

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND POLICY ANALYSIS: K-12 LEADERSHIP, PHD

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum degree requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#requirementstext>) and policies (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policiestext>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

NAMED OPTION REQUIREMENTS

Face to Face	Evening/Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	Yes	No	No	No

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW–Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement Detail	
Minimum Credit Requirement	75 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	32 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	51 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/).

Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.00 GPA required. Refer to the Graduate School: Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/).
Other Grade Requirements	n/a
Assessments and Examinations	Doctoral students are required to take a comprehensive preliminary/oral examination after they have cleared their record of all Incomplete and Progress grades (other than research and thesis). Deposit of the doctoral dissertation in the Graduate School is required.
Language Requirements	None.
Graduate School Breadth Requirement	All doctoral students are required to complete a doctoral minor or graduate/professional certificate. Refer to the Graduate School: Breadth Requirement in Doctoral Training policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200/).

REQUIRED COURSES

Code	Title	Credits
Introduction to the Field		
These introductory courses lay the foundational framework for work in the department. The Doctoral Inquiry class, ELPA 810, is taken during the first semester of course work, and is required for all incoming PhD students regardless of their area of interest. Students are strongly encouraged to take the second introductory course at the beginning of their studies as well.		
ELPA 702		3
ELPA 810	Doctoral Inquiry in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis	3
Core Knowledge		
The department believes that students in educational administration should be familiar with four program areas of knowledge: (1) Organizations and Planning; (2) Program and Instructional Leadership and Management; (3) Politics, Policy and Finance; and (4) Learning and Diversity.		
Knowledge in each of these areas is focused on providing a theoretical and empirical research knowledge base to facilitate improvements in teaching and learning in educational organizations. Students should take one course from each program area. Students who have taken similar courses at other institutions and are transferring credits for those courses should take an advanced or related Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis (ELPA) course in each area identified through consultation with their advisor.		
Organizations and Planning		
Knowledge of classic and emerging theoretical approaches to organizations; Understanding and interpreting organizational experience; Decision making; Planning and evaluation; Key relationships between organizations and their environments. Complete one of the following:		
ELPA 860	Organizational Theory and Behavior in Education	
ELPA 875	Theory and Practice of Educational Planning	

Program and Instructional Leadership and Management

Leadership theory; Effective leadership; Functional, symbolic, political, and human aspects of leadership; Leading change; Conflict resolution; Empowerment; Sharing leadership; Motivation of self and others; Ethical and moral dimensions of leadership. Complete one of the following: 3

ELPA 845	School-Level Leadership
ELPA 847	Instructional Leadership and Teacher Capacity

Politics, Policy and Finance

Educational governance; Operating within a political environment; Understanding and interpreting political context; Principles of design and implementation of educational policies; Sources of revenues; Effective expenditure of educational dollars; Equity and adequacy issues. Complete one of the following: 3

ELPA 832	Resource Allocation for Equity and Social Justice
ELPA 840	Public School Law
ELPA 870	The Politics of Education

Learning and Diversity

Addressing the diverse learning needs of students; Professional development; Managing academic program, curriculum and instruction to promote student learning; Administering learning and co-curricular activities to reflect students' common and distinct experiential base. Complete one of the following: 3

ELPA 735	Leadership for Equity and Diversity
ELPA 848	

Program Depth

The department believes that students should have depth in at least one of the four program areas: (1) Organizations and Planning; (2) Program and Instructional Leadership and Management; (3) Politics, Policy and Finance; OR (4) Learning and Diversity. Therefore, the department requires that students in Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis select 1 of the 4 domains and take at least 3 ADDITIONAL courses in that program area. 9

If courses from other departments are permitted in one of the depth areas, at least one of the three additional courses must be an Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis (ELPA) course.

Organizations and Planning

ELPA 860	Organizational Theory and Behavior in Education
ELPA 875	Theory and Practice of Educational Planning
ELPA 940	Special Topics Seminar in Educational Leadership
M H R 872	Seminar in Organizational Behavior and Design
SOC 632	Sociology of Organizations
OTM 770	Sustainable Approaches to System Improvement

Program and Instructional Leadership and Management

ELPA 863	Race, Class and Educational Inequality
ELPA 940	Special Topics Seminar in Educational Leadership
ELPA 844	Technology and School Leadership
ELPA 845	School-Level Leadership
ELPA 846	The School Superintendency
ELPA 726	Data-Driven Leadership for Educational Equity and Systemic School Improvement

Politics, Policy, and Finance

ELPA/INTER-HE 770	Community, Opportunity, and Justice
ELPA 832	Resource Allocation for Equity and Social Justice
ELPA 840	Public School Law
ELPA/ED POL/ED PSYCH/RP & SE 842	Legal Foundations of Special Education and Pupil Services
ELPA 910	Seminar in Educational Law

Learning and Diversity

ELPA 960	Seminar in Educational Finance
ELPA 940	Special Topics Seminar in Educational Leadership
ED POL 600	Problems in Educational Policy
ED POL/ELPA/PUB AFFR 765	Issues in Educational Policy Analysis

ECON 711	Economic Theory-Microeconomics Sequence
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ECON 712	Economic Theory-Macroeconomics Sequence
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ECON 741	Theory of Public Finance and Fiscal Policy
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ECON 742	Theory of Public Finance and Fiscal Policy
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PUB AFFR 869	Workshop in Public Affairs
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PUB AFFR/POLI SCI 871	Public Program Evaluation
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PUB AFFR/POLI SCI/URB R PL 874	Policy-Making Process
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PUB AFFR 974	Topics in Public Affairs
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PUB AFFR 880	Microeconomic Policy Analysis
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PUB AFFR/A A E/ENVIR ST/POP HLTH 881	Benefit-Cost Analysis
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PUB AFFR 891	State and Local Government Finance
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ELPA/INTER-HE 770	Community, Opportunity, and Justice
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Learning and Diversity

ELPA 863	Race, Class and Educational Inequality
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ELPA 940	Special Topics Seminar in Educational Leadership
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ELPA 703	Evaluating and Supporting Quality Classroom Teaching
ELPA 735	Leadership for Equity and Diversity
ELPA 848	
CURRIC 704	Curriculum Planning

Electives
 Students may take any five courses inside or outside of the Department, to provide depth or breadth to program focus. Students are reminded that their programs must include at least 39 credits taken from ELPA. Note that electives are separate from minor/supporting coursework. 15

Breadth
 Breadth is a rational, unified set of courses taken outside of the department which have a clearly articulated theme or focus which allows the student to develop knowledge in a related area of study. Students may either pursue a doctoral minor or graduate/professional certificate. Students should initiate contact and approval from the minor or graduate/professional certificate department. Students must complete an additional 3 credits of course work outside of the department in order to satisfy the supporting coursework requirement for the department. At least two courses (6 credits) must be completed during or after the semester in which the student is admitted to the PhD program. 12

Research Methods and Design
 Students must complete a sequence of courses in research methods and design, focusing on either quantitative or qualitative methods. After the methods requirement has been met, all students should take the research design course (ELPA 825). Substitutions for ELPA 825 are not allowed. 12

Quantitative Methods
 Students choosing to focus on quantitative methods should take two statistical methods courses and one qualitative methods course.

ELPA/ ED PSYCH 822	Introduction to Quantitative Inquiry in Education
ELPA 823	Data Management for Education Policy Analysis
ELPA/ ED PSYCH 827	Surveys and Other Quantitative Data Collection Strategies
ELPA 940	Special Topics Seminar in Educational Leadership
ED PSYCH 760	Statistical Methods Applied to Education I
ED PSYCH 761	Statistical Methods Applied to Education II
SOC/ C&E SOC 360	Statistics for Sociologists I
SOC/ C&E SOC 361	Statistics for Sociologists II
STAT 301	Introduction to Statistical Methods

Qualitative Methods
 Students choosing to focus on qualitative methods should take two qualitative methods courses and one statistical methods course.

ELPA/ COUN PSY/ CURRIC/ED POL/ ED PSYCH/ RP & SE 719	Introduction to Qualitative Research
ELPA/ COUN PSY/ CURRIC/ED POL/ ED PSYCH/ RP & SE 788	Qualitative Research Methods in Education: Field Methods I
ELPA/ COUN PSY/ CURRIC/ED POL/ ED PSYCH/ RP & SE 789	Qualitative Research Methods in Education: Field Methods II
ELPA 824	Field Research Designs & Methodologies in Educational Administratn
ELPA 940	Special Topics Seminar in Educational Leadership
ED POL/ C&E SOC/ SOC 755	Methods of Qualitative Research
CURRIC 718	Introduction to Narrative Inquiry
CURRIC 802	Discourse Analysis

Research Design
 ELPA 825 Advanced Research Methods in Educational Administration

Thesis
 Students are required to complete a minimum of nine credits of research/thesis and/or independent reading. While nine credits is the minimum required, there is no maximum. 9

ELPA 990	Research or Thesis
ELPA 999	Independent Reading

Total Credits 75

Practicum
 The program includes a practicum experience that requires 150 contact hours for an initial administrator license and an additional 75 hours for each additional administrative license. Practicums are completed under the guidance of department faculty.

Portfolio
Submission and approval of an online portfolio is required for both degree completion and certification. Portfolio requirements are available on the department website.