Education (EDUC) Courses

EDUC5145 Theoretical Foundations of Learning, Design, and Technology
This course provides a solid foundation in theories that focus on how people learn, instructional strategies that support the learner and the use of technology to enhance learning. This course also introduces students to the communication and research skills needed to prepare them for success in their graduate studies and careers.
Offered at Online
3 Semester Credits

EDUC5445 Strategic Assessment and Evaluation
Instructional designers need to be able to develop assessments and evaluations that measure learning and performance improvement of different types of learners in various settings. This course teaches students how to develop assessment and evaluation tools that benefit learners within the higher education or corporate environments. Students become familiar with assorted assessment and evaluation models, application of models, and their outcomes. Course work culminates in the completion of a performance improvement plan where students design valid, fair assessment instruments to measure performance improvement.
Offered at Online
3 Semester Credits

EDUC7004 Research I
This course prepares students to analyze, synthesize and apply research to educational issues and challenges in educational settings. Students draw on their professional experience in these settings to identify and analyze problems, formulate research questions, critique existing research, and use existing research to improve policies, programs and practices.
Offered at Online
6 Semester Credits

EDUC7011 Strategy & Change in Elementary and Secondary Education
This course prepares students to lead change, particularly strategic and systemic change. Students develop competencies in strategic thinking and acting, developing change strategies, and facilitating innovation. This course focuses on the nature of change and the change process. Attention is given to the development of skills and strategies needed by educational leaders to challenge present practices and to create highly innovative alternatives. Students examine systems thinking and its application to education. Attention is also given to building leadership capacity to support school reform and change. The course prepares students to incorporate information technology planning into the strategic planning process.
Offered at Online
6 Semester Credits

EDUC7021 Nature of Higher Education
This course presents an overview of the defining characteristics of higher education in the U.S. with emphasis on past and emerging trends and on the social, economic and political issues that are crucial for higher education leaders in the 21st century to recognize and understand. Strategies and skills needed to bring about constructive change are studied and applied. The spectrum of postsecondary institutions is explored with reference to students, faculty, offerings, financing, policies, and such important issues as access, affordability, student success, academic quality and completion. A variety of information sources and mechanisms is used in this exploration.
Offered at Online
6 Semester Credits

EDUC7030 The Transformative Learning Environment in Higher Education
This course prepares students to lead reform initiatives in teaching and learning in higher education settings. The course focuses on the relationships among curriculum, instruction and assessment. Students are given opportunities to examine key issues and problems influencing teaching and learning in higher education. Students engage in action research projects that are centered on typical problems in teaching and learning confronting educational leaders.
Prerequisite(s): EDUC7004.
Offered at Online
6 Semester Credits

EDUC7031 Organizational Theory and Behavior in Higher Education
This course focuses on organizational theory, behavior, and collegiate culture as applied to higher education settings, with special emphasis on how leaders may influence change by developing a dynamic, holistic, systems approach to understanding and facilitating the work of the organization. Using organizational culture and theory as frameworks to view organizations, the course examines the complex relationships among individuals and groups, as well as team building, decision-making, conflict resolution, strategy, policy development, and administrative management styles. Organizational development and change theories are explored with regard to traditional and evolving patterns for organizing colleges to effectively meet current and future demands.
Prerequisite(s): EDUC7004.
Offered at Online
6 Semester Credits

EDUC7032 Organizational Theory, Behavior, and Development in Elementary and Secondary Education
This course focuses on organizational theory, behavior and culture with special emphasis on how elementary-secondary leaders can affect change. Emphasis is on understanding the frameworks (political, symbolic, human resources and structural) that affect organizations and developing a systemic approach to facilitating the work of the organization. Coursework helps leaders re-frame existing organizations and review them from a different "lens" or perspective. This course examines the complex relationships among individuals and groups as well as team building, decision-making, conflict resolution, strategy, policy development, and administrative and management styles.
Prerequisite(s): EDUC7004.
Offered at Online
6 Semester Credits

EDUC7035 Teaching and Learning in Elementary and Secondary Education
This course prepares students to lead reform initiatives in curriculum, instruction and assessment in the K-12 educational setting. Emphasis is given to the major phases of curriculum improvement: planning, development, implementation and evaluation. Students examine issues among such topics as theories of curriculum and instruction, leadership roles and responsibilities, supervision of instruction, the impact of technology in improving teaching and learning, professional development, differentiated instruction, student assessment, standards-based curriculum, and problem/project-based learning. Students engage in an action research project that is centered on typical problems in teaching and learning confronting educational leaders.
Prerequisite(s): EDUC7004.
Offered at Online
6 Semester Credits

EDUC8004 Research II
Research II builds upon the content and skills acquired in Research I. The course prepares students to design and conduct qualitative and quantitative research addressed to significant educational issues and challenges in education settings. Students work in these settings to create research designs, collect and analyze qualitative and quantitative data, and derive/report findings and conclusions.
Prerequisite(s): EDUC7004.
Offered at Online
6 Semester Credits

EDUC8016 Resource Planning and Management in Higher Education
This course assists doctoral students in developing the knowledge, skills and dispositions needed to plan and execute sound approaches to resource decision-making and use. Authentic fiscal issues and practices in higher education are identified and potential solutions and needed changes explored. Students investigate the entire spectrum of revenues, rationales and justifications for budget requests and resource allocations, and design appropriate practices for resource management. Traditional and evolving funding sources are examined, and grant-writing strategies explored. The fusion of planning, budgeting and technology to produce better resource allocations, and oversight of those allocations, is emphasized.
Prerequisite(s): EDUC7004.
Offered at Online
6 Semester Credits

EDUC8017 Strategic Fiscal Leadership in Elementary and Secondary Education

This course focuses on the economics, politics and administration of school finance from both theoretical and practical perspectives. Emphasis is placed on the strategic planning, policy and procedural aspects of school funding, resource allocation and school plant management. This course examines the relationship between financial management, educational leadership and organizational change. The fiscal management concepts and techniques needed by educational leaders in order to plan, control and evaluate their operations effectively are similarly examined. Students investigate how school finance, budget, business management, asset protection, and facilities planning and management are vital to the teaching and learning process.
Prerequisite(s): EDUC7004.
Offered at Online
6 Semester Credits

EDUC8090 Leadership in Higher Education

This course builds upon the knowledge, skills and dispositions that students have acquired from their previous doctoral coursework and professional experiences to address authentic issues in higher education leadership. The approach is problem-based, context-bound and service-oriented. Through case studies, exercises and projects, students work individually and collaboratively to seek practical solutions to actual and hypothetical dilemmas in higher education. Emphasis is placed on analyzing and addressing the policy, legal and ethical aspects of issues, on seeking appropriate research paradigms, and on defining leadership roles to facilitate realistic and creative change.
Prerequisite(s): EDUC7004.
Offered at Online
6 Semester Credits

EDUC8095 Leadership in Elementary and Secondary Education

This course examines leadership theories and models and their application to educational reform in elementary-secondary education and related community organizations. Topics addressed include: leadership styles, organizational cultures, school change strategies, leadership behaviors, leadership standards, site-based management, school culture, data-driven decision-making and shared decision-making. Students employ action research and problem-based learning approaches to conduct research on current leadership-related problems and issues.
Prerequisite(s): EDUC7004.
Offered at Online
6 Semester Credits

EDUC8120 Family and Community Engagement in Elementary and Secondary Education

This course addresses the role of the educational leader in engaging the community in supporting the education of its children and youth. Topics focus on home and school collaboration and parent/family involvement in the education of children. Topics also include developing and maintaining relationships with businesses and higher education to promote their involvement and active participation in elementary and secondary schools. In addition, areas of community service, diversity within the community, community relations, and the schools as community centers are investigated.
Prerequisite(s): EDUC7004.
Offered at Online
3 Semester Credits

EDUC8150 The Contemporary College Student

This course examines the intersection between the characteristics of contemporary student populations and the campus environments in which they operate – with a focus on how this intersection contributes to or detracts from their experiences and success in higher education. The course explores the ways in which higher education institutions support the students to ensure academic achievement, personal growth, persistence, and successful completion of their degree programs. The trends and changes in the demographics and characteristics of students who enroll in college are examined, along with current best practices for serving diverse student populations in all aspects of community life. Theoretical and research literature and current discourse on the college student experience from the perspective of various stakeholders are foundational to the learning. The course is guided by three questions: Who attends college today? What is each college's responsibility to their students to ensure their success and growth? And how does each college ensure that as a result of their experiences while in college, each student becomes a productive and contributing citizen of our world?.
Prerequisite(s): EDUC7004.
Offered at Online
3 Semester Credits

EDUC8240 Law and Policy in Elementary and Secondary Education

Students examine the relevant legal principles that affect the operation, organization and leadership of American public schools and gain knowledge about legal issues that support the use of effective and ethical engagement in leadership practices within the boundaries of constitutional, statutory and case law. Students examine the theoretical foundations (economic, political and institutional) to identify what influences, shapes and explains the development, implementation and evaluation of public policy.
Prerequisite(s): EDUC7004.
Offered at Online
3 Semester Credits

EDUC8270 Law and Policy in Higher Education

This course examines current legal and policy issues in higher education, including policy, analysis, research and development, implementation, refinement, and monitoring mechanisms. Emphasis is placed on the use of policy as a tool for continuous improvement and development of higher education institutions and systems. The role of consultation with stakeholders in policy and regulatory development and refinement is stressed. The course emphasizes the knowledge, skills and attitudes relating to policy, the application of legal constructs and standards, and the understanding of governance structures and functions. Students learn about relevant statutory and case law for postsecondary leaders and policy makers with particular emphasis on employment, affirmative action, torts, public and private law, academic freedom, contracts, tenure, free speech, privacy rights, civil rights, due process, and student rights. Emphasis is placed on what postsecondary leaders need to know about the law and policy.
Prerequisite(s): EDUC7004.
Offered at Online
3 Semester Credits

EDUC9005 Doctoral Dissertation I

Doctoral Dissertation I provides guidance and practical support for doctoral candidates in the initial phases of the dissertation project with emphasis on refining the problem of practice and grounding the study; developing a dissertation proposal; submitting an application to the JWU Institutional Review Board (IRB) for permission to conduct the study; completing the ELP External Review Process; completing any other ethical research practices and protocols in accordance with the protection of human subjects and informed consent procedures; piloting instruments for data collection; conducting data collection for the approved study; transforming the dissertation proposal into chapters 1 and 3 for the dissertation; and outlining/developing the literature review (chapter 2) for the dissertation. Workshops are provided on special topics related to data collection, instrument design and sampling strategies, as well as scholarly writing support and APA formatting/guidelines sessions.
Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of all required coursework at the 7000 and 8000 levels, passing score on Comprehensive Assessment.
Offered at Online
6 Semester Credits

EDUC9010 Doctoral Dissertation II
Doctoral Dissertation II provides guidance and practical support for doctoral candidates in the final phases of the dissertation with emphasis on data collection, analysis, and presentation of the study findings, conclusions and recommendations. Workshops are provided on special topics related to data collection, instrument design, data analysis, as well as scholarly writing support and APA formatting/guidelines sessions.
Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of all required coursework at the 7000 and 8000 levels, passing score on Comprehensive Assessment.
Offered at Online
6 Semester Credits

EDUC9011 Doctoral Dissertation Advisement
This noncredit-bearing course is provided to students after the third year to provide ongoing dissertation advisement and continuous enrollment.
Prerequisite(s): Successful completion of all required coursework at the 7000 and 8000 levels, passing score on Comprehensive Assessment.
Offered at Online
0 Semester Credits