



Doctoral Program: Educational Leadership & Professional Studies (EdD)

Our Rapid Degree Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership and Professional Studies is a practice-based program rooted in current research that develops innovative and effective school and community leaders. As a doctoral graduate you possess skills and knowledge to function as an effective leader in a wide variety of education related fields. Completing the principal or superintendent certification option will prepare you to pursue administrative positions in Pennsylvania K–12 schools. In addition, you may pursue leadership opportunities in fields such as higher education, non-profit community organizations, and educational publishing and consulting.

Program Goals

- Facilitate the development of innovative and ethical school and community leaders.
- Offer a flexible program designed for working practitioners allowing them to expand their leadership options in a variety of settings.
- Develop a deep professional commitment to an interdisciplinary approach to leadership through the application of practical research skills and decision making in service to others.
- Enable graduates to make significant contributions to their fields of knowledge through applied research.
- Offer a supportive and collaborative learning environment that encourages doctoral students to develop as scholars and researchers.

Faculty

The core doctoral faculty are full-time members of the School of Education. They serve as mentors to guide you through all programs of study and the dissertation process. Doctoral faculty members are scholars in their respective fields and have strong academic credentials and practical professional experiences.

Curriculum

Research Core Requirements (15 credits)

Statistics for Doctoral Students
Introduction to Applied Research
Research I: Quantitative Research
Research II: Qualitative Research
Advanced Research

Leadership Core Requirements (18 credits)

Ethical Leadership
Communication Theory, Practice,
and Technology
Organizational Structure,
Grant Writing and Change Theory
Leadership in a Linguistically
and Culturally Diverse Society
Leadership in an Inclusive Society
Program Assessment and Evaluation

Professional Studies Electives (12 credits)

Students consult with their faculty advisers to customize the program to meet personal interests and goals.

Dissertation Courses (minimum 9 credits)

EDDC 901 – Dissertation I
EDDC 902 – Dissertation II (a & b)
EDDC 903 – Dissertation III (a & b)
EDDC 998 – Dissertation Continuation
(if necessary)

Our Non-Discrimination Statement can be found at holyfamily.edu/ndstatement or call 267-341-3479.

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Classes are offered in accelerated 8-week sessions using a combination of the following formats:

Blended: These courses meet in person for three nights out of each 8-week session from 4:45 to 8:45 pm, the same night of the week for the entire program. Class meetings are supplemented by online activities that may include assignments, webinars or chats, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities completed electronically outside of class.

Online: For these courses, in-person class meetings are not required. Students log into the online classroom using an online learning management system to participate in online activities that may include assignments, webinars or chats, materials, discussion threads, assessments and/or group activities completed electronically.

In Person: For these courses there will be in-person class meetings once a week in a classroom setting.

Admissions Process for Doctoral Studies

1. Application and \$50 Application Fee

Submit your application for admission to the doctoral program along with a \$50 nonrefundable fee online: graduateprogram.org/holy-family/application. Application fee requirement is waived for students who have graduated from Holy Family University.

2. Checklist

Once you have applied, visit the online checklist to complete the remaining admission steps: www.graduateprogram.org/holy-family/application-checklist-doctoral.

Questions or need more information?

Dr. Kevin Zook, *Dean, School of Education*, 267-341-3565



Students have the opportunity to complete requirements for Pennsylvania administrative certifications:

- School Principal Certification
- Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility
- Autism Endorsement

Program Features

Completion Timeline:

Each cohort begins in a fall or spring semester and completes the program (including dissertation) in 3 years, plus one semester.

Cohort Model: Students enter as a group and take all courses together in sequence, creating cohort camaraderie and support.

8-Week Class Sessions: Students take one course at a time during an 8-week session (two 8-week sessions are offered each semester).

Blended and Online Courses:

The program includes online and blended courses to provide flexibility or working professionals along with face-to-face classes to maximize personal contact with faculty.

Highly Structured Dissertation

Process: Dissertation courses are taught by education professors and have specific requirements and deadlines to ensure timely completion. Students select a general topic area from one of three options:

- Language and Literacy
- Diverse Populations
- Program Assessment and Higher Education

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