

PHD IN CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION: SECONDARY EDUCATION

Admission to Doctoral Programs

Individuals applying for admission to doctoral study must meet the admission requirements of the College of Graduate Studies as well as specific program requirements.

- Acceptable GRE scores with 144 in both the verbal and quantitative sections and a 3.0 writing score or above preferred.
- Evidence in prerequisite academic work that the applicant can successfully complete the doctoral program in the area of study.
- An autobiographical sketch that describes why the applicant wishes to pursue the selected doctoral program. This sketch also should include information on previous study, educational experience, professional accomplishments, immediate and future professional goals, a proposed time schedule for completing the degree, and any other information that the applicant believes is relevant for admission into the desired program.
- Evidence of research and writing ability. Such evidence may include a master's thesis, proctored writing sample, a written research report, one or more reprints of publications, a paper presented to a professional society, or similar evidence of competence in this respect.

Requirements for Doctoral Programs

A minimum of 60 hours of doctoral level coursework (7000/8000 level) is required. Each doctoral student is expected to:

- Identify a concentration in one area of specialization (i.e., a major) and pass a written examination (major examination) that covers the major area of concentration;
- Demonstrate proficiency in tools of research;
- After passing the written major examination, pass an oral examination;
- Present and defend a dissertation proposal;
- Present and defend a completed dissertation in a public forum.

Academic Advising Committee

The student is assigned an initial advisor upon admission to a program. This advisor guides the student in forming a doctoral program committee.

The doctoral program committee shall be formed before the student completes 18 hours of credit. The doctoral program committee has a minimum of three members who are selected from the membership of the graduate faculty of the University. The doctoral program committee is responsible for assisting the student in the development of a plan of study and assuring competence by overseeing the doctoral major exam, any minor exam(s) and doctoral program oral exams.

The plan of study must be approved by the doctoral program committee, the department chairperson, and the associate dean of the college.

The plan of study must be filed before 18 semester hours of the doctoral program are completed; and revisions to the original plan of study should be timely updated with the College of Graduate Studies the semester a revision occurs. After completion of the academic requirements, major/minor examinations and oral defense of the major/minor examinations, the student must form a dissertation committee to guide the development of the dissertation proposal and ultimately the dissertation.

The dissertation committee must include a minimum of four graduate faculty members including one who is not in the discipline major. The student must work closely with the committee to develop a research proposal for the dissertation. Once the committee approves the research design and proposal, the student must obtain Institutional Research Board approval before beginning any phase of the research study. A public defense of the dissertation is required.

All coursework and requirements of the doctoral degree must be completed within the seven year period preceding the awarding of the degree.