EDUCATIONAL STUDIES, PH.D.

The Higher Education Concentration program will not be accepting applications for 2027-2028.

Teacher Education and Development Concentration

The Ph.D. in Educational Studies with a concentration in Teacher Education and Development requires a minimum of 60 credit hours.

Higher Education Concentration

The Ph.D. in Educational Studies with a concentration in Higher Education requires 60 credit hours and is intended for experienced higher education administrators, student affairs professionals, and qualified scholars. Students develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for investigating, understanding, and shaping the dynamic relations among students, institutions of higher education, and society. Graduates pursue careers as scholar-practitioners in student affairs and higher education or as faculty or adjunct instructors.

The Higher Education Concentration program will not be accepting applications for 2027-2028.

For information regarding deadlines and requirements for admission, please see https://grs.uncg.edu/programs/.

Due to visa regulations, international students applying for this program are not eligible for F or J visa.

Degree Program Requirements

Required: 60 credit hours

Teacher Education and Development Concentration

Required: 60-75 credit hours

All students must meet the requirements described below. Additional course requirements are determined on an individual basis through planning by the student and their doctoral advisory/dissertation committee.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Core Courses (18 credits)		
TED 646	Learning in Schools and Communities [1]	3
TED 727	Academic Discourse Communities in Graduate Studies	3
or SES 755	Systematic Review of Special Education Literature	
or HED 721	Seminar in Literature Review and Research	
TED 746	Seminar: Research on Teaching	3
TED 747	Doctoral Seminar in Learning and Cognition	3
TED 749	Introduction to Educational Studies	3
SES 761	Coaching and Supervision of Teaching and Learning	3
Research Component Courses (18-21 credits)		
TED 730	Qualitative Methods in Curriculum and Instruction	3
TED 738	Mixed Methods Research Design in Curriculum and Instruction	3
TED 775	Directed Doctoral Research [2]	3-6
or SES 775	Directed Research	
ERM 781	Design and Analysis of Educational Experiments	3
SES 759	Grant Writing in Education [3]	0 or 3
Select one quantitative or qualitative methods course (3 credits) [4]		3
Concentration Courses (12-15 credits)		
Select 12-15 credits of concentration courses [5]		12-15
Dissertation (12-24 credits)		
TED 799	Dissertation	12-24
or SES 799	Dissertation	
Total Credit Hours		**60-75**

1. *Or approved substitute.*
2. *Students complete 3-6 credits depending on their research study requirements; most students will complete 6 credits.*
3. *Optional course; required depending on a student's area of concentration as advised by the program. If students do not take SES 759, they must complete 6 credits of TED 775.*
4. *With advice and approval of the student's doctoral committee. Can include* ERM 780 Intermediate Statistical Methods in Education *, prerequisite for* ERM 781*.*
5. *With the advice and approval of the doctoral committee.*

Research Component Courses

The research component must include both qualitative and quantitative research courses, plus an applied research component. Students are expected to acquire a deep understanding of the concepts of research and inquiry as they relate to curriculum and instruction. The knowledge base should include understanding of various research paradigms, criticisms of these paradigms, and the ability to conduct scholarly research. The research component must include one doctoral-level qualitative methods course, one doctoral-level mixed methods research course, one doctoral-level statistics course, and at least 6 credits of applied research courses as listed above.

Concentration Courses

Students will decide on courses with the advice and approval of the doctoral committee. By carefully selecting courses, students may develop a focus in any of several areas including teacher education, elementary education, middle grades education, reading and literacy education, mathematics education, social studies education, science education, equity education, or an interdisciplinary focus.

Higher Education Concentration

Required: 60 credit hours

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Course Requirements (15 credits)		
HED 721	Seminar in Literature Review and Research	3
HED 745	Higher Education: Equity, Inclusion and Learning	3
HED 746	Organizational Theory in Higher Education	3
HED 749	Professional Seminar in Higher Education Research	3
HED 768	Critical Theory in Higher Education	3
Concentration Course Requirements (15 credits)		
Select two courses (6 credits) of electives from 700-level HED courses *		6
Select three courses (9 credits) of electives **		9

Research Methods Course Requirements (18 credits)		
HED 767	Qualitative Data Collection and Analysis	3
HED 769	Scholarly Writing in a Gendered and Racialized Academy	3
HED 775	Directed Doctoral Research	3
ERM 780	Intermediate Statistical Methods in Education	3
ERM 781	Design and Analysis of Educational Experiments	3
TED 738	Mixed Methods Research Design in Curriculum and Instruction	3
Dissertation (12 credits)		
HED 799	Dissertation	12
Total Credit Hours		**60**

* *In consultation with the advisor. See Concentration Course Requirements below for details.*

** *In consultation with the advisor, students select three courses that focus on specific problems of theory, policy, or practice in higher education. See Concentration Course Requirements below for details.*

Concentration Course Requirements

Students are required to select two 700-level HED elective courses and three additional elective courses. HED 728 Topics in Curriculum and Instruction is a recommended elective course in addition to the two required 700-level courses.

Elective courses will be selected based on the student's interests and, therefore, individually designed. In consultation with the advisor, the student will select a coherent set of two concentration courses focusing on specific problems of theory, policy, or practice in higher education and are appropriate for the student's professional goals and interests.

Required Milestones*

- Residency (Immersion)
- Research Competency
- Plan of Study
- Comprehensive Exam (Written & Oral)
- Dissertation Proposal
- Admission to Candidacy
- Dissertation Defense
- Filing the Final Approved Dissertation

* *General information about milestones for doctoral programs is available in* Section III *(*https://catalog.uncg.edu/academic-regulations-policies/graduate-policies/#sectioniiisummaryofgraduateschoolregulationsforallcertificatesanddegreestext*) of the* Graduate Policies *(*https://catalog.uncg.edu/academic-regulations-policies/graduate-policies/*) page in the University Catalog. For information about how milestones are accomplished for a specific program, please refer to the doctoral program's handbook.*