

Doctoral Degree in Developmental and Learning Sciences

Approved by the DLS Faculty, January 25th, 2022

The PhD Degree in Developmental and Learning Sciences (DLS) provides individuals with theoretical grounding and research experience in psychological science in education. Students gain foundational knowledge in the three core areas: a) cognition, learning, and instruction, b) social and emotional development, and c) educational neuroscience, plus expertise in one core area. Students also acquire rigorous methodological training and participate in research throughout the program.

Prerequisites

EDPS 850 or 851: Child Psychology or Psychology of Adolescence (3) or equivalent upper-level undergraduate or graduate-level development course

Core Courses (21 hours)

EDPS 854: Human Cognition, and Instruction (3)
EDPS 922: Mind, Brain, and Education (3)
EDPS 960: Advanced Cognitive Psychology in Education (3)
EDPS 961: Cognitive Development *or* EDPS 991: Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience (3)
EDPS 962: Personality and Social Development (3)
EDPS 966: Psychology of Learning (3)
EDPS 967: Motivation (3)

Additional Coursework in Developmental and Learning Sciences (at least 6 hours)

At least two courses from the following:

EDPS 855: Teaching Learners to Learn (3)
EDPS 863: Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis (3)
EDPS 869: Developmental Psychopathology (3)
EDPS 896: Directed Field Experience (3)
EDPS 898: Instructional and Motivational Accommodations for Diverse Learners (3)
EDPS 898: The Psychology of Professional Development and Expertise (3)
EDPS 921: Creativity and Talent Development (3)
EDPS 988: Lifespan Development (3)
EDPS 989: Psychology of Reading and Writing (3)
EDPS 991: Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience (3)
EDPS 991: Applied Social Psychology (3)
EDPS 991: Designing and Developing Instruction: Principles and Techniques (3)
EDPS 991: Social and Affective Neuroscience (3)

Other appropriate courses approved by the advisor/supervisory committee)

Methods (at least 21 hours)

At least 21 hours from the following, including at least:

(a) 6 hours in measurement/evaluation (with at least 3 hours at 900-level); EDPS 870, EDPS 970; EDPS 973A and/or other measurement/evaluation focused courses as approved by supervisory committee,

(b) 6 hours in research design/methodology (e.g., EDPS 900a, EDPS 900b, EDPS 936),

(c) 9 hours in statistics (e.g., EDPS 941, EDPS 942, EDPS 971, EDPS 991 Multilevel Modeling, EDPS 991 Multivariate Analysis, EDPS 991 Longitudinal Models).

Note: Courses from Educational Psychology are preferred, but courses from other departments that fall under these categories may also fulfill the requirements (as approved by supervisory committee).

Research (30-40 hours)

EDPS 899: Master's thesis (6-10) or equivalent,

EDPS 995: Doctoral Seminar (3), leading to publishable manuscript,

EDPS 996A: Research other than thesis,

EDPS 999: Dissertation (12-18).

Other research-focused coursework that includes a student-authored research product or manuscript may also be counted towards fulfilling this requirement (as approved by supervisory committee) but may not replace minimum requirements for Doctoral Seminar (3 hours min.) or Dissertation hours (12 hours min.).

Additional Requirements (0-12 hours)

- [Program of Studies](#) (must be submitted prior to completion of 45 credit hours)
- Courses outside department (at least 6 hours, can be covered in Additional Coursework)
- Course coverage of ethics and human diversity (typically covered in other courses such as EDPS 850, 851, 962)
- Comprehensive exams/advancement to candidacy
- Dissertation completion, defense and filing

Total (including work carried over from masters) must be at least 90 hours.