

HIGHER EDUCATION (PHD)

Loyola's PhD in Higher Education is an interdisciplinary program that encourages students to connect theory to practice while supporting scholarship on equity and social justice in various post-secondary contexts.

Curriculum

The PhD in Higher Education requires 60 credit hours of coursework, a comprehensive examination, and a dissertation.

Course Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		
ELPS 413	Critical Social Theories	3
ELPS 430	Curriculum and Pedagogy in Higher Education	3
ELPS 454	Budgeting and Finance in Higher Education	3
ELPS 459	Organization & Governance in Higher Education	3
ELPS 530	Proseminar: Higher Education	3
Four Higher Education Elective Courses ¹		12
Research Courses ²		
RMTD 420	Educational Research I: Building a Body of Evidence With Qualitative Methods	3
RMTD 421	Educational Research II: Building a Body of Evidence With Quantitative Methods	3
One Advanced Methodology Course and One Research Elective		6
Select from the following courses:		
RMTD 403	Survey Research	
RMTD 422	Single Subject Design	
RMTD 430	Psychological Measurement	
RMTD 432	Item Response Theory	
RMTD 440	Mixed Methods Research	
RMTD 470	Case Study Research	
RMTD 481	Advanced Educational Statistics	
RMTD 482	Introduction to Linear Models	
RMTD 483	Multivariate Statistics	
RMTD 484	Hierarchical Linear Models	
RMTD 487	Factor Analysis	
Minor Courses ³		12
General Elective Courses		9
Total Hours		60

¹ Please confer with Graduate Program Director regarding appropriate Higher Education Electives.

² RMTD 420 and RMTD 421 combined will fulfill the responsible conduct of research and scholarship training required by the Graduate School for all students completing a thesis or dissertation.

³ Minor Course Option A: The completion of four graduate-level courses in a single field of study outside the School of Education (e.g., history, sociology, anthropology, management).
Minor Course Option B: The completion of four graduate-level courses in one area in the School of Education (e.g., counseling, foundations of education). Coursework in higher education administration cannot be used to fulfill this requirement.

Minor Course Option C: An intellectually defensible minor developed in conjunction with a student's advisor, consisting of two courses, each from options A and B (e.g., a minor in educational history, drawing on appropriate course work in history and educational leadership and policy studies).

Higher Education Courses

Below is a list of all Higher Education courses. This can be used in reference for electives if not used in other curricular requirements.

Code	Title	Hours
ELPS 400	Inquiry Into Educational Policy	3
ELPS 405	Introduction to Educational Policy Analysis	3
ELPS 413	Critical Social Theories	3
ELPS 419	Leadership in Higher Education	3
ELPS 425	Foundations in Student Affairs	3
ELPS 426	Student Affairs Administration Higher Education	3
ELPS 427	Foundations in Higher Education	3
ELPS 428	The Junior and Community College	3
ELPS 429	Selected Topics in Higher Education	3
ELPS 430	Curriculum and Pedagogy in Higher Education	3
ELPS 432	Multiculturalism for Social Justice in Higher Education	3
ELPS 434	American College Student	3
ELPS 435	Enrollment Management in Higher Education	3
ELPS 436	Women in Higher Education	3
ELPS 437	Today's Community College Students	1
ELPS 438	Designing Effective Community College Courses	1
ELPS 439	Assessing Student Learning in Community Colleges	1
ELPS 440	Community College Students as Learners	1
ELPS 441	Community College Teaching	3
ELPS 448	International Higher Education	3
ELPS 453	Legal Aspects of American Higher Education	3
ELPS 454	Budgeting and Finance in Higher Education	3
ELPS 455	Comparative Education	3
ELPS 458	International Education	3
ELPS 459	Organization & Governance in Higher Education	3
ELPS 498	Independent Study	1-3
ELPS 503	Critical Perspectives on the Internationalization of Higher Ed	3
ELPS 506	Strategic Executive Leadership in Higher Education	3
ELPS 527	Higher Education Capstone	3
ELPS 529	Seminar in Higher Education	3
ELPS 530	Proseminar: Higher Education	3
ELPS 550	Seminar on Globalization and Education	3
ELPS 565	International Education Internship	3
ELPS 600	Dissertation Supervision	0

Suggested Sequence of Courses

After coursework listed below is complete, students begin taking ELPS 610 Doctoral Study or ELPS 600 Dissertation Supervision until dissertation defense.

The below sequence of courses is meant to be used as a suggested path for completing coursework. An individual student's completion of requirements depends on course offerings in a given term as well as the start term for a major or graduate study. Students should consult their advisor for assistance with course selection.

Course	Title	Hours
Year One		
Fall		
ELPS 413	Critical Social Theories	3
ELPS 454	Budgeting and Finance in Higher Education	3
ELPS 530	Proseminar: Higher Education	3
Hours		9
Spring		
ELPS 430	Curriculum and Pedagogy in Higher Education	3
ELPS 459	Organization & Governance in Higher Education	3
Higher Education Elective		3
Hours		9
Summer		
Minor or General Elective		3
Hours		3
Year Two		
Fall		
RMTD 420	Educational Research I: Building a Body of Evidence With Qualitative Methods	3
Higher Education Elective		3
Minor or General Elective		3
Hours		9
Spring		
RMTD 421	Educational Research II: Building a Body of Evidence With Quantitative Methods	3
Higher Education Elective		3
Minor or General Elective		3
Hours		9
Summer		
Higher Education Elective		3
Hours		3
Year Three		
Fall		
Minor or General Elective		3
Minor or General Elective		3
Research Elective		3
Hours		9
Spring		
Minor or General Elective		3
Minor or General Elective		3
Research Elective		3
Hours		9

Summer

Comprehensive Examination

Hours	0
Total Hours	60

Comprehensive Exam

After PhD in Higher Education students complete core courses in the discipline and required research courses, they are eligible to complete their comprehensive examinations and should speak with their academic advisors. Advisors assist students to develop research questions and the literature that should be reviewed to complete the exam. The comprehensive examination is offered during the fall, spring and summer semesters.

Dissertation

Students will define an area of research interest and propose a research program leading to a written dissertation. Oral defense of the dissertation required. The final dissertation will be deposited in a publicly accessible database in accordance with Graduate School policy.

Graduate & Professional Standards and Regulations

Students in graduate and professional programs can find their Academic Policies in Graduate and Professional Academic Standards and Regulations (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional-academic-standards-regulations/>) under their school. Any additional University Policies supercede school policies.

Learning Outcomes

You will gain scholarly frames for understanding various higher education contexts, critically evaluate research (i.e., designs, data analysis, and data interpretation) and apply critical inquiry and research skills to successfully complete your dissertation research.