Policies & Procedures

Ed.D. Policies

Electronic Plan of Studies (e-POS)

The e-POS is a coursework plan to fulfill program requirements. These requirements fall into several component categories. The student and the Committee Chair are responsible for planning and creating the e-POS. The e-POS must then be approved by the Department Chair and the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies. If any courses listed on the e-POS were not taken at Indiana University, a Request for Transfer of Graduate Credit must be submitted concurrently for approval. An e-POS should be submitted within one year of matriculation. Failure to do so can result in a hold on enrollment.

90 Hour Program

For the 90 credit hour program, credit hours earned in master's or specialist degree programs may be included in the doctoral program as long as they are relevant to the student's doctoral areas of focus. 60 credit hours (including 12 dissertation credit hours) in the 90 credit hour program must be taken at Indiana University.

Electronic Plan of Studies (e-POS) Components

Major

A major consisting of a minimum of 36 credit hours of coursework in the selected field of specialization is required. Courses from related areas of study may be included in the major component if their relevance to the major can be demonstrated and committee approval can be secured.

In addition to the inquiry core coursework, 6 credit hours of inquiry coursework are required in the major. One of these inquiry courses must be an early inquiry experience, during which a student carries out a research project, including the collection and analysis of data to answer a research question, and the writing of a research manuscript. This research is to be prior to the dissertation and not a direct part of the dissertation research. The early inquiry experience may be implemented through an independent study course (e.g., a 590 course), through a master's thesis (e.g. 599 course), or through a departmental research seminar. Each student must carry out an independent research project. The research manuscript that results from this study must be read and approved by the student's committee.

The second of the two major area inquiry courses is an inquiry linkage course. This is a course in which research relevant to the major field of specialization is studied. Such study, however, focuses more on the research design and methodology of research in the major area than on the findings of the research. Analyzing and critiquing the research methodology are of primary importance in this experience. Each department has a research seminar or a specialized research methodology course for this purpose. The inquiry core courses normally should be completed prior to taking inquiry courses in the major.
Inquiry Core

Inquiry Core courses are to lay a rudimentary methodological foundation for applied inquiry courses in the major, and for dissertation research. This component requires a minimum of 9 credit hours, however many doctoral programs in the school require 12 or 15 credit hours of Inquiry Core coursework. The Inquiry Core includes a survey course in research methodologies (e.g. Y520) and beginning courses in statistics, measurement, program evaluation, or in ethnographic, qualitative, quantitative, and historical research methods. A list of approved Inquiry Core courses is available at the School of Education Graduate Student Portal website. Substitutions or transfer courses for this section must be approved by a member of the Inquiry Methodology faculty as well as your Advisory Committee Chair. Inquiry Core courses may be used toward the doctoral program requirement of 15 credit hours outside of the major program area.

Minor

The minor requires a minimum of 12 credit hours of coursework taken in an area of studies outside of the major. The minor must complement the major and have integrity in its own right. The committee member representing the minor field must approve the selection of courses in the minor area. Students may minor in any area of study inside or outside of the School of Education that is listed in the University Graduate School Bulletin. An interdisciplinary or individualized minor is also possible.

Electives/Minor Additional Coursework

Programs require up to 30 credit hours of additional coursework to reach a total of 75 pre-dissertation credit hours. The electives/minor category is designed to allow students freedom in course selection. Students should see program-specific requirements in the Bulletin.

If a program requires a minor, it will be this is also the place to put foundations courses. Each program area has specified courses in foundations, substantive core perspective, or other areas outside the major and minor, which are required for breadth. Courses that may fall into this category are those needed to meet the doctoral program requirement for 27-15 credit hours outside of the major program area. This ordinarily includes the 12 credit hours of minor coursework, and the 9 or more credit hours of inquiry core courses.

If a transcribed minor is selected it requires consist of a minimum of 12 credit hours of coursework taken in an area of studies outside of the major. The minor must complement the major and have integrity in its own right. The committee member representing the minor field must approve the selection of courses in the minor area. Students may minor in any area of study inside or outside of the School of Education that is listed in the University Graduate School Bulletin. An interdisciplinary or individualized minor is also possible.
Dissertation

The dissertation requires 3 credit hours of 795 and 12 credit hours of 799. The focus of the dissertation is on data collection and analysis for the purpose of answering practical questions and developing possible solutions in the field. Descriptive research, program evaluation, needs assessment, case study, campus audit, and survey research are examples of the kinds of research studies expected.

60 Hour Program

For the 60 credit hour program, a master's degree is a prerequisite for admission. Master's coursework may not be counted toward the 60 required credit hours, but graduate coursework beyond the master's degree may be, as long as it meets requirements. In this program, 42 credit hours must be taken on the campus where the degree is awarded. At present, the 60 credit hour program is only available in Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Leadership, Higher Education, Instructional Systems Technology and Literacy, Culture, and Language Education.

Electronic Plan of Studies (e-POS) Components

Major

The major must consist of a minimum of 27 credit hours, of which 3 credit hours are to be in an inquiry linkage course. Courses from related areas of study may be included in the major component if their relevance to the major can be demonstrated and committee approval can be secured. Early inquiry experience courses may be required by the program.

Inquiry Core

Inquiry Core courses are to lay a rudimentary methodological foundation for applied inquiry courses in the major, and for dissertation research. This component requires a minimum of 9 credit hours of inquiry core coursework. The Inquiry Core includes a survey course in research methodologies (e.g., Y520) and beginning courses in statistics, measurement, program evaluation, or in ethnographic, qualitative, quantitative, and historical research methods. A list of approved Inquiry Core courses is available at the School of Education Graduate Student Portal website. Substitutions or transfer courses for this section must be approved by a member of the Inquiry Methodology faculty as well as your Committee Chair.

Minor/ElectivesAdditional Coursework

Programs require up to 15 credit hours of additional coursework to reach a total of 51 pre-dissertation hours. Students should see program-specific requirements in the Bulletin.

If a program requires a minor, it will consist of a minimum of 9 credit hours of coursework taken in an area of studies outside of the major. The minor/electives requirement is 9 credit hours of coursework taken in an area of studies outside of the major, as a transcribed minor, or as electives that can be in or outside of the major. If selecting, the minor or minor must complement the major and have integrity in its own right. The committee member representing the minor field must approve the selection of
courses in the minor area. 9-hour Ed.D. minors are listed in the School of Education Bulletin. Any minor not listed with a 9-hour version in the School of Education Bulletin must be submitted as an individualized minor. Ed.D. minors not officially listed in the School of Education Bulletin will show as individualized on the transcript.

Dissertation

The dissertation requires 3 credit hours of 795 and 6 credit hours of 799. The focus of the dissertation is on data collection and analysis for the purpose of answering practical questions and developing possible solutions in the field. Descriptive research, program evaluation, needs assessment, case study, campus audit, and survey research are examples of the kinds of research studies expected.