

Curricular Requirements for Doctoral Study¹

	Ph.D.	D.Ed.
Core (see below)	12	12
Specialization (HIED) ²	9	9
Theoretical/Conceptual ³	9	9
Methodological	18	12
Proposal Course	3	3
Total (pre-dissertation credits)	51	45
Dissertation Credits	Not Accumulated	15 ⁴
TOTAL	N/A	60*

*The Graduate School requires D.Ed. candidates to take 90 credits toward the doctorate. Students possessing a master's degree will be granted advanced standing (usually 30 credits) toward the 90 total credits required. If a student does not have a master's degree or is not granted advanced standing, he or she must complete additional coursework.

Required Core Courses (12 credits total)

HIED 501 – Foundations of Higher Education

HIED 502 – Diversity and Equity in Higher Education

HIED 552 – Administration and Organization in Higher Education

HIED 556 – Higher Education Students and Clientele (note title change coming soon: College Students)

¹ Students cannot double-count a course such that an individual course counts toward the requirements for more than one category. In addition, students cannot waive any of the core courses.

² These courses are higher education courses that a student intentionally selects based on interest. They can be selected from residential courses or from online courses.

³ These courses are courses outside of the higher education program that provide theoretical or conceptual perspectives for the study of higher education. These courses can all be part of another program or can be from several programs provided that they represent a coherent theoretical/conceptual framework.

⁴ This number (15 credits) represents a minimum number of dissertation research credits.

Required Methodological Courses⁵

A quantitative course (e.g. EDPSY 406; STAT 500).

A qualitative course (e.g. HIED 586)

Completing the Ph.D. and D.Ed. Degrees: The particular responsibilities and preferences of doctoral students will undoubtedly shape their decisions such as how long it will take to complete the degree, how many courses to take any particular semester, and when to take any particular course. We recommend, however, that full-time UP doctoral students consider the timeline below for completing the required core courses (as well as the proposal course) in either of the doctoral programs:

Fall - Year 1	Spring - Year 1	Fall - Year 3
HIED 501: Foundations of Higher Education	HIED 552: Administration and Organization in Higher Education	HIED 594: Research Topics (Proposal Course)
HIED 502: Diversity and Equity in Higher Education	HIED 556: Higher Education Students and Clientele (note title change coming soon: College Students)	

Residency Requirements

For Ph.D. candidates, over some twelve-month period during the interval between admission to the Ph.D. program and completion of the Ph.D. program, the candidate must spend at least two semesters (summer sessions are not included) as a registered full-time student engaged in academic work at the University Park campus. Ph.D. candidates who are full-time University employees must be certified by the department as devoting half-time or more to graduate studies and/or thesis research to meet the degree requirements. HIED 601 cannot be used to meet the full-time residence requirement.

For D.Ed. candidates, a minimum of 30 credits (of the total of 90 credits required beyond a bachelor's degree) must be earned in residence at University Park campus. D.Ed. students may meet this requirement by attending summer sessions. In addition, they may register for a maximum of 30 credits of dissertation research in absentia, but none of these may count toward the minimum of 30 credits that must be earned at the University Park campus.

⁵ This is to say that among a total of 18 and 12 methodological credits that are required for Ph.D. and D.Ed. doctoral students respectively, at least one course (3 credits) must be a quantitative course, and at least one course (3 credits) must be a qualitative course.