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DREXEL UNIVERSITY
School of
Education

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN Education

Positive change in education requires great leadership, effective tools, and strong research. Drexel's PhD in Education prepares today's scholars to be tomorrow's innovators.

The PhD in Education is delivered on campus, allowing for extensive collaboration among students and faculty. Focuses include cross-cultural educational leadership, policy, and research. Students have opportunities to learn both in the classroom and through professional research and development activities.

At Drexel University, we believe that real-life experience is crucial in developing great leaders. Our curriculum includes opportunities to solve real educational problems, and students often receive course credit for independent studies in problem-based research activities. The result is a broad knowledge base and specialized skills that serve graduates in the real world.



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Features

The PhD in Education is a rigorous program designed to prepare students for careers as educational researchers, scholars and teachers. The program involves intensive coursework in education and educational research.

This highly competitive full-time program is small by design, admitting approximately 6-10 students per cohort. Students have the opportunity to apply for research or teaching assistantships that provide a generous stipend, tuition remission, and a health insurance subsidy.

Advisement

Every Drexel student receives the support of an academic advisor who can help navigate program requirements, select classes and provide guidance in areas such as time management and study skills.

In addition to the guidance provided by our advisors, students are fully supported in their research and study by our accomplished faculty. All full-time School of Education faculty engage in some way with our PhD students.

Concentrations

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education

In addition to the core PhD courses, students take three STEM courses that provide a common theoretical foundation in education, psychology and the learning sciences. The remainder of the STEM concentration consists of courses and independent studies in the specific concentration area selected in consultation with the student's supervising professor and advisor.

Educational Leadership & Policy

In addition to the core PhD courses, students take three common courses that provide a common theoretical foundation in leadership and organizations. The remainder of the educational leadership concentration consists of courses and independent study in a specific concentration area (educational administration, educational policy, higher education, human resource development, global and international education, and special education.) selected in consultation with the student's supervising professor and advisor.

Program Outcomes

The PhD program provides students the opportunity to develop highly sought leadership skills:

- An ability to create and support communities, encouraging sustainable change
- The complex thought processes to lead organizations that are shaped by global forces
- The ability to sustain their own leadership growth
- The ability to use emerging technologies to reach across generations and communicate effectively, engaging others in meaningful change
- The curiosity, inquiry skills and scholarly competencies needed to investigate an idea and transform it into meaningful action

Curriculum

The PhD program of study combines formal coursework and informal experiences. The program is designed to immerse the student in educational content, inquiry and methodology, encouraging the ability to ask critical questions and design procedures to conduct research.

The program requires the successful completion of 74 credits, distributed among the following areas:

- Breadth and depth in education and educational research (12 credits)
- Research core (20 credits)
- Content concentration (27 credits)
- Mentored research experiences (6 credits)
- Dissertation research (9 credits minimum)

Research preparation is the foundation of the PhD program. Students begin research activities during the first year of the program and continue to develop their skills by conducting various research projects with School of Education faculty. Activities in this vein include presenting research findings at conferences, writing research papers and dissertation work.