

Curriculum and Instruction Ph.D. Program

Curriculum Studies

The Interdisciplinary Curriculum Studies Ph.D. Program in the Division of Curriculum and Instruction of the College of Education at Arizona State University is designed to be highly experiential in endeavor that addresses distinct and important educational issues. The issues on which Curriculum Studies focuses transcend the various areas of educational inquiry as they impact upon the design, implementation, and evaluation of education programs. These issues tend to be holistic and transdisciplinary, concerned with interrelationships of various established areas. Specific questions considered include: What should be taught in schools? Why should it be taught? To whom should it be taught? What does it mean to be an educated person? Curriculum inquirers also investigate the relationship between curriculum theory and educational practice and the relationship between school programs and the contours of the society and cultures in which schools are located.

Program Objectives

The goals of the Interdisciplinary Curriculum Studies Ph.D. Program are to:

- produce scholars who can contribute to the knowledge base underlying curriculum theory;
- provide experts in the overall design, implementation, and evaluation of school curricula and in conduct of curriculum research; and
- prepare leaders in the field of curriculum studies.



The Curriculum

Our doctoral curriculum typically requires three years of graduate study, including at least a year-long residency on the campus of Arizona State University. Each year of study involves course work pertaining to theory, research, and practice in special education. The curriculum provides students with a core set of courses, seminars, internships, and research experiences to ensure that they meet professionally recognized standards and leaders in the field of curriculum.

Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Degree Program in Curriculum and Instruction

Robert B. Rutherford, Executive Director

For details regarding admission requirements and deadlines, please contact:

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Division of Graduate Studies Contacts:

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Student Programs:
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Maria T. Allison, Interim Dean
(480) 965-7279 FAX: (480) 965-0375

Requirements

The course of study for the Ph.D. with a concentration in Curriculum Studies is divided into six areas. Each course normally consists of three (3) semester hours:

Ph.D. core course Requirements

6 semester hours:

DCI 701 Curriculum Theory and Practice

DCI 702 Interdisciplinary Research Seminar in Curriculum and Instruction Professional

Inquiry and Analysis

15 semester hours in approaches to education research. Examples of courses that meet this requirement are:

COE 502 Introduction to Quantitative Methods

COE 503 Introduction to Qualitative Methods

DCI 691 Narrative Research in Education

DCI 791 Discourse Analysis

Major Area of Concentration

30 semester hours are required of doctoral students in Curriculum Studies. Six required core Curriculum Studies courses are:

DCI 691 Perspectives on Curriculum

DCI 691 Critical Theory and Curriculum

DCI 691 Curriculum Change: Implementation and Evaluation

SPF 691 Cultural Studies in Education

SPF 691 Social and Historical Foundations of American Education

DCI 691 Special Topics in Curriculum

The remaining 12 hours of course work in this area is determined according to the student's area of sub-specialization and anticipated focus of the dissertation.

Internships

6 semester hours consisting of three two-semester hour doctoral internships are required in the areas of Research and College teaching. One area must be chosen twice. During the course of the internship, the student works closely with selected Curriculum Studies Program faculty members from the Interdisciplinary Committee on Curriculum and Instruction or other faculty members designated by the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Degree Program in Curriculum and Instruction.

Cognate Study

12 semester hours are required of students to broaden their understanding of the conceptual base and issues underlying the field of Curriculum Studies. Students will take course work outside of Curriculum Studies. Cognate studies can be drawn from a broad range of offerings, both from within and outside the College of Education.

Dissertation and Independent Research

24 semester hours are taken to demonstrate that the student is capable of conducting high quality original research. The research is to be conceived and carried out in such a manner as to make a contribution to advancing scholarship in Curriculum Studies.

Doctoral students are also encouraged to participate in the Preparing Future Faculty Program offered by the Graduate College of Arizona State University. This program consists of two semester hours in which students learn faculty roles and responsibilities and participate in an ongoing series of integrative and collaborative seminars coordinated with the Graduate College. Students have the opportunity to develop and participate in interdisciplinary teaching, research, and service activities.

Faculty

Dr. Karen Anijar (Ph.D., University of North Carolina)

Dr. Thomas E. Barone (Ed.D., Stanford University)

Dr. Donald Blumenfeld-Jones (Ed.D., University of North Carolina)

Dr. Carole Edelsky (Ph.D., University of New Mexico)

Dr. Chris J. Faltis (Ph.D., Stanford University)

Dr. Eric Margolis (Ph.D., University of Colorado, Boulder)