DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION POLICY

The doctorate in education policy is offered only on the main campus of GW in the Foggy Bottom area of Washington, D.C. The interdisciplinary program relies on approaches and methods from various social science disciplines to develop skills that are needed to examine and assess education problems in the context of their social environments. The program is designed for students who wish to develop advanced skills in policy research and program evaluation that are often essential in analyzing education policies in their formation, conditions, implementation as well as their impact. Emphasis is placed on developing depth of understanding and the technical skills of assessing the political, economic, and social environments that shape education policies and their consequences. Topics covered in this degree include the evaluation of school reform, urban education problems, student achievement, school finance and its equity, equality of educational opportunities, teacher quality and effectiveness, access to higher education, and accountability in educational systems. Graduates of the program pursue careers in research, program evaluation, or academia. Many become policy researchers and analysts in government and non-profit organizations that use research to devise, advocate for, or evaluate education policies. The 54-credit program includes core policy analysis courses, research methods courses, and elective courses that are used to develop expertise and skills in a substantial area of education policy.

Specific admission requirements are shown on the Graduate Program Finder (http://www.gwu.edu/all-graduate-programs).

Visit the program website (https://gsehd.gwu.edu/programs/doctorate-education-policy) for additional information.

REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled:


A minimum of 54 credits, successful completion of a comprehensive examination, and an approved dissertation proposal.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 8320</td>
<td>The Politics of Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 8321</td>
<td>Economics of Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 8322</td>
<td>Education Policy Implementation</td>
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EDUC 8340 Methods of Policy Analysis in Education

Research

EDUC 6381 Program Evaluation: Theory and Practice

EDUC 8120 Group Comparison Designs and Analyses

EDUC 8122 Qualitative Research Methods

EDUC 8171 Predictive Designs and Analyses

or PPPA 6013 Econometrics for Policy Research I

Dissertation

EDUC 8998 Pre-Dissertation Seminar (taken for 3 credits)

EDUC 8999 Dissertation Research (taken for a minimum of 12 credits)

An approved dissertation proposal.

Comprehensive examination

Successful completion of a comprehensive examination.

Electives

15 credits selected in consultation with the advisor.

Students may elect to take elective courses to develop expertise in a specific area in policy and/or take additional research methods courses to advance their research methods skills. Elective courses must include at least one advanced (level B) research methods course.