

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP, ED.D.

The educational leadership program at Saint Louis University's School of Education (<https://www.slu.edu/education/>) is a long-standing, highly respected graduate program preparing educational leaders through a professional educational doctorate.

SLU's Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership is designed to prepare students to become executive-level educational leaders. Students enter the program with a master's or specialist degree in educational leadership or a related field.

The concentration in Catholic education prepares students to become executive-level leaders in Catholic education. Coursework engages students with the unique aspects of Catholic educational leadership, including spiritual leadership and the vocation of a Catholic school leader, and non-public school administration such as funding mechanisms and applicable laws.

Curriculum Overview

The Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership degree requires the completion of 38-44 credits of coursework, a comprehensive written examination, an oral examination, and a doctoral project. Students entering with a specialist degree complete 28-34 credits of coursework.

Course offerings are aligned with the state requirements for accreditation, as well as course requirements students must have to qualify for superintendent certification. Those courses are set up over a three-year cycle so all entering students have access to the courses they need. The doctoral project is designed to address a problem of practice and is completed by a team. Additionally, each member prepares an individual analysis report.

In the Catholic education concentration, the doctoral project is designed to address a problem of practice in Catholic educational leadership. The project is completed by a group of cohort members as a team. Additionally, each member prepares an individual analysis report.

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

The program includes site-based activities aligned with coursework as well as the three-credit hour internship required for certification for students who need the internship.

Careers

This Ed.D. prepares students to be executive-level leaders such as school district superintendents, assistant superintendents, directors, teacher leaders, and/or organizational leaders, as well as strengthening the knowledge and skills of building-level leaders. It prepares students for possible faculty positions in colleges and universities. Additionally, some doctoral students design a special individualized program to prepare for the principalship or a leadership role in a nonprofit, medical, or business organization.

Possible career paths for someone pursuing a concentration in Catholic education include school president, (arch)diocesan superintendent, assistant superintendent, school director, curriculum director, or other central office positions, as well as strengthening the knowledge and skills of experienced building-level leaders.

Tuition

Tuition	Cost Per Credit
Doctor of Education (EdD) in Ed. Leadership	\$970
Doctor of Education (EdD) in Ed. Leadership with Catholic Education Concentration	\$680

Additional charges may apply. Other resources are listed below:

Net Price Calculator (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/tuition-and-costs/calculator.php>)

Information on Tuition and Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition/>)

Miscellaneous Fees (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/fees/>)

Information on Summer Tuition (<https://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/student-financial-services/tuition-summer/>)

Scholarships and Financial Aid

For priority consideration for graduate assistantship, apply by Feb. 1.

For more information, visit the Office of Student Financial Services (<https://www.slu.edu/financial-aid/>).

Accreditation

The Catholic education concentration offered through the Institute for Catholic Education meets the catechetical requirements for the Archdiocese of St. Louis and the standards from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will apply discipline-based literature to educational administration practices.
2. Graduates will apply evidence-based practices in educational administration, aspects of running a school district, and educational theories to analyze issues related to executive-level administration.
3. Graduates will articulate arguments or explanations about evidence-based practice in leadership, communication, legal, financial, curriculum/instruction/assessment and management in educational leadership.
4. Graduates will propose and conduct research related to educational leadership practices emphasizing professional integrity in the field.

Requirements

Ed.D. students who enter the program with a master's degree complete 38 credits, including leadership courses and fieldwork. If a student seeks a superintendent certificate upon graduation, specific coursework is required.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
EDL 6390	Gateway Leadership Institute	2
EDL 6950	Special Study for Written Comprehensive Exams	0

EDR 6971	Advanced Research Topics in Education Research	3
EDL 6960	Project Guidance	3

Content Courses

Students who enter the program with a master's degree select 30 20-30 credits from the following while students who enter with an Ed.S. select 20 credits from the following:

EDL 5914	Internship: Superintendent Internship	
EDL 6110	School District Administration	
EDL 6190	School, Community, and Politics	
EDL 6200	Ethics of Ed Leadership	
EDL 6300	Advanced School Law	
EDL 6400	Sem: Human Resources Admin	
EDL 6450	Curriculum Design and Implementation Fidelity	
EDL 6470	School Facilities	
EDL 6690	School Business Administration	
EDL 6730	District Level Professional Development and Teacher Evaluation	
EDSP 6110	Special Education Administration	

Research Courses (p. 2) **0-6**

Total Credits **28-44**

Catholic Education Concentration

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
EDL 6390	Gateway Leadership Institute	2
EDR 6971	Advanced Research Topics in Education Research	3
EDL 6950	Special Study for Written Comprehensive Exams	0
EDL 6960	Project Guidance	3
Elective Courses		

Students who enter the program with a master's degree select 30 20-30 credits from the following while students who enter with an Ed.S. select 20 credits from the following:

EDF 6300	Studies in Catholic Education	
EDF 6310	Seminar: Catholic Education	
EDL 5200	School-Community Relations	
EDL 6110	School District Administration	
EDL 6200	Ethics of Ed Leadership	
EDL 6300	Advanced School Law	
EDL 6450	Curriculum Design and Implementation Fidelity	
EDL 6470	School Facilities	
EDL 6690	School Business Administration	
EDL 6730	District Level Professional Development and Teacher Evaluation	

Research Courses (p. 2) **0-6**

Total Credits **28-44**

Non-Course Requirements

- Students must pass a written comprehensive examination.
- Students must pass an oral examination/project defense of their doctoral project focused on a problem of practice.

Continuation Standards

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 in all graduate/professional courses.

Research Courses

Students must finish master's level graduate research courses before completing the program. If a student does not have some or all of these courses completed prior to admission, they may take them during the doctoral program. Students are required to successfully complete two of the following prerequisite research courses prior to finishing the program. For those enrolled in the Catholic Education Concentration, one of these two courses must be EDR 5100 Introduction to Inferential Statistics.

Code	Title	Credits
EDR 5000	General Research Methods for Education	3
EDR 5100	Intro to Inferential Stats: Ed	3
EDR 5400	Qualitative Research in Education	3
EDR 5500	Evaluation of Education Programs	3

Roadmap

Roadmaps are recommended semester-by-semester plans of study for programs and assume full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.

Courses and milestones designated as critical (marked with !) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation. Transfer credit may change the roadmap.

This roadmap should not be used in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor/mentor each semester. Requirements, course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

Students Without an Ed.S.

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
EDR 6971	Advanced Research Topics in Education Research	3
EDL 6110	School District Administration	3
EDR 5000	General Research Methods for Education (if not already completed as a prerequisite)	3
Credits		6-9
Spring		
EDL 6190	School, Community, and Politics	3
EDL 6470	School Facilities	3
Credits		6
Summer		
EDL 6390	Gateway Leadership Institute	2
EDL 5913 or EDL 5914	Internship: Building Principal or Internship: Superintendent Internship	1
EDSP 6110	Special Education Administration	2

E DR 5100	Intro to Inferential Stats: Ed (if not already completed as a prerequisite)	3
Credits		5-8
Year Two		
Fall		
EDL 6450	Curriculum Design and Implementation Fidelity	3
EDL 6300	Advanced School Law	2
Credits		5
Spring		
EDL 6200	Ethics of Ed Leadership	3
EDL 6730	District Level Professional Development and Teacher Evaluation	3
Credits		6
Summer		
EDL 5913 or EDL 5914	Internship: Building Principal or Internship: Superintendent Internship	2
EDL 6690	School Business Administration	2
EDL 6950	Special Study for Written Comprehensive Exams	0
Credits		4
Year Three		
Fall		
EDL 6400	Sem: Human Resources Admin	3
Credits		3
Spring		
EDL 6960	Project Guidance (may be taken in one semester if student is finishing or may be distributed over 3 semesters if student needs additional year to complete)	3
Credits		3
Total Credits		38-44

Students With an Ed.S.

Ed.D. students who enter the program with a Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership complete 28 credits, including leadership courses and fieldwork. If a student seeks a superintendent certificate upon graduation, specific coursework is required.

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
EDR 6971	Advanced Research Topics in Education Research	3
EDL 6110	School District Administration	3
EDR 5000	General Research Methods for Education (if not already completed as a prerequisite)	3
Credits		6-9
Spring		
EDL 6190	School, Community, and Politics	3
EDL 6470	School Facilities	3
Credits		6

Summer		
EDL 5913 or EDL 5914	Internship: Building Principal (1 of 10 hours not taken - not taken if not needed for certification) or Internship: Superintendent Internship	0-1
EDL 6390	Gateway Leadership Institute	2
EDSP 6110	Special Education Administration	2
E DR 5100	Intro to Inferential Stats: Ed (if not already completed as a prerequisite)	3
Credits		4-8
Year Two		
Fall		
EDL 6450	Curriculum Design and Implementation Fidelity	3
EDL 6300	Advanced School Law (2 of 10 hours not taken if not needed for certification and with Ed.S.)	2,3
EDL 5913 or EDL 5914	Internship: Building Principal (1 of 10 hours not taken if not needed for certification and with Ed.S.) or Internship: Superintendent Internship	0-1
Credits		5-7
Spring		
EDL 6730	District Level Professional Development and Teacher Evaluation	3
EDL 6200	Ethics of Ed Leadership	3
EDL 5913 or EDL 5914	Internship: Building Principal (1 of 10 hours not taken if not needed for certification and with Ed.S.) or Internship: Superintendent Internship	0-1
Credits		6-7
Summer		
EDL 5913 or EDL 5914	Internship: Building Principal (2 of 10 hours not taken unless needed for certification) or Internship: Superintendent Internship	0-2
EDL 6690	School Business Administration (2 of 10 hours not taken if not needed for certification and with Ed.S.)	2-3
EDL 6950	Special Study for Written Comprehensive Exams	0
Credits		2-5
Year Three		
Fall		
EDL 6400	Sem: Human Resources Admin	3
Credits		3
Spring		
EDL 6960	Project Guidance (may be taken in one semester if student is finishing or may be distributed over 3 semesters if student needs additional year to complete)	3
Credits		3
Total Credits		35-48

Catholic Education Concentration without Ed.S.

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
EDL 6690	School Business Administration	3
EDR 5000	General Research Methods for Education (if not already completed as a prerequisite)	3
EDR 6971	Advanced Research Topics in Education Research	3
Credits		6-9
Spring		
EDF 6310	Seminar: Catholic Education	3
EDL 5200	School-Community Relations	3
Credits		6
Summer		
EDL 6110	School District Administration	3
EDL 6390	Gateway Leadership Institute	2
EDR 5100	Intro to Inferential Stats: Ed (if not already completed as a prerequisite)	3
Credits		5-8
Year Two		
Fall		
EDL 6450	Curriculum Design and Implementation Fidelity	3
EDL 6300	Advanced School Law	3
Credits		6
Spring		
EDF 6300	Studies in Catholic Education	3
EDL 6730	District Level Professional Development and Teacher Evaluation	3
Credits		6
Summer		
EDL 6200	Ethics of Ed Leadership	3
EDL 6470	School Facilities	3
EDL 6950	Special Study for Written Comprehensive Exams	0
Credits		6
Year Three		
Fall		
EDL 6960	Project Guidance	1
Credits		1
Spring		
Completion of the Doctoral Project and Oral Examination		
EDL 6960	Project Guidance	2
Credits		2
Total Credits		38-44

Catholic Education Concentration with Ed.S.

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
Fall		
EDL 6690	School Business Administration (3 of 10 credits not taken/recommended for audit)	2-3
EDR 6971	Advanced Research Topics in Education Research	3
EDR 5000	General Research Methods for Education (if not already completed as a prerequisite)	3
Credits		5-9
Spring		
EDF 6310	Seminar: Catholic Education	3
EDL 5200	School-Community Relations	3
Credits		6
Summer		
EDL 6110	School District Administration (3 of 10 hours not taken/recommended for audit)	3
EDL 6390	Gateway Leadership Institute	2
EDR 5100	Intro to Inferential Stats: Ed (if not already completed as a prerequisite)	3
Credits		5-8
Year Two		
Fall		
EDL 6300	Advanced School Law (3 of 10 hours not taken/recommended for audit)	2-3
EDL 6450	Curriculum Design and Implementation Fidelity	3
Credits		5-6
Spring		
EDF 6300	Studies in Catholic Education	3
EDL 6730	District Level Professional Development and Teacher Evaluation	3
Credits		6
Summer		
EDL 6200	Ethics of Ed Leadership	3
EDL 6470	School Facilities	3
EDL 6950	Special Study for Written Comprehensive Exams	0
Credits		6
Year Three		
Fall		
EDL 6960	Project Guidance	1
Credits		1
Spring		
Completion of the Doctoral Project and Oral Examination		
EDL 6960	Project Guidance	2
Credits		2
Total Credits		36-44

Program Notes

The Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership cohort program in Catholic school leadership includes outcomes aligned with national and state standards as well as those articulated by the Catholic Church. Courses are taught as part of a cohort program that is enhanced by problem-based learning, evidence-based content that connects theory and practice, and practice opportunities.

Students engage in professional learning by collaborating with peers using problem-oriented instructional strategies, studying a curriculum grounded in the literature on effective practice, and engaging in professionally-guided practice in schools.

All courses for both public school and Catholic school leadership are taught in a four-Saturday format (fall and spring), and in an eight-week period spanning mid-May to mid-July in the summer.

Catholic coursework engages students with the unique aspects of Catholic educational leadership, including spiritual leadership and the vocation of a Catholic school leader, and non-public school administration, such as funding mechanisms and applicable laws.

Coursework engages students with the unique aspects of Catholic educational leadership, including spiritual leadership, the vocation of the Catholic school educator, and the evangelizing Catholic school, and nonpublic school administration such as recruitment, funding mechanisms, and laws applicable in religious schools, while preparing students to take the assessments for superintendent certification. Students seeking Missouri state certification as a superintendent may be required to take additional coursework.

The degree additionally requires the completion of a written comprehensive examination, a doctoral project, and an oral examination.

Students Seeking a Principal Certification

Students wishing to obtain a principal certification must take EDL 5660: The Principalship and EDL 5913: Principal Internship in addition to the EdD coursework.

Students Seeking a Director of Special Education Certificate

Students wishing to obtain a director of special education certificate must take EDSP 6110: Administration of Special Education for 3 hours (rather than 2 hours). Students wishing to obtain this certificate must have a principal certification or take coursework to get the principal certification and take EDSP 6910: Special Education Internship in addition to the Ed.D. coursework.

Contact Us

Apply for Admission (<https://www.slu.edu/admission/>)

For additional admission questions, please contact:
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