

**PhD in Educational Studies with a concentration in Higher Education  
Frequently Asked Questions  
(April 2022 Update)**

- **How long is the program?**  
The program is designed to take 4 years (Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters).
- **Is the GRE required for admission? Are GRE waivers available?**  
Yes, the GRE is required for all students. There are no GRE waivers for this program. However, you can submit GRE scores that are up to 5 years old.
- **Is a Masters degree required for admission?**  
Yes. All applicants must have a masters degree from an accredited College or University.
- **Are there funding opportunities available?**  
Students can apply (by December of the year prior to the start of the cohort) for competitive fellowships through the College of Education and the University. Please note that the fellowship application deadline is much earlier than the regular application deadline. Fellowship students come and work either as teaching assistants or graduate assistants at Purdue.
- **Is it possible to work full time and complete the PhD?**  
Yes. However, students must be available to take classes (either in person or live via Zoom) from 6 – 9 p.m. EST two weeknights each week (days may vary).
- **How much is tuition?**  
Tuition is \$700/credit hour for in-state students and \$750/credit hour for out-of-state students. Please note that the required study abroad program expenses are in addition to tuition and will range from \$4,000 - \$6,000 plus airfare.
- **How many courses do PhD students take each semester?**  
Standard load is two three-credit courses each semester. In addition to these two classes, depending on the semester, students may also register for 1 hour of internship, or dissertation research. Students will not take more than 7 credit hours in a semester unless special arrangements are made in advance.
- **What is the study abroad component of the program?**  
The required study abroad program will take place during the summer after students' second year of coursework. We will travel abroad for approximately 10 days and work with professors and administrators at a partnering Higher Education Institution (currently at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland). Please note that study abroad costs are in addition to tuition and will range between \$4,000 - \$6,000 plus airfare.

- **What does the dissertation for this PhD look like?**  
The dissertation requires that students author (with program faculty) at least three peer-reviewed scholarly articles of appropriate length and subject matter during their doctoral studies. The dissertation consists of an introductory chapter, reprints of these three (or more) articles, and an analysis/conclusion chapter.
- **What does the internship involve?**  
Internships are individualized and are designed to give students experience in areas of a college or university that they are interested in exploring. The internship is not a “job shadowing” experience and students are not required to be physically present in West Lafayette to complete an internship at Purdue. Instead, the internship is project based, allowing students to gain important experience with “real world” higher education issues and challenges.
- **What does it mean to be a “hybrid” doctoral program?**  
Students are required to come to West Lafayette for an intensive class once per semester. Students are encouraged to attend class in-person each week as they are able. However, for students who live some distance from Purdue, they can access the weekly courses in real time via Zoom each week. The only requirement is that students must be available to be “at” classes from 6 – 9 p.m. EST two nights each week.
- **When is the application deadline?**  
NEW DEADLINE - February 15<sup>th</sup> (note that students interested in fellowships must apply by December of the previous year)