

Education, EdD (Primarily Online)

The Doctor of Education is designed to empower students to bring about solutions to complex problems of practice in their local context, while leveraging a global network to magnify students' boundless experiential learning to build a more socially just world. The dissertation in practice, the culminating component of the degree, is designed to prepare leaders who can construct and apply knowledge to transform their organizations and communities through laboratories of practice where students implement change and then measure and analyze the impact to improve their professional practice. This knowledge is the start of students' potential for meaningful change work. Students magnify their ability to generate socially just change by leveraging Northeastern University's global network of students, alumni, employers, and entrepreneurs.

Students in the Doctor of Education program must complete the following milestones as part of their degree requirements. Each milestone represents a formal evaluation of the student's readiness to advance toward the next stage of the program. Students should consult their dissertation chair and academic advisor for milestone-specific requirements, timelines, and deadlines.

Milestones

CANDIDATE READINESS ASSESSMENT

The Candidate Readiness Assessment is a program milestone that evaluates a student's preparedness to advance through the dissertation phase of the EdD program. The assessment examines the student's mastery of core content knowledge, theoretical frameworks, and research methodology. Students must satisfactorily complete the CRA before proceeding with dissertation work. Specific requirements, formats, and evaluation criteria are determined by the program and communicated to students in advance of the assessment.

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

The dissertation committee shall have at least three members, two of whom shall be from Northeastern. The chair and second reader of the dissertation committee will be faculty of Northeastern and will hold an appropriate terminal degree for the discipline. The third reader will be external to Northeastern and will hold an appropriate terminal degree for the discipline. The dissertation chair approves all members of the dissertation committee.

PROPOSAL AND DEFENSE

The dissertation proposal presents the student's planned research study, including the identified problem of practice, relevant literature, proposed methodology, and plan for research. The student must submit a written proposal and defend it before the chair and the second reader of their dissertation committee. The chair and second reader will evaluate the scope, feasibility, and scholarly rigor of the proposed study. The proposal defense must be successfully completed before the student may proceed with other dissertation research activities. The committee chair is responsible for communicating the outcome of the proposal defense.

DISSERTATION AND DEFENSE

Upon completion of the dissertation in practice, the student must present and defend the final work before the dissertation committee. The defense provides an opportunity for the student to demonstrate mastery of the research process, articulate the significance of findings for professional practice, and respond to questions from committee members. A successful defense, as determined by the dissertation committee, is required for degree completion. The student must submit the dissertation to ProQuest (or a university-sanctioned successor system) according to the time schedule provided by the dissertation chair.

RESIDENCY

Residency requirements are designed to support students' intellectual development, scholarly community engagement, and professional identity as practitioner-scholars. Students are required to participate in two in-person residencies as specified by the program.

Program Requirements

Complete all courses and requirements listed below unless otherwise indicated.

Note: A minimum of 39 semester hours must be completed at the College of Professional Studies. The college will allow up to 6 semester hours of advanced graduate credit (<https://cps.northeastern.edu/admissions-aid/graduate-admissions/graduate-transfer-credit/doctor-of-education-advanced-graduate-credit/>).

Milestones

Candidate Readiness Assessment

Dissertation committee

Proposal and defense

Dissertation and defense

Two in-person residencies

Required Courses

Code	Title	Hours
EDU 7100	Introduction to Doctoral Studies for Social Justice	3
EDU 7120	Collaboration, Leadership, and Change for Social Justice	3

EDU 7130	Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods	3
EDU 7140	Advanced Qualitative Research Methods	3
EDU 7150	Quantitative Research Methods	3

Restricted Electives

Complete 9 semester hours from the following: 9

EDU 7400	Doctoral Seminar in Leadership, Teaching, and Learning
EDU 7450	Collaboration and Networks in Teaching, Learning, and Leadership
EDU 7500	Doctoral Seminar in Workplace Learning
EDU 7570	Designing Workplace Learning
EDU 7575	Data-Driven Decision Making for Workplace Learning
EDU 7580	Leading the Learning Strategy
EDU 7585	Digital Workplace Learning
EDU 7590	Belonging in Workplace Learning
EDU 7600	Doctoral Seminar in Higher Education Administration
EDU 7615	Financial Decision Making in Higher Education
EDU 7625	Comparative International/Global Higher Education
EDU 7635	International Student Markets
EDU 7645	Contemporary Issues in Community Colleges
EDU 7655	Student Engagement in Higher Education
EDU 7665	Legal Environment of Higher Education
EDU 7710	Education Entrepreneurship
EDU 7720	Experiential Learning
EDU 7725	Writing a Publishable Article
EDU 7735	Approaches to Curriculum in Early Childhood Education
EDU 7983	Topics

Concentration or Integrative Electives Option

Complete one of the following concentrations or the electives option:

- Artificial Intelligence in Learning
- Higher Education Administration
- Innovative Teaching and Learning
- Transformative School Leadership (p. 3)
- Integrative Electives Option (p. 3)

Dissertation in Practice

Code	Title	Hours
EDU 9930	Dissertation Readiness and Candidacy Review	3
EDU 9940	Dissertation 1	3
EDU 9950	Dissertation 2	3
EDU 9960	Dissertation 3	3

Dissertation Continuation

Registration in the following course is required if the dissertation is incomplete at the conclusion of the term of registration for EDU 9960:

EDU 9961	Dissertation Continuation	1
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Residency Requirement: Each student is required to attend two residency events. Dates and other event information are released annually. Please consult your admissions coach or program advisor concerning fulfillment of the residency requirement at your campus.

Program Credit/GPA Requirements

45 total semester hours required

Minimum 3.000 GPA required

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN LEARNING

Code	Title	Hours
EDU 6609	How People Learn	3
Complete one of the following:		3
EDU 7815	Learning and AI: Theory, Ethics, Implementation	
EDU 7825	AI in Educational Research and Practice: Critical Inquiry and Applied Practice	
Complete one course in consultation with faculty advisor.		3

HIGHER EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION

Code	Title	Hours
EDU 7610	Global and Historical Perspectives on Higher Education	3
EDU 7620	Organizational Systems and Institutional Governance	3
EDU 7630	Strategic Management in Higher Education	3

INNOVATIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING CONCENTRATION

Code	Title	Hours
EDU 7470	Designing Transformative Curriculum and Professional Learning	3
EDU 7715	Design Thinking for Educational Innovation	3
EDU 7745	Future of Learning	3

TRANSFORMATIVE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP CONCENTRATION

Code	Title	Hours
EDU 7455	Educational Systems: The Dynamics of Policy, Power, and Practice	3
EDU 7460	Designing Educational Systems for Justice and Equity	3
EDU 7480	Landscape of Educational Leadership	3

INTEGRATIVE ELECTIVES OPTION

Code	Title	Hours
In consultation with your faculty advisor, complete any 9-semester-hour EDU course from a program concentration or from the program's restricted elective list that has not already been used to fulfill a program requirement.		9