Educational Foundations & Research
PhD

Students and faculty in Educational Foundations and Research seek to deeply understand and find solutions for the challenges that face educators, leaders, and policymakers in our state and around the world. We do this through rigorous interdisciplinary research that leverages cutting-edge theory and research methods in the humanities and social sciences; collaboration with the best minds in education and other disciplines; engaged, hands-on teaching that develops highly skilled, knowledgeable, and reflective professionals; committed service to our community, to North Dakota, to our region, and to the larger profession; and articulate, informed advocacy for evidence-based decision making, cultural understanding, and social justice.

The Ph.D. degree will prepare students for professional positions that rely on a full understanding of the broad intellectual and scholarly themes that are foundational to good practice, as well as excellent research skills. Students will study both the Foundations of Education as well as Research Methodologies, choosing to emphasize one or the other. They will design a graduate cognate uniquely suited to their scholarly and research interests.

Admission Requirements

Students with a master’s degree in a field unrelated to Education are eligible for admission to the Ph.D. program. The applicant must meet the School of Graduate Studies’ current minimum general admission requirements as published in the graduate catalog.

Important dates:
For admission in the Fall semester, please send your complete application materials by February 15; you will be advised of our decision by April 15. For admission in the Spring semester, please send your application materials by October 1; you will be advised of our decision by December 1.

International students should be aware that the School of Graduate Studies at the University of North Dakota does not recognize master’s degrees from institutions outside of the United States or Canada.

1. Transcripts showing a bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university
2. Transcripts showing a graduate degree from an accredited college or university
3. Graduate GPA of 3.5 and above
4. Three letters of reference
5. An essay that responds to questions provided in the application
6. A resume and a writing sample of 10-15 pages (separate from #5 above). Your writing sample should demonstrate the best of your intellectual abilities and/or creative work.
7. Satisfy the School of Graduate Studies’ English Language Proficiency requirements as published in the graduate catalog.
8. Optional: scores from the GRE exam, the Advanced GRE, or the Miller's Analogy Test.

Degree Requirements

Students seeking the Doctor of Philosophy degree must satisfy all general requirements set forth by the School of Graduate Studies for the Ph.D., as well as the following:

1. A minimum of 90 credit hours beyond the bachelor’s degree
2. With approval of a student’s Faculty Advisory Committee, 30 credits from a master’s degree from an accredited institution will be applied to the doctoral program of study
3. Maintenance of a minimum of 3.0 GPA
4. Educational Foundations credit hours of 21 or 9 (depending on the emphasis)
5. Research Methodologies credit hours of 21 or 9 (depending on the emphasis)
6. A cognate of 12-15 credits
7. A dissertation of 15 credits
8. Please refer to the academic catalog for a list of the course requirements:

Faculty and Areas of Expertise

- **Kathleen Gershman, Ed.D.**, Curriculum Theory, Adolescents and the Learning Environment, Qualitative Research Methods, Process Philosophy and Educational Foundations
- **Cheryl Hunter, Ph.D.**, Qualitative Research Methods, Critical Ethnography/Critical Social Theory, Sociology of Education, Comparative and International Education, Education Policy, Multicultural Education
- **Steven LeMire, Ph.D.**, Statistical Analysis, Biostatistics, Quantitative Research Methods, Multivariate Analysis, Design, Analysis and Test Construction, Educational Psychology
- **Robert Stupnisky, Ph.D.**, Educational Psychology, Motivation and Emotion, College Student Achievement, New Faculty Success, Quantitative Research Methods and Statistics, Mixed Methods Research

Contact Information

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Apply online: http://graduateschool.und.edu
Deadlines apply. See our website for more details.

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