

Instructional Systems Technology

Distance Ed.D. Degree Program¹

(Revised, September 9, 2009; Updated April 12, 2010)

Purpose and Basic Requirements

The Instructional Systems Technology (IST) Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree program is designed for individuals seeking to be practitioners in the field of instructional technology. The IST program prepares Ed.D. students to bridge the gap between research and practice in the field. The Ed.D. student learns to take the findings developed by basic and applied research and use them to build and test processes, products, and services that are ready for operational use in education and training settings. Ed.D. program graduates typically assume management and leadership roles in public or private agencies and organizations involved in one or more aspects of instructional technology.

The IST Ed.D. program is a 60 credit-hour (minimum) post-master's graduate program. In order to begin the Ed.D. program, an individual must have completed a master's degree program from an accredited institution *in instructional or performance technology*.² Work completed towards a master's degree does not apply toward meeting the 60 credit-hour requirement. Post-master's degree work may apply, with decisions made on a case-by-case basis. A 90-credit post-bachelor's degree is also possible, where the first 36 credits are taken in IST to achieve a master's degree, and the remaining 54 are taken for the Ed.D.

Program Overview: Course work and Dissertation (60 credits)

If your M.S. degree is in IST at IU	If your M.S. degree is <i>not</i> from IST at IU
<i>IST Major</i> (30 hours taken from IU) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IST Inquiry Linkage (6 hours) • IST Electives (24 new hours) 	<i>IST Major</i> (30 hours taken from IU) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IST Core Courses (15 hours) • IST Inquiry Linkage (6 hours) • IST Electives (9 hours)
<i>Non-IST</i> (21 hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquiry (9 hours) • Learning Theories (if not taken in the M.S. program) • Minor (9 hours) 	<i>Non-IST</i> (21 hours) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquiry (9 hours) • Learning Theories (3 hours) • Minor (9 hours)
<i>IST</i> (9 hours taken from IU) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissertation Proposal Preparation (3 hours) • Dissertation (6 hours) 	<i>IST</i> (9 hours taken from IU) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissertation Proposal Preparation (3 hours) • Dissertation (6 hours)
<i>Total: 51 hrs. courses + 9 hrs. dissertation = 60 hrs.</i>	<i>Total: 51 hrs. courses + 9 hrs. dissertation = 60 hrs.</i>

¹ Coursework in the Ed.D. program can be completed at a distance (over the Internet). The Ed.D. student must attend in person at least one IST Summer Colloquium or one IST Conference. The student must take the written qualifying examination on the IU Bloomington campus. The exam is proctored. The student must also present the final defense of his or her dissertation in person on the IU Bloomington campus.

² Other M.S. degrees may be accepted by the IST Department on a case-by-case basis, depending on the applicant's background and prior work experience in instructional design, teaching, and/or performance improvement.

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A minimum of 42 credits of the 60 credits required for the Ed.D. must be taken from Indiana University (IU Bloomington or IUPUI).

Other Requirements:

- Residency (attendance on the Bloomington campus during at least one IST Colloquium or IST Conference)
- Qualifying exam (proctored written exam on the Bloomington campus, and oral defense)
- Nomination to Candidacy (after completion of all course work - excluding dissertation - and after passing written and oral qualifying exams)
- Dissertation Research Committee Approval
- Dissertation Prospectus (after Nomination to Candidacy and with consultation and approval from Dissertation Research Committee) and Institutional Board Review (IRB) Approval for research involving human subjects
- Dissertation Proposal Defense
- Dissertation Final Defense Announcement (with approval from dissertation chairperson, and at least 30 days prior to final defense)
- Dissertation Final Defense

Note: The planning and approval of a student's doctoral program of study is accomplished with the help of a Program Advisory Committee. The chairperson must be an IST faculty member. There also must be at least one other IST faculty member and a faculty member from the student's minor. Regular online or phone meetings with the chairperson are recommended. The Program Advisory Committee and the IST Chairperson must approve the program of studies.

The student's dissertation research is accomplished with the help of a Dissertation Research Committee, which consists of a minimum of four faculty members. At least two of these faculty, including the chair, must be members of the Graduate School. The chairperson and at least one other faculty member must be from IST. At least one faculty member should be from outside IST.

The Research Committee need not have the same members as the Program Advisory Committee. The student should ask faculty members to serve on these committees whose areas of expertise are compatible with the student's interests.

Prerequisite

Students must have completed the 36-credit master's degree with a major in IST at IU; or they must have completed a comparable master's degree in instructional or performance technology at an accredited institution consisting of a minimum of 30 credits. Other M.S. degrees may be accepted by the IST Department on a case-by-case basis, depending on the applicant's background and prior work experience in instructional design, teaching and/or performance improvement.

IST Core Courses (15 hours required if M.S. is not from IU in IST)

Core I:

- R511 Instructional Technology Foundations I (3 hours)
- R521 Instructional Design and Development I (3 hours)

Core II:

- R541 Instructional Development and Production Process I³ (3 hours)
- R561 Evaluation and Change in the ID Process (3 hours)
- R621 Needs Analysis and Assessment (3 hours)

³ Note: Students can take R547 as an alternative, if R541 competencies have already been attained.

IST Inquiry: Theory and Early Research Experience (6 hours from IST at IU)

- R690 Application of Research Methods to IST Issues (3 hours)
- R711 Readings in IST (3 hours)

IST Electives (12 – 24 hours)

If your 36-credit M.S. in IST was completed at IU, then 24 new credit hours must be taken from IU.

If your M.S. is *not* from IST at IU, but you took courses very similar to the IST Core courses (R511, R521, R541, R561, R621), then a minimum of 24 new credits in IST must be taken from IU as electives as approved by your Program Advisory Committee. Otherwise, you should take a combination of Core courses as recommended by your Program Advisory Committee and IST Electives so as to gain a total of 24 credits, in addition to the 6 credit hours of IST Inquiry courses (R690 and R711).

Inquiry (9 hours)

Education Y520, Strategies for Educational Inquiry (3 hours), or a suitable substitute, is required. The other two 3-hour courses may be from the following areas: 1) intermediate or advanced statistical analysis, (2) quantitative research methods, (3) qualitative research methods, (4) evaluation methods, and (5) testing and measurement.

Inquiry courses must be outside of IST. They may be inside the School of Education or from another School or Department. Comparable inquiry courses may be taken at or transferred from another accredited institution *if approved by your Program Advisory Committee* (but they cannot be courses that were counted as part of your previous 30-credit master's degree).

Learning Theories (3 hours)

A minimum of one 3-hour course is required in theories of learning (P540). If you have an IST master's degree, the required P540 master's course cannot be transferred to the Ed.D. Instead you must take a different course in theories of learning.

A comparable course in learning theories may be taken at or transferred from another accredited institution *if approved by your Program Advisory Committee* (but it cannot be a course that was counted as part of your previous 30-credit master's degree).

Minor (9 hours)

A minimum of 9 credit-hours of course work must be taken from a program or department other than Instructional Systems Technology. The nature and mix of the courses must be structured to support the overall thrust of the student's program of studies, i.e., courses which support the focus and/or setting for which the student is preparing. Typical options include: Business, Computer Science, Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Inquiry Methodology, Educational Leadership, Elementary Education, Library and Information Science, Secondary Education, Telecommunications, etc.

Minor courses may be taken at or transferred from another accredited institution *if approved by your Program Advisory Committee* (but they cannot be courses that were counted as part of your previous 30-credit master's degree).

Dissertation (9 hours)

- R795 Dissertation Proposal Preparation in IST (3 hours) - with a qualified advisor of the student's choice.
- R799 Dissertation in IST (6 hours) - with a qualified advisor and advisory committee of the student's choice.

For the Ed.D., students are required to complete, write, and orally defend a dissertation. The dissertation should demonstrate the student's ability to understand and apply theory to create and

rigorously evaluate an *original* instructional product or a performance improvement intervention. With respect to the instructional product or performance intervention, the dissertation should:

- demonstrate the need for it,
- document the process that was undertaken to create it,
- describe or illustrate it,
- verify its effectiveness—i.e., provide empirical evidence to show how well it works with the intended target audience, and
- justify the worthwhileness of its goal.

The dissertation research committee requires at least four members. Two members, including the chair, must be from IST. One member must be from the minor area. Three members, including the chair, must be regular Education faculty members (not part-time, nor adjunct). Faculty from other universities may sometimes serve, on an exceptional basis.

The digital version of the written dissertation may contain multimedia components, as long as the digital version can be read, viewed and heard according to widely-accepted, extant standards for digital formats.

Other Requirements

Residency

Ed.D. students are required to attend at least once *in person* the annual IST Conference on the Bloomington campus. This Conference has been held annually for 10 years, and is held over 2 or more consecutive days February or March and is primarily intended for presentation and discussion of research and development done by IST doctoral students and faculty. Students must attend at least one of Conference *in person* and bring appropriate identification (such as a valid U.S. driver's license, or a valid passport with one's picture ID).

In addition, an online forum open to faculty advisors and EdD students will be established with regular attendance by faculty members who advise EdD students online for a minimum of one conference each semester, plus the option for 24/7 student-to-student communication. Faculty members will also make themselves available to EdD students at national conferences and strongly encourage students to attend these conferences. The department will arrange for rooms at two of our discipline-specific conferences (AECT and ISPI) for these meetings and make less formal arrangements at others (AERA).

Qualifying Examinations

The Ed.D. student is required to take and pass both a written and oral qualifying examination. The written exam must be taken on the IU Bloomington campus at a scheduled date, over a three-day period (4 hours each day for the IST major, and 4 hours on a third day if a minor exam is required). The oral exam is conducted by the student's Program Advisory Committee at a later date, and can be done through a video conference, so that the Program Advisory Committee and the Ed.D. student can see and hear each other as they interact. During the oral exam, the Program Advisory Committee probes for clarification, justification and further explanation by the student regarding his or her responses on the written exam. The student is also asked to discuss his or her plans for subsequent dissertation research.

The written exam is normally taken when coursework is completed or near completion (excluding the dissertation proposal and dissertation itself). The written exam consists of questions prepared by faculty in order to assess the Ed.D. student's understanding of extant theories and practices in the field. IST written exams are evaluated blindly by IST faculty—i.e., without knowledge of who the student is.

The written qualifying exam may be taken a maximum of two times. If the written exam is not passed by the second attempt, the Ed.D. student's program will be terminated, and the student is provided with the option of receiving an Ed.S. degree—assuming that Ed.S. requirements have been met through prior coursework in the program, which would normally be the case.

Transfer of Credits from other Accredited Institutions

A minimum of 42 credits of the 60 credits required for the Ed.D. must be taken from Indiana University. Up to 18 credits of course work may be transferred from other accredited institutions, *but* these courses must be approved by your Program Advisory Committee *and* none of these courses can be part of the 30-credit master's degree that is a prerequisite to the Ed.D.