PhD in Educational Studies with a Concentration in Higher Education

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How long is the program?
The program is designed to take 4 years (Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters).

2. 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.

3. Is a Master’s degree required for admission?
Yes. All applicants must have a Master’s degree from an accredited College or University.

4. 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.

5. 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 WebEx) from 6 – 9 p.m. EST two weeknights each week (days may vary).

6. How much is tuition?
Tuition is $700/credit hour for in-state students and $750/credit hour for out-of-state students.

7. 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.
8. **What is the study abroad component of the program?**
The study abroad program will take place during the summer after students’ second year of coursework. We will travel abroad for approximately 7-10 days to collaborate with other Higher Educational Institutions. Specific details will be forthcoming. (The first study abroad experience will take place in Summer 2021 for the current cohort).

9. **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.

10. **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.

11. **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 also participate real-time (via Zoom) in weekly seminars from 6 – 9 p.m. EST two nights each week (one night for each class).

12. **When is the application deadline?**
March 30th (note that students interested in fellowships must apply by December of the previous year).

For more information, visit the [program website](https://example.com).