

# ADVANCED EDUCATIONAL STUDIES (PH.D.) - EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

**Important:** This degree plan is effective for those starting this degree program in fall 2025 through summer 2026. This degree plan will remain in effect for students who do not break enrollment or who do not change degree programs, concentrations, or cognates.

This is a non-licensure degree. Completion of this degree will not lead to the eligibility of a state educator license in Virginia or a license or certificate in any other state for endorsements in teaching, special education, content specialist, or school building-level administration.

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Education Elective Courses</b> <sup>1</sup>		
Education Elective <sup>2</sup>		3
Education Elective <sup>2</sup>		3
Education Elective <sup>2</sup>		3
Education Elective <sup>2</sup>		3
Education Elective <sup>2</sup>		3
Education Elective <sup>2</sup>		3
Education Elective <sup>2</sup>		3
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>21</b>

<sup>1</sup> Equivalent courses from a conferred Ed.D. or Ph.D. from a regionally accredited institution, including credit from an Ed.D. previously earned through Liberty, may be applied to the degree. Only 15 credit hours of Graduate Level (500-600) courses may be transferred, all other courses must be Doctoral Level (700-900)

<sup>2</sup> Choose a 500-800 level EDUC course not already required by the degree

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Educational Leadership Cognate</b> <sup>1</sup>		<b>9</b>
Choose three of the following courses:		
EDUC 740	Leadership Principles and Ethics	
EDUC 741	Philosophy of Leadership in Diverse Educational Settings	
EDUC 742	Educational Leadership and Public Relations	
EDUC 745	Organizational Analysis and Problem Solving	
EDUC 747	Case Law and Education	
EDUC 748	School District Finance and Organizational Management	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>9</b>

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Code	Title	Hours
<b>Research Courses</b> <sup>1</sup>		
EDUC 812	Advanced Educational Statistics	3

Code	Title	Hours
EDUC 815	Quantitative Methods of Research	3
EDUC 817	Qualitative Methods of Research	3
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>9</b>

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Code	Title	Hours
<b>Dissertation Courses</b> <sup>1</sup>		
EDDR 915	Quantitative Dissertation Topic and Planning	3
or EDDR 917	Qualitative Dissertation Topic and Planning	
EDDR 980	Quantitative Dissertation Prospectus	3
or EDDR 981	Qualitative Dissertation Prospectus	
EDDR 987	Dissertation I <sup>2</sup>	5
EDDR 988	Dissertation II <sup>2</sup>	5
EDDR 989	Dissertation III <sup>2</sup>	5
EDDR 990	Dissertation IV	0
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>21</b>

<sup>1</sup> Once the student enters the Dissertation phase, he/she must maintain continuous enrollment (Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters) until all degree requirements are completed

<sup>2</sup> Ph.D. students are allowed to enroll in EDDR 987, EDDR 988, and EDDR 989, one time. Extensions for exceptional circumstances must be approved by the School of Education

*All applicable prerequisites must be met*

## Graduation Requirements

- Complete 60 hours
- A minimum of 21 hours must be completed through Liberty University, not to include from a prior degree earned through Liberty
- A maximum of 39 hours of transfer credit, including credit from a degree on the same academic level previously earned through Liberty, may be applied to the degree
- 3.0 GPA
- No grades lower than a B- may be applied to the degree
- Successful defense of dissertation
- Degree must be completed within 5 years
- Submission of Degree Completion Application must be completed within the last semester of a student's anticipated graduation date

## Program Offered in Online Format

### Course Sequence

Course	Title	Hours
<b>First Year</b>		
<b>First Semester</b>		
EDUC Elective <sup>1,2</sup>		3
EDUC Elective <sup>1,2</sup>		3
EDUC Elective <sup>1,2</sup>		3

Course	Title	Hours
EDUC Elective <sup>1,2</sup>		3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Second Semester</b>		
EDUC Elective <sup>1,2</sup>		3
EDUC Elective <sup>1,2</sup>		3
EDUC Elective <sup>1,2</sup>		3
Cognate Elective <sup>3</sup>		3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Second Year</b>		
<b>First Semester</b>		
Cognate Elective <sup>3</sup>		3
EDUC 812	Advanced Educational Statistics <sup>1</sup>	3
Cognate Elective <sup>3</sup>		3
EDUC 815	Quantitative Methods of Research <sup>1</sup>	3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>12</b>
<b>Second Semester</b>		
EDUC 817	Qualitative Methods of Research <sup>1</sup>	3
EDDR 915 or EDDR 917	Quantitative Dissertation Topic and Planning <sup>4</sup> or Qualitative Dissertation Topic and Planning	3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>6</b>
<b>Third Year</b>		
<b>First Semester</b>		
EDDR 980 or EDDR 981	Quantitative Dissertation Prospectus <sup>4</sup> or Qualitative Dissertation Prospectus	3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>3</b>
<b>Second Semester</b>		
EDDR 987	Dissertation and Research I <sup>4,5</sup>	5
<b>Hours</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Fourth Year</b>		
<b>First Semester</b>		
EDDR 988	Dissertation and Research II <sup>4,5</sup>	5
<b>Hours</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Second Semester</b>		
EDDR 989	Dissertation and Research III <sup>4,5</sup>	5
EDDR 990	Dissertation and Research IV <sup>4</sup>	0
<b>Hours</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>60</b>

<sup>5</sup> Ph.D. students are allowed to enroll in EDDR 987, 988, and 989 one time. Extensions for exceptional circumstances must be approved by the School of Education.

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<sup>2</sup> Choose a 500-800 level EDUC course not already required by the degree.

<sup>3</sup> Choose one of the following courses: EDUC 740, 741, 742, 745, 747, or 748.

<sup>4</sup> Once the student enters the Dissertation phase, he/she must maintain continuous enrollment (Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters) until all degree requirements are completed.