

Doctor of Education (EdD) Coursework Planning Document

Educational Leadership and Policy Studies (ELPS)

Academic Year: 2026–2027

Name:	Student ID:
Degree Program:	Start Term:

Program Overview

The EdD is a 65-credit doctoral program designed for practicing leaders. This planning document outlines program requirements and supports ongoing advising, progress monitoring, and course sequencing. Course offerings and schedules are subject to change. This coursework planning document must be submitted to ELPS Canvas by the end of the first academic quarter and should be reviewed and updated annually, or as needed, in consultation with faculty advisor or designee.

Year One Coursework

Quarter	Course Title	Course Number & Credits	Focus Area	QTR/YR Taken (ex. Win '27)	Approved Substitution Course, QTR, YR
Fall	Foundations of Ed. History & Philosophy	ADMN 4827 4 credits	Leadership		
Fall	Introduction to Doctoral Research	ADMN 5800 4 credits	Research		
Winter	Organizational Theory & Behavior	ADMN 4819 4 credits	Leadership		
Winter	Introduction to Qualitative Research	RMS 4941 4 credits	Research		
Spring	Intro to Critical Policy Analysis	ADMN 4823 4 credits	Leadership		
Spring	Advanced Inquiry and Analysis	ADMN 4900 4 credits	Research		
Summer	Leadership Lab: Applied Inquiry and Practice	ADMN 5710 4 credits	Leadership		

Year One Subtotal: 28 credits

Year Two Coursework

Quarter	Course Title	Course Number & Credits	Focus Area	QTR/YR Taken (ex. Win '27)	Approved Substitution Course, QTR, YR
Fall	Leading Teaching and Learning	ADMN 4835 4 credits	Leadership		
Fall	Introductory Statistics ¹	RMS 4910 4 credits	Research		
Winter	Perspectives in District Leadership	ADMN 4812 4 credits	Leadership		
Winter	Critical Policy Analysis for Educational Systems	ADMN 4844 4 credits	Research		
Spring	Improving Organizational Culture	ADMN 4836 4 credits	Leadership		
Spring	Action Research for Systems Leadership	ADMN 4822 4 credits	Research		
Summer	Dissertation Research Begins ²	ADMN 5910 and/or ADMN 5993	Dissertation		

Year Two Coursework Subtotal (excluding dissertation credits): 24 credits

¹ Research course a student may test out of or have waived; consult your advisor. ² See Year Three – Doctoral Research below. Dissertation credits (ADMN 5910 and/or ADMN 5993) may begin as early as Summer Year Two post successful completion of the comprehensive exams, in consultation with the advisor.

Administrative Internship (Optional – Licensure Pathway)

Students seeking Colorado administrator licensure may complete an administrative internship through ADMN 5710 or ADMN 4817. The internship requires 6 credits (50 clock hours per credit; 300 total hours) and is designed to support applied leadership development aligned with Colorado Department of Education standards. Students should consult with their advisor to determine eligibility and alignment with licensure requirements.

Requirement	Course Number	QTR Taken	Credit Hours
Administrative Internship			2
Administrative Internship			2
Administrative Internship			2

Year Three – Doctoral Research (Dissertation in Practice)

Dissertation credit requirements include ADMN 5910 (Doctoral Research Planning and Design) and ADMN 5993 (Independent Research), taken in combination. Per the Graduate Bulletin, students complete a minimum of 13 total dissertation credits, with at least 6 credits in ADMN 5910.

Dissertation credits may begin as early as Summer Year Two and continue through Fall, Winter, and Spring of Year Three, and beyond if needed. Students typically complete the ADMN 5910 sequence first and transition to ADMN 5993 with their advisor only if additional time is needed beyond Year Three. Students must maintain continuous enrollment each Fall, Winter, and Spring quarter in consultation with their advisor.

QTR	Course (ADMN 5910 or ADMN 5993 — select in consultation with advisor)	Credits
Summer Year 2		
Fall Year 3		
Winter Year 3		
Spring Year 3		
(if needed)		
(if needed)		
(if needed)		
Total Dissertation Credits		13 (minimum)

Program Milestones and Benchmarks

Requirement Area	Date Completed
Comprehensive Review	
Dissertation in Practice Proposal Hearing	
IRB Approval Number (if required)	
Final Dissertation in Practice Hearing	

Program Credit Summary

Requirement Area	Credit Hours
Leadership Coursework	28
Research Coursework	24
Dissertation in Practice (minimum)	13
Total Required for EdD Degree	65 credits

Signatures

Student	
Graduate Program Advisor	
Dissertation Advisor	