



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
**College of Education™**

## Higher Education

### *Doctor of Philosophy Program Handbook*

College of Education Graduate  
Education and Research Texas  
Tech University  
Box 41071  
Lubbock, TX 79409-1071  
(806) 742-1997  
Fax (806) 742-2197  
[www.educ.ttu.edu](http://www.educ.ttu.edu)

## Higher Education: Doctor of Philosophy Program

### Program Overview

The Higher Education Program is committed to excellence in preparing and supporting administrative and instructional leaders for higher education, generating and supporting research in the field of higher education, and delivering public service to the practice of higher education. The program delivers teaching, research, and professional services to students, institutions of higher education, and other academic disciplines.

The doctoral programs in Higher Education are designed to prepare instructional and administrative leaders for positions in community colleges, four-year colleges and universities, government agencies, and business and industry. The primary role is to prepare leaders for the higher education enterprise. Students come to us from a variety of fields, backgrounds, and types of higher education institutions.

The doctoral program (Ph.D.), including the dissertation, requires a minimum of 96 hours beyond the baccalaureate degree. The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree emphasizes theoretical, research and analysis competencies. It is designed for students who plan on becoming university faculty and/or serving in research positions upon graduation.

Doctoral-level work in Higher Education is conducted in the Department of Educational Psychology and Leadership of the College of Education (COE). Students must meet the requirements of the Graduate School, College of Education, and the Higher Education Program to receive a Doctoral Degree.

### Graduate Faculty

Dr. Stacy A. Jacob	Assistant Professor	COE Room 312	stacy.jacob@ttu.edu
Dr. Stephanie J. Jones	Assistant Professor, Doctoral Program Coordinator	COE Room 309	stephanie.j.jones@ttu.edu
Dr. Valerie Paton	Assistant Professor Senior Vice Provost	Office of the Provost	valerie.paton@ttu.edu
Dr. Michael Shonrock	Associate Professor	COE Room 305	michael.shonrock@ttu.edu
Dr. Colette M. Taylor	Assistant Professor, Master's Program Coordinator	COE Room 304	colette.taylor@ttu.edu

### Admissions Procedures

- A. Apply through the Office of Graduate Admissions in Holden Hall for “General Admission” to the Graduate School. Read the *Graduate Catalog* of the University for admission requirements.
- B. The Graduate School has two types of admission, described briefly here. Official descriptions are in the current TTU Graduate Catalog. The graduate admissions categories are: (1) Full admission to the Doctoral program in Higher Education and (2) Graduate Temporary (GTMP).
- C. The standards for admission to the Higher Education program go beyond those for admission to the Graduate School. Please see the requirements at <http://cms.educ.ttu.edu/future/admission/apply-now>.
- D. In addition to the professional portfolio, an interview will be required as the final steps of the admission process.

**The deadline for submitting applications for fall admittance is March 1 and spring admittance is October 1.** Since all applications must first be submitted to the TTU Graduate School, this means students should allow at **least 4 weeks** prior to the deadline date listed above. Failure to meet the admission deadlines will result in the student's application not being reviewed until the next cohort admitted to the program.

**Notification of acceptance.** The official letter of acceptance or rejection will be sent by the Higher Education Online Doctorate Program Coordinators. In addition, students can check their status online, through the Graduate School at <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/gradschool/admissions/AppStatusCheck.php>.

**Appeal process.** Applicants who are not accepted into the doctoral program in Higher Education have the right to appeal the Higher Education program faculty's decision. The first level of appeal is to reapply to the program. If an applicant is still rejected by the Higher Education program faculty, the next level of appeal is the College of Education Graduate Academic Affairs Committee. If the applicant's appeal is denied by the College of Education Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, there is no further recourse for admission.

## Advisement Procedures

Upon the student's admission into the doctoral program in Higher Education, a temporary advisor is appointed to assist with the process of developing a degree plan and registering for approved courses. The advisor and student should meet annually to review the student's progress in completing course work and all other degree requirements. When nearing completion of all course work, the student will select a major professor and doctoral advisory committee prior to taking the qualifying exam. The major professor and doctoral committee will review the student's course work, prepare and evaluate the student's qualifying exam, guide the student through the development of the dissertation proposal, and guide the student's development of the dissertation. The student's major professor may change over time due to changes in program faculty or research focus of the student.

Although this *Handbook* provides an overview of the policies, procedures, and requirements of the Higher Education program, the *Handbook* cannot be viewed as having all of the answers. Instead, students must seek answers to questions from other sources including, but not limited to, the Higher Education program faculty, the COE Office of Graduate Studies and Research (COE Room 105), and the Texas Tech University Graduate School (Holden Hall). While faculty advisors are knowledgeable about the policies, procedures, and requirements, the **primary responsibility** for reading and following correct policies and procedures **remains with the student**, not the faculty.

## Degree Plan

As soon as possible after admission to a degree program, but no later than during the first semester of work, the student should contact his or her assigned program faculty advisor to develop a "Program for the Doctoral Degree." During an individual conference, the department advisor will assist the student with selection of courses related to the program option chosen. After the student's degree plan is signed by the advisor and department head and approved by the Graduate School, the student is expected to follow it as the basis for all subsequent enrollments. If a change to the degree plan is needed, this should be discussed with the advisor and a College of Education form for "Reporting Course Changes" on Graduate Degree Programs should be completed by the student, signed by the advisor, department chair, and Associate Dean for Graduate Education and Research. The form is then sent to the Graduate School.

**Transfer credit.** Transfer credit from another university will be evaluated and awarded in accord with the guidelines established by the Graduate School. Work completed in the doctoral program of another recognized graduate school will be considered on the recommendation of the student's doctoral advisory committee, but no assurance can be given that such work will reduce the course or residence requirements at Texas Tech University. In no case can transfer credit reduce the minimum residence. The Higher Education Program may accept up to 30 credits from a master's program (any discipline) from an accredited

public or private university.

## **Continuation of Enrollment**

Students who have been granted admission are expected to register in the term for which admission is granted. Any student who fails to register during any one-year period prior to graduation, and who does not have an official leave of absence from study granted by the Higher Education program and the Graduate School, may be required to apply for re-admission to the program according to the procedures and standards in effect at the time of reconsideration.

## Doctor of Philosophy in Higher Education Program (Ph.D.)

The doctoral curriculum is comprised of six elements: (1) common foundation core, (2) research core, (3) area of concentration, selected from among five possibilities, (4) graduate electives, (5) comprehensive exams, and (6) dissertation.

### Foundations Core Required

9 hours

EDHE 5300 History of Higher Education in the United States  
EDHE 5334 College Student Development Theory  
EDIT 5370 Foundations in Distance Education

### Research and Statistics Core\*

15 hours

#### Required:

EPSY 5380 Introduction to Educational Statistics  
EPSY 5381 Intermediate Educational Statistics  
EPSY 5382 Qualitative Research in Education

#### Electives:

A student's additional electives are prescribed by the proposed methodology of dissertation.

ANT 5305 Doing Ethnography: Method and Theory  
EDCI 5386 Constructivist Inquiry Methodologies in Curriculum and Instruction  
EPSY 5385 Foundations of Educational Research  
EPSY 6301 Advanced Data Analysis  
EPSY 6302 Survey Research in Education  
EPSY 6303 Educational Measurement  
EPSY 6304 Qualitative Research Methods  
EPSY 6305 Qualitative Data Analysis in Education

**\*Note: Research and statistic coursework from other academic departments or accredited universities may be accepted to meet the Research and Statistic Core requirements.**

### Higher Education Core

30 hours

EDHE 5301 American Higher Education  
EDHE 5305 Leadership in Higher Education  
EDHE 5313 The Comprehensive Community College  
EDHE 5321 The Administration of Higher Education  
EDHE 5323 Funding Higher Education  
EDHE 5324 Higher Education and the Law  
EDHE 5332 Student Services in Higher Education  
EDHE 6311 Higher Education Research Design  
EDHE 6325 Policy Analysis & Issues in Higher Education  
EDHE 6370 Capstone Seminar

**Areas of Concentration****15 hours**

The concentration area provides an opportunity to develop a particular expertise. Students may complete up to 6 semester hours of study before declaring a concentration within the program. Each of the listed courses below is required for each concentration. The additional graduate courses for this concentration will be electives approved by the faculty advisor and may be taken from outside the department/college. Students will choose from one of the following five areas (course options in each concentration are presented below):

*Community College*

EDHE 5315 Community College Leadership

*Counseling*

EDHE 5335 The American College Student

COU 5364 Theories of Counseling

*Student Affairs Administration*

EDHE 5333 Issues in Student Affairs

*Policy in Higher Education*

EDHE 5322 Institutional Planning in Higher Education

*Teaching, Learning and Curriculum in Higher Education*

EDHE 5342 College Teaching

EDHE 5343 College and University Curriculum

*Organization and Administration of Higher Education*

EDHE 5302 Comparative Higher Education

**Graduate Electives****15 hours**

These courses may be also used to create a minor.

**Doctoral Dissertation****12 hours**

EDHE 8000 Doctor's Dissertation

**Total: 96 hours**

## **Additional Information**

### **Residency Requirement**

One year of residency is required by the University for all doctoral study. The intent of residency is to provide for concentrated study as a full-time student with minimal outside distractions. The student should discuss with an advisor the various ways that the residency requirements can be satisfied. Residency options also are explained in the College of Education section of the University Catalog.

### **Adherence to Timelines**

The doctoral student maintains ultimate responsibility for progressing through the program of studies, internships, qualifying examination, and dissertation in a timely manner. Continual contact should be maintained with the advisor, major professor, and members of the doctoral advisory committee. Also, the doctoral student should be thoroughly familiar with the information presented in the College of Education Doctoral Student Handbook, available from the Office of Graduate Education and Research.

### **Qualifying Examination**

The qualifying examination requires synthesis and application of knowledge acquired during the course of study for the Doctoral Degree in Higher Education. Satisfactory performance in course work does not necessarily guarantee successful performance on the qualifying examination. A student may take this examination after receiving approval of the degree plan from the Dean of the Graduate School and completing most of the course work prescribed by the degree plan. The Research and Statistics core courses must be completed before taking the qualifying exam.

Reasonable accommodations will be made to allow students with disabilities to take the qualifying examination. The student should discuss individual needs with the chair of the doctoral advisory committee to arrange needed accommodations.

The qualifying examination is at the same time for all qualifying students, in the fall and spring terms. The exam will be administered over two days, with in-class testing four hours each day. All members of the Higher Education Program faculty will contribute to the development of examination questions and the evaluation of responses. If a student fails, the qualifying examination can be repeated one time after a lapse of at least four months. Once the qualifying examination is passed, the student is admitted to candidacy on recommendation of the doctoral advisory committee.

### **Application for Candidacy**

A recommendation for candidacy is forwarded to the Graduate School by the chairperson of the advisory committee after the student passes the qualifying examination. The student will have four years to complete the dissertation after admission to candidacy by the Graduate Council.

### **Dissertation and Oral Defense**

After successfully passing the doctoral qualifying examination, the student is eligible to present a formal proposal for the dissertation research to the doctoral advisory committee and other interested faculty. When the proposal is approved, the student may begin the dissertation process. A minimum of 12 semester hours of registration is required. The dissertation, a work of original research or creative scholarship, must be defended in an oral defense administered and evaluated by the major professor and the doctoral advisory committee.

## **Statement of Intention to Graduate**

All doctoral degree students must file a Statement of Intention to Graduate and pay graduation fees. Since specific deadlines exist for filing forms and paying fees, students should contact the Office of the Associate Dean for Graduate Education and Research (Holden Hall) for additional information.

## **Financial Aid**

A limited number of College of Education Graduate Research/Teaching Assistantships are available on a competitive basis. Deadline for these awards is March 1 for the fall semester. In addition, a number of Texas Tech University Fellowships, scholarships, work study, and other awards are available from the Office of Graduate Admissions' website at <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/gradschool/scholarships/index.php>.

## **Additional Information & Suggestions**

Other important issues such as registration, financial assistance, ethics, and appeals procedures are outlined in the *Texas Tech University Graduate Catalog*, *College of Education Doctoral Student Handbook*, and the *Education Student Handbook*.

## Application to the Program

The application process for the Ph.D. program in Higher Education within the College of Education is twofold (a process for the Graduate School and a process for the College of Education): students must apply to both the Graduate School and the College of Education. Each department requires specific credentials, outlined below. Please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Stephanie J. Jones at [stephanie.j.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:stephanie.j.jones@ttu.edu) should you have any questions regarding the admission process.

### Application Deadline

Student applications are accepted for admissions based on the following deadlines:

**Fall admittance: March 1**

**Spring admittance: October 1**

\*The program does not review applications in the summer.

### Graduate School Process

Please follow the procedures outlined at <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/gradschool/admissions/how.php> to apply to the TTU graduate school.

### College of Education Process

Please follow the procedures outlined at <http://cms.educ.ttu.edu/future/admission/apply-now> under graduate application to apply. Please make sure and review all of the information provided. When you are ready to begin your application, please scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on "Login to begin application." If you have any problems in this process, please contact Stephenie McDaniel, assistant advisor, graduate education and research, at [stephenie.mcdaniel@ttu.edu](mailto:stephenie.mcdaniel@ttu.edu) or call (806) 742-1998, ext. 434. You may also contact Dr. Stephanie J. Jones, doctoral program coordinator at [stephanie.j.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:stephanie.j.jones@ttu.edu) or call (806) 742-1997, ext. 245.

## Admission Criteria

The following are the admission criteria to be considered for the Ph.D. program and do not automatically guarantee admission to the doctoral program in the College of Education. Applicants must demonstrate the following:

1. A master's degree in any discipline from an accredited public or private university with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
2. For the Ph.D. program a minimum of three (3) years full-time professional experience in either a public or private two-year or four-year institution or state or federal educational agency serving higher education, or some other organization with a clear connection to higher education.

3. A clear commitment to enter the administrative ranks of 2- or 4-year institutions of higher education or the university professorate in higher education administration.
4. Evidence of potential contribution to research, teaching or leadership in higher education as documented by three letters of reference from faculty or administrators in 2- or 4-year institutions of higher education.

An interview will be scheduled with at least two faculty members as the final step of the admissions process. Interviews will only be conducted with those applicants chosen by the program faculty. Interview topics will be wide-ranging, including personal goals and objectives, current issues in education, and successful college experiences. The interview is designed to acquire information concerning an applicant's oral communication and critical thinking skills and to provide opportunity for the applicant to raise questions concerning the program.

- IF YOU RECEIVE AN OFFICIAL LETTER OF ADMISSION from the Graduate School, develop the Program for Doctoral Degree (degree plan) with your faculty advisor, who will also advise you on course selection and registration.
- IF YOU RECEIVE A REJECTION LETTER from the Graduate School, contact the Associate Dean of Graduate Education and Research (806) 742-1998 x447 (COE Room 110A) for advisement regarding the admission appeals process.





4. Service to Others – what has the candidate exhibited in his/her professional life that would give evidence of service to others?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Leadership – What has the candidate done that exhibits leadership? What indicators suggest the leadership was successful?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Interpersonal skills – What examples suggest the candidate can deal successfully with people in a conflict situation?

**Please return the completed recommendation form promptly.  
The application will not be reviewed until all recommendations are received.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your assistance. Please return this form to:**

**Associate Dean for Graduate Education and Research**

**College of Education**

**Texas Tech University**

**Box 41071**

**Lubbock, TX 79409-1071**