EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP, PH.D.

The Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership at Saint Louis University’s School of Education (https://www.slu.edu/education/) is designed to prepare students to be scholars, professors and/or organizational leaders. Students enter the program with a master’s in education, leadership, or a related field. The curriculum is based on a selection of core courses in educational leadership and courses that complement students’ professional goals.

Curriculum Overview
The degree requires the completion of 30-36 credits of coursework, 12 credits of dissertation research, a comprehensive examination, an oral examination/proposal defense and a public defense of the dissertation.

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities
The program includes site-based activities aligned with coursework as well as the three-credit internship. The internship is required for superintendent certification.

Careers
Possible career paths for graduates with advanced degrees in educational leadership include faculty positions in colleges and universities, positions in research institutes and organizations, educational leader (superintendent/principal) or teacher leader.

Additionally, some doctoral students design a special individualized program to prepare for a leadership role in a nonprofit, medical, Catholic, or business organization.

Admission Requirements
Apply Now (http://www.slu.edu/apply.php)

- Application form and fee
- Transcript(s)
- Three letters of recommendation
- GRE or other applicable graduate entry exam scores
- Résumé
- Professional goal statement

Requirements for International Students
All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students along with the following:

- Demonstrate English Language Proficiency (http://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/graduate/english-language-proficiency/)
- Proof of financial support must include:
  - A letter of financial support from the person(s) or sponsoring agency funding the time at Saint Louis University
  - A letter from the sponsor’s bank verifying that the funds are available and will be so for the duration of study at the University
- Academic records, in English translation, of students who have undertaken postsecondary studies outside the United States must include the courses taken and/or lectures attended, practical laboratory work, the maximum and minimum grades attainable, the grades earned or the results of all end-of-term examinations, and any honors or degrees received. WES and ECE transcripts are accepted.

Please note that application deadlines for this program differ for international students.

Review Process
A committee reviews each application.

Application Deadlines
Domestic students should apply for the fall semester by June 15, for the spring semester by Nov. 1, and for the summer semester by April 1. International students should apply by May 1 for the fall semester, Oct. 1 for the spring semester, and Feb. 1 for the summer semester.

Scholarships and Financial Aid
For priority consideration for graduate assistantship, applicants should complete their applications by Feb. 1.

For more information, visit the student financial services office online at http://finaid.slu.edu.

Learning Outcomes
1. The candidate will explain how district-level leadership vision, mission, and goals promote student success.
2. The candidate will analyze district-level leadership implementation strategies.
3. The candidate will explain how district-level culture affects student learning.
4. The candidate will analyze the effectiveness of district-wide instructional practices.
5. The candidate will explain how district-wide professional learning affects student learning.
6. The candidate will explain district-level educational management and organizational theories.
7. The candidate will explain the district-level educator evaluation and management process.
8. The candidate will explain district-level effective resource strategies.
9. The candidate will explain how to build community relationships that promote student learning across the district.
10. The candidate will analyze district/community connection strategies.
11. The candidate explains how to identify community resources to support student learning across the district.
12. The candidate will explain principles of educational ethics.
13. The candidate will explain how political, economic, legal, and cultural issues affects the education system.
14. The candidate will explain how communication across various shareholders affects a district’s success.
15. The candidate will analyze how policy and advocacy affects the education system.
16. The candidate will explain how to support district employees with professional development.

**Requirements**

Ph.D. students complete 42-48 credits, including research courses, leadership courses, and individually selected courses. Students may select courses from the following, or may choose courses for their program plan that fit their program goal. If a student seeks a superintendent certificate upon graduation, specific coursework is required. Students design a program plan with their advisor.

**Code** | **Title** | **Credits**
--- | --- | ---
Select 18 credits of the following:  |  | 18
EDL 5200 | School-Community Relations | 
EDL 5914 | Internship: Superintendent Internship | 
EDL 6110 | School District Administration | 
EDL 6190 | School, Community, and Politics | 
EDL 6200 | Ethics of Ed Leadership | 
EDL 6300 | Advanced School Law | 
EDL 6390 | Gateway Leadership Institute | 
EDL 6400 | Sem: Human Resources Admin | 
EDL 6450 | Managing the District Level Curriculum | 
EDL 6470 | School Facilities | 
EDL 6690 | School Business Administration | 
EDL 6730 | District Level Professional Development and Teacher Evaluation | 
EDL 6950 | Special Study for Written Comprehensive Exams | 

**Research Courses**

**Introductory Research Courses** (p. 2)  | 3-9
**Advanced Research Courses** (p. 2)  | 6
EDR 6970 | Research Topics in Education  | 3

**Dissertation Research**

EDR 6990 | Dissertation Research | 12

Total Credits | 42-48

**Introductory Research Courses**

Students must complete master's level graduate research coursework as prerequisites for advanced research courses. Students are required to successfully complete the following three research courses. Up to six credits may be waived based on students’ prior coursework.

**Course** | **Title** | **Credits**
--- | --- | ---
Year One |  | 
Fall |  | 
EDL 6110 | School District Administration | 3
EDR 5400 | Qualitative Research in Education | 3
EDR 5000 | General Research Methods for Education (if not already completed as a prerequisite) | 0-3

Total Credits | 6-9

**Spring**

EDL 6400 | Sem: Human Resources Admin | 3
EDR 6060 | Research Design and Analysis | 3

Total Credits | 6

**Summer**

EDL 5914 | Internship: Superintendent Internship (optional course if seeking superintendent certification) | 0
EDR 5100 | Intro to Inferential Stats: Ed (if not already completed as a prerequisite) | 0-3

Total Credits | 0-3

**Non-Course Requirements**

- Students must pass a comprehensive written examination,
- Students must pass an oral examination/proposal defense, and
- Students must pass a public presentation and defense of their dissertation.

**Continuation Standards**

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 in all graduate/professional courses.

**Roadmap**

Roadmaps are recommended semester-by-semester plans of study for programs and assume full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.

Courses and milestones designated as critical (marked with !) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation. Transfer credit may change the roadmap.

This roadmap should not be used in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor/mentor each semester. Requirements, course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

**Course** | **Title** | **Credits**
--- | --- | ---
Year Two |  | 
Fall |  | 
EDL 6450 | Managing the District Level Curriculum | 3
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDL 5300</td>
<td>School Law (optional course which may be selected if seeking certification)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDL 5914</td>
<td>Internship: Superintendent Internship</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Spring**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDL 6730</td>
<td>District Level Professional Development and Teacher Evaluation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDL 6690</td>
<td>School Business Administration</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDL 5914</td>
<td>Internship: Superintendent Internship</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Year Three**

**Fall**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDR 6400</td>
<td>Advanced Qual Research for Ed</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or EDR 6100</td>
<td>Intermediate Applied Statistics for Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDR 6970</td>
<td>Research Topics in Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Credits    | 6                               |

**Spring**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDL 6950</td>
<td>Special Study for Written Comprehensive Exams</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDR 6990</td>
<td>Dissertation Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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</table>

| Credits    | 3                               |

**Year Four**

**Fall**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDR 6990</td>
<td>Dissertation Research</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Credits    | 4                               |

**Spring**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDR 6990</td>
<td>Dissertation Research</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Credits    | 5                               |

**Total Credits**

| 42-48 |

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1. Optional course but necessary for Missouri certification
2. 3 of the 12 credits of required research courses
3. Students may take as many of the 12 credits of dissertation research as desired per semester. Please register in your advisor's section number.

**Contact Us**

Apply for Admission (http://www.slu.edu/admission/)

For additional admission questions, please contact:
Saint Louis University School of Education
314-977-3292
slued@slu.edu