PhD in Educational Leadership

Central Michigan University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. CMU is an AA/EO institution.

www.cmich.edu/aaeo
www.cmich.edu/edl-phd
ampaw1fd@cmich.edu

The Program
The Ph.D. degree in Educational Leadership is designed to help students develop a critical understanding of research and policy; engage effectively with multiple perspectives; and work toward social change and social justice. The degree will focus on preparing individuals for careers in higher education and K-12 administration, as well as educational policy and research centers, community educational institutions and agencies.

Program Delivery
The program will be offered in a cohort format in year-round classes. The cohort program consists of about 15 students who together will follow a set schedule of courses in the fall, spring and summer. Classes will be offered on weeknights or weekends (early evening Friday and all day on Saturday). During the summer sessions, some classes may be offered in a weeklong schedule. Students will take approximately two and one-half years to complete the course work for the doctoral degree. The average student takes an additional 18-24 months to complete the dissertation.

PhD Requirements
The Ph.D. program is 66 credit hours and encompasses 18 hours of research requirements, 15 credits of academic core courses, 18 credits of concentration, preliminary progress assessment, and a dissertation.

Research Requirements (18 credit hours)
EDL 700 - Educational Research Design
EDL 800 - Qualitative Analysis
EDL 801 - Quantitative Analysis
EDL 890 - Writing and Inquiry
EDL 900 - Advanced Qualitative Analysis
EDL 901 - Advanced Quantitative Analysis

Academic Core (15 credit hours)
EDL 815 - Ethical Leadership
EDL 820 - Critical Perspectives of Development Theory
EDL 830 - Educational Foundations of Philosophy
EDL 860 - Organizational Theory

Select one
EDL 816 - Social Justice in Education
EDL 752 - Social Justice in Global Education Studies

Concentration (18 hours)

K-12 Leadership
EDL 766 - Advanced Educational Law
EDL 767 - Public School Finance
EDL 775 - Education Policy Analysis
Electives (9 hours)

Or

Higher Education Leadership
EDL 864 - Economics and Finance of Higher Education 3(3-0)
EDL 768 - Advanced Higher Education Law 3(3-0)
EDL 876 - Higher Education Policy 3(3-0)
Electives (9 hours)

Dissertation (15 credit hours)
EDL 898 Dissertation

Preliminary Progress Assessment
Ph.D. students are required to complete the Preliminary Progress Assessment (PPA) upon completion of their first year in the doctoral program.

Comprehensive Paper
Within one year of completing all core coursework (except electives, EDL 898, 900 & 901), a Ph.D. student must successfully pass a comprehensive exam. The student's dissertation committee evaluates the comprehensive exam. The comprehensive examination for the Ph.D. entails developing a research prospectus that includes the following components: an explanation of the research problem, a series of research questions and/or hypotheses, a review of the literature and related theory, and a description of the method.

Dissertation
Candidates will undertake original research relevant to the program focus. Completion of the dissertation will require a minimum of 15 credits of EDL 898 Dissertation. The course description includes: design and complete the dissertation including data collection, analysis, written report, and oral defense.
To be considered for admission to the Ph.D. program, applicants must have completed a master’s degree with a minimum GPA of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale and the Graduate Record Exam.

A completed application must include:

**Submitted to the College of Graduate Studies**

1. A completed CMU graduate application – must be completed online at [apply.cmich.edu](http://apply.cmich.edu)
2. **Personal Statement**: A two- or three-page typewritten statement describing your educational and professional goals as they relate to pursuing the Ph.D. at Central Michigan University (submitted online)
3. **Official transcripts** of all undergraduate and graduate work
4. $35 application fee

**Submitted to the Department of Educational Leadership**

- **Three References**: Use the Doctoral Recommendation Form (on the website under forms and resources) and submit references from three individuals familiar with your academic and scholarly work
- **GRE Score**: An official score report from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) earned within the last five years.
- **Current Résumé or Curriculum Vitae**
- **Signed Declaration of Commitment** (On the website under forms and resources)
- **Graduate Research Assistantship Application** (if interested)

After reviewing the credentials of the applicants, the Doctoral Program Committee will select candidates to be interviewed. The Doctoral Program Committee will make all decisions regarding admissions, selecting the cohort from those interviewed. The application package will be evaluated holistically.

All Department of Educational Leadership items should be mailed, in the enclosed envelope, to:

**NAN CLAPP**

**EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

**CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**

**EHS 334**

**195 Ojibway Drive**

**Mount Pleasant, MI 48859**
This is a proposed schedule of courses and is subject to change.

**Year I & II**

**Fall 2018**
- EDL 890 Writing and Inquiry
- EDL 830 Educational Philosophy

**Spring 2019**
- EDL 700 Educational Research Design
- EDL 860 Organizational Theory

**Summer 2019**
- EDL 752/816 Social Justice in Education
- EDL 766/768 Advanced Educational Law
- Preliminary Progress Assessment

**Fall 2019**
- EDL 801 Quantitative Research Methods
- EDL 820 Development Theory

**Spring 2020**
- EDL 800 Qualitative Research Methods
- EDL 775/876 Educational Policy

**Summer 2020**
- EDL 864/767 Educational Finance
- EDL 815 Ethical Leadership

**Year III & IV**

**Fall 2020**
- Elective (3 credits)
- Elective (3 credits)

**Spring 2021**
- Elective (3 credits)
- Comprehensive exam

**Summer 2021**
- EDL 900 Advanced Qualitative Analysis
- EDL 901 Advanced Quantitative Analysis

**Fall 2021**
- Dissertation Research

**Spring 2022**
- Dissertation Research

**Summer 2022**
- Dissertation Research
Format
We offer our programs in a compressed format to help you balance the demands of work, school, family and other obligations. However, compressed formats do not mean easier courses. To help you succeed in the compressed format, we offer one class at a time in the 8-week half-semester.

Faculty
Faculty for Central Michigan University’s Educational Leadership programs are recognized doctoral-level authorities in their fields. They bring the latest theory, research and practice to their classrooms. Our instructors are our greatest assets.

Cohort Format
Cohorts offer some special advantages to you. You can develop strong personal and professional networks because you and your fellow cohort members are together for all of your courses. Cohort groups are able to move forward on new material quickly because your cohort develops a shared base of knowledge that instructors will build upon in each class. Finally, the likelihood that you will complete the degree program successfully increases significantly in a cohort format because of the camaraderie that develops among students who become friends as well as fellow classmates.

Advising
A program plan will be developed with you by your faculty academic advisor to ensure all degree requirements are met. In order to graduate, you must have a final program plan completed and signed by your advisor at the time you apply for graduation.

You will select a dissertation advisor after your first year who will guide you into incorporating your research interest in your coursework and assist you in developing your research interests and working on your dissertation.

Financial Aid
Many students like you are concerned about financing their education. We want to make the financial aid process as simple as possible for you. If you are interested in financial aid, the first step is to complete the FAFSA form at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Central Michigan University’s school code is 002243. In addition, we have an on-campus Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid. Financial aid specialists are available to answer questions by calling 888-392-0007.

Assistantships
The department has a limited number of graduate assistantships available. Graduate assistantships work directly with faculty on research studies and programmatic needs. Graduate assistants work 20 hours a week and are awarded 20 tuition credits and a stipend.
The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is a widely accepted graduate admissions test. GRE scores are good for five years. CMU will not accept any score that is more than five years old. The GRE is offered by appointment at test locations all over the world. There is a testing center at CMU in Mt. Pleasant. For more information visit the testing center website at: https://www.cmich.edu/office_provost/AcademicAffairs/CBTC/Pages/default.aspx or call 989-774-1092. There is a fee for taking the test.

Be sure that you indicate that you want your score sent to Central Michigan University by selecting our school code when you take the GRE. CMU’s school code for the GRE is 1106. It can take up to six weeks for CMU to receive your GRE scores. Applications will not be considered without the GRE score. Please take your exam so that we receive your score prior to the application deadlines.

It takes approximately four hours to complete the GRE. The GRE is broken down into three parts:

- **Verbal Reasoning (2 sections)** — Measures your ability to analyze and evaluate written material and synthesize information obtained from it, analyze relationships among component parts of sentences and recognize relationships among words and concepts.
- **Quantitative Reasoning (2 sections)** — Measures problem-solving ability, focusing on basic concepts of arithmetic, algebra, geometry and data analysis.
- **Analytical Writing (2 essays)** — Measures critical thinking and analytical writing skills, specifically your ability to articulate and support complex ideas clearly and effectively.

Preparation manuals are often available at, or may be ordered through, local bookstores or online. We recommend that you review these manuals before taking the test. For more information on the GRE, please go to www.ets.org/gre.

**GRE Prep guides are also available through the Michigan eLibrary (MeL) website:**
The homepage of MeL databases is: http://mel.org/Databases

(Any Michigan resident can access the MeL databases, which are funded by the Library of Michigan/State of Michigan.)

Your application is considered holistically and your GRE score will be one of the data points in your application profile.
This program uses a self-managed application process in which the student gathers all of the application materials and submits them **in a single packet**. Please send completed packets only. Application deadlines are January 15 & April 1. Preference will be given to packets mailed by February 1, 2016.

Applicant’s name: ____________________________________________________________

As you place the items into the return envelope, check the appropriate boxes below. When your checklist is completed, place this page into the envelope before mailing.

☐ Completed CMU Graduate Admissions Application (must be done online at [https://apply.cmich.edu/](https://apply.cmich.edu/))

☐ Paid $35.00 application fee with application

☐ Official transcripts requested to be sent or in unopened envelope

( **check each box for each transcript, followed by the school name** )

☐ __________________________

☐ __________________________

☐ __________________________

☐ __________________________

☐ A current résumé/curriculum vitae detailing professional educational experience

☐ GRE scores requested on ________________________________________

☐ Personal Statement: A two- or three-page typewritten statement describing your educational and professional goals as they relate to pursuing the desired degree at Central Michigan University (submitted online).

☐ Signed Degree Commitment Form

☐ Three Letters of Reference in unopened envelopes using the Doctoral Letter of Recommendation Form

( **check one box for each reference followed by the name of the reference** )

☐ __________________________

☐ __________________________

☐ __________________________

☐ TOEFL scores (required for international students, official scores must be sent by Educational Testing Service)

☐ Made copies of all documents (not those in sealed envelopes)

☐ Mailed in the enclosed envelope on: ________________________________
PhD in Educational Leadership

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