (1)

#### 739. Leadership Practicum Spring (1)

Prerequisite: approval from Office of Graduate Studies in Education.

The practicum for the Instructional Leadership 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 Instructional Leadership concentration develop and present a "Leadership Growth Paper" in the context of their practicum work.

#### 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)

#### 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, 2)

Prerequisite: EDR 700

This course provides students opportunity to demonstrate clear understanding of the interrelated nature of the experiences from the

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