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 60cr hours of coursework, a comprehensive examination, and a dissertation.

### Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Core Courses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELPS 423</td>
<td>Value Theory and Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELPS 430</td>
<td>Curriculum and Pedagogy in Higher Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELPS 454</td>
<td>Budgeting and Finance in Higher Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELPS 459</td>
<td>Organization &amp; Governance in Higher Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELPS 530</td>
<td>Proseminar: Higher Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Three Higher Education Elective Courses</strong></td>
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<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research Courses</strong></td>
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<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMTD 420</td>
<td>Educational Research I: Building a Body of Evidence With Qualitative Methods</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>RMTD 421</td>
<td>Educational Research II: Building a Body of Evidence With Quantitative Methods</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>One Advanced Methodology Courses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>One Research Elective</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Minor Courses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>General Elective Courses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
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<td>75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

2 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).

* 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.

**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.