Official Degree Name: Learning & Developmental Sciences PhD (LRNDEVPHD)

Official Sub-Plan Name: Learning Sciences Specialization (LRDVLSPPC)

Overview of degree:
Summary paragraphs of degree and general overview of requirements

Students in our Learning Sciences Ph.D. program come from a variety of academic and professional backgrounds, from math and science to psychology and computer science. What unites them is a desire to understand the connection between how people learn and the environments in which they learn, and to make those environments more effective.

We believe that Learning Sciences problems are solved through interdisciplinary collaboration. You’ll collaborate with researchers in related fields, such as cognitive science. As a candidate, you will establish and defend your personal research agenda. Learn to apply relevant social scientific theory, psychological theory, and educational design theory to our research. In addition, you will be involved in preparing research grant proposals tailored to the needs and interests of major foundations and government agencies that support advances in Learning Sciences.

Degree Requirements:

Major Requirements (36 credits)

List Required Courses for degree:

P544 Applied Cognition and Learning Strategies 3
P572 Introduction to the Learning Sciences (or equivalent) 3

Other learning sciences courses (12–15 cr.)
Courses should include a minimum of 6 credit hours of course work on theory and 3 credit hours of course work on design. These courses and the inquiry linkage course taken together must include a minimum of 6 credit hours at the 600-level.

P507 Assessment in Schools 3
P540 Learning and Cognition in Education 3
P545 Educational Motivation 3
P571 Proseminar in Learning Science 1
P574 Topical Seminar in Learning Science 3
P631 Theorizing Learning in Context 3
P632 Designing for Learning Context 3
P633 Capturing Learning in Context 3
P650 Topical Seminar in Educational Psychology 3
P674 Advanced Topical Seminar in Learning Sciences 1-3
P690 Independent Study in Educational Psychology 1-3

Early Inquiry Experience
P573 Learning Sciences Apprenticeship (12–15 cr.)
Apprenticeship may be taken for 1-3 credit hours each semester. In this context, the student must carry out an independent research project as the early inquiry experience. The resulting research report must be read and approved by the advisory committee.

Inquiry Linkage
P633 Capturing Learning in Context 3

Inquiry Requirements (15 credits)

List Required Courses for degree:

Y521 Methodological Approaches to Educational Inquiry 3

- Additional approved course inquiry courses (6 cr.)
- Inquiry methodology electives (6 cr.)

Minor Requirements (12 credits)

List Required Courses for degree:

The minor must have integrity in its own right and must complement the major. The minor field must demonstrate wholeness within itself and contribute to the student’s overall doctoral program. Minors are normally formulated within a single program area. However, an interdisciplinary minor is also possible. If courses in the minor are from more than one program area, a written description of the minor's underlying theme must be provided along with a rationale for each course's contribution to that theme. This written description is typically limited to two pages and submitted to the student’s Program of Studies Committee. Major area courses (those within the Learning and Developmental Sciences program) may not be used in the minor. A minor area includes (but not limited) to psychology, sociology, special education, curriculum and instruction (e.g., mathematics education, science education, art education), instructional systems technology, linguistics, informatics, cognitive science, or computer science.

Elective Requirements (12 credits)

List Required Courses for degree:

Electives may be taken in fields inside or outside the School of Education. Students may take electives in any area of interest to complement their program of study.
Dissertation Requirements (15 credits)

List Required Courses for degree:

- P795  Dissertation Proposal Preparation 3
- P799  Doctoral Thesis in Educational Psychology 12