

# Doctor of Philosophy Education with a Concentration in Educational Leadership (PhD)

**Web Site:** <http://www.odu.edu/efl> (<http://www.odu.edu/efl/>)

Steve Myran, Graduate Program Director

## Program Requirements

The Ph.D. Program in Education with an Educational Leadership Concentration consists of a minimum of 48 academic credit hours beyond the master's degree and a minimum of 12 credits for the dissertation. The curriculum includes 18 hours of ELS content area credit, 15 hours of research methods and design credit, 12 hours of elective credit, and 3 hours of dissertation seminar credit. Students entering the program may also need to complete one or more introductory statistics courses if they have not had such coursework or cannot demonstrate competency at a satisfactory level. Students who come into the Ph.D. program with a master's degree in an academic field that is unrelated to educational leadership and/or who have not completed courses to develop competency in specified areas may need to complete other courses in lieu of electives. *This program is available online.*

## Admission

To gain admission, applicants must:

1. meet all University admissions requirements;
2. have a graduate grade point average of 3.00 overall;
3. provide three letters of recommendation;
4. write a one page, single-spaced essay that explains the applicant's qualifications, professional and career goals, and reasons for seeking the Ph.D.;
5. write a one page, single-spaced statement about a contemporary and critical issue facing educational leaders; and
6. write a one page, single-spaced statement about an instructional and/or learning issue facing your organization and the implication for school leaders and/or policy.

## Curriculum Requirements

### Prerequisites

FOUN 722	Introduction to Applied Statistics and Data Analysis	
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### Research Core

ELS 831	Accountability Systems in Public Education	3
FOUN 822	Applied Linear Models in Educational Research	3
or FOUN 823	Analysis of Variance Applied to Educational Research	
FOUN 812	Research Design and Analysis	3
TLCI 814	Qualitative Research Design in Education	3
FOUN 813	Program Evaluation in Education	3

### Educational Leadership and Services Concentration Courses

ELS 811	Leadership Theory for Educational Improvement	3
ELS 815	Leadership for Equity and Inclusive Education	3
ELS 821	Policy and Politics in Educational Leadership	3

ELS 835	Organizational Theory and Behavior in Education	3
ELS 876	Leadership for Social Justice	3
ELS 878	Leadership for Teaching and Learning	3
Select four Electives from the following (other electives may be substituted with advisor approval): *		12
ELS 871	Educational Systems Planning and Futures	
ELS 874	Advanced School Finance, and Operations	
ELS 880	Multicultural Curriculum Leadership and Globalization	
ELS 883	Contemporary Issues in Education	
<b>Capstone Course</b>		
FOUN 881	Dissertation Seminar	3
<b>Dissertation (minimum 12 hours)</b>		
ELS 899	Dissertation	12
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>60</b>

\* With advisor approval, two of these courses may be substituted with courses outside of the educational leadership program to allow students to form cognate areas.

## Additional Requirements

### Continuance

Students must meet all department, college, and university policy requirements for continuance in their academic program. See department policy above.

### Exit

In order to graduate from the program, students must successfully complete all degree requirements including all coursework, candidacy requirements, and the dissertation.

## Continuance Policy and Procedures for the Educational Leadership Program

The following policy has been established for continuance in *Educational Leadership Program*.

At the end of each semester – fall, spring, and summer – the graduate program directors (GPD) will review student records. As per university policy, students who do not maintain an overall GPA of at least 3.0 in their ELS program will be placed on probation. Students placed on probation have one semester to bring their overall GPA back to a minimum of 3.0. A student may be placed on probation only one time in their EFL program and will not be eligible for a second probationary period. Should a student's GPA fall below 3.0 twice, he/she will be dismissed from the program.

Students who receive a grade of F in any ELS required or elective program course or who receive a final grade of lower than B- in more than one class in their program will be dismissed from their program by the Graduate Program Director and Department Chair. A failing grade in dissertation credits for one semester places the student in warning status and does not automatically dismiss the student from the program. However, two failing grades in dissertation credits will result in dismissal from the program. Students may follow the Grade Appeal Procedure in the ODU Graduate Catalog. In the event a grade is appealed such that the student comes into compliance with the EFL Continuance Policy, he/she will be reinstated.

In accord with University policy, ODU email is considered official communication.

## Advancement to Candidacy Policy for all EFL Programs

In the Department of Educational Foundations and Leadership, advancement to candidacy is a formal step that occurs after the student 1) completes

formal coursework, 2) passes the PhD written and oral candidacy examinations, and 3) has an approved dissertation topic.