SPECIAL EDUCATION (PH.D. AND ED.D.)

The Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) and the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) programs prepare professional educators and researchers for positions in institutions of higher learning, educational research centers, state and national education agencies, and intermediate and local school districts. Advanced programs are designed for those individuals who are committed to the educational renewal of urban America; whose career goals emphasize the development and improvement of curriculum and instruction; who desire to prepare themselves for leadership roles in various areas of curriculum and educational research; and who will serve as agents of change, creating and expanding the varied institutions and programs needed for the continuing development of educators. This program also serves those interested in the educational aspects of business and industry, health and social services, and other areas that require expertise in curriculum and instruction.

Based on pure and applied research in instruction and curriculum, doctoral study incorporates formal classroom instruction, independent study, and direct, clinical experience in a variety of field settings. It reflects:

1. the legitimacy of the emerging pattern of inter-institutional partnerships in teacher education at all levels;
2. the significance of the diverse nature of metropolitan society; and
3. the importance of the integration of theory, research, and practice as the basis for sound professional development.

Admission to certain majors and concentrations in the doctoral program may be limited by the availability of faculty advisors. Prior to applying, students should consult with an advisor in 489 Education to discuss current admission limitations.

Admission Requirements

The College of Education has specific requirements for admission to doctoral programs (http://bulletins.wayne.edu/graduate/college-education/academic-regulations/doctoral-degrees).

(An admissions moratorium is currently in effect for these programs.)

The Special Education programs promote inclusive education for students with mild to severe disabilities, and see best instructional practices in general education as supporting the growth and development of students with disabilities. Special educators have important roles to play in building a unified system of schooling that supports learning of all students. Leadership is needed to make these goals a reality. It is the purpose of these programs to provide one important avenue of leadership development. The Special Education doctoral programs provide opportunities to develop and strengthen knowledge and skills in research and inquiry, best instructional practices for inclusive teaching, professional development, leadership, strategies for identifying and promoting innovations, and grant development.

Courses in the field of concentration in each program are selected in consultation with an advisor to develop a Plan of Work. All students in content-specific concentrations under the major of Curriculum and Instruction are required to complete TED 8130 and TED 8280; TED 9130 is recommended but not required. All course work must be completed in accordance with the academic procedures of the College of Education (http://bulletins.wayne.edu/graduate/college-education/academic-regulations) and the Graduate School’s (http://bulletins.wayne.edu/graduate/general-information/degree-certificate-requirements) regulations governing graduate scholarship and degrees.