

HIGHER EDUCATION MANAGEMENT, EDD

Peerless in our focus on the unique strengths and challenges of senior-level leaders in higher education, the Executive Doctorate reaches far beyond a standard doctoral program, as it brings together cohorts of current senior leaders to challenge each other and engage with world-renown faculty— all without career interruption. The Executive Doctorate in Higher Education Management trains an emerging generation of top higher education leaders from campuses, government, and affiliated organizations to manage resources strategically, leverage evidence-based decision-making, create entrepreneurial opportunities, challenge practices critically, and conquer the dynamics of complex organizations. The program redefines academic inquiry: we focus on using sound analytic principles to tackle relevant, practical questions of strategy for governing broad segments of the higher education enterprise. Our alumni form a growing and influential network of college presidents, vice presidents, deans, and other leaders who overwhelmingly report that the program propelled their careers and increased their impact.

For more information: <https://www.gse.upenn.edu/academics/programs/executive-doctorate-higher-education-management> (<https://www.gse.upenn.edu/academics/programs/executive-doctorate-higher-education-management/>)

Curriculum

Code	Title	Course Units
Required Courses ¹		
EDHE 5010	Introduction to Doctoral Studies	0.5
EDHE 5020	Contemporary Issues	1
EDHE 5040	Proseminar I	0.5
EDHE 5050	Proseminar II	0.67
EDHE 5070A & EDHE 5070B	Quantitative Methods and Quantitative Methods	.33
EDHE 5080A & EDHE 5080B	Qualitative Methods and Qualitative Methods	.67
EDHE 5210A & EDHE 5210B	Leadership, Governance, and Strategy and Leadership, Governance, and Strategy	1
EDHE 5260A & EDHE 5260B	Leading Change in Higher Education I and Leading Change in Higher Education I	1
EDHE 5120	Proseminar III	1
EDHE 5140	Quantitative Methods II	0.67
EDHE 5150	Qualitative Methods II	0.33
EDHE 5160A & EDHE 5160B	Higher Education Finance II and Higher Education Finance II	.5
EDHE 6010	International Context	2
EDHE 5090	Public Policy	1
EDHE 6060	Dissertation Workshop I	1
EDHE 6090	Capstone Seminar	0.33
EDHE 6130	Dissertation Workshop II	1
Cohort Electives		5.5-8
EDHE 5060	Strategic Management Research I	
EDHE 6160	Advanced Topics in Higher Education Management III	

EDHE 5130	Strategic Management Research II
EDHE 5170A & EDHE 5170B	Equity And Diversity and Equity And Diversity
EDHE 5190A & EDHE 5190B	University And Community and University And Community
EDHE 5230A & EDHE 5230B	Globalization and Globalization
EDHE 5100	Leadership and Change
EDHE 6100	Advancement
EDHE 6110	Teaching and Learning
EDHE 6170	Community Colleges
EDHE 6190	Quality/Risk Management
EDHE 5250	Geography of Opportunity
EDHE 5180	Managing Intercollegiate Athletics
EDHE 6020	Student and Campus Services
EDHE 6050	Enrollment Management
EDHE 6150	Leadership and Change for Higher Education's Future

Total Course Units **19**

Course Requirements

Candidates for the Executive Doctorate must complete 19 course units of approved graduate work beyond the baccalaureate degree. Admission to the Executive Doctorate requires a master's degree (M.S. or M.A.) or professional degree (M.B.A., J.D., M.S.W., M.P.A., M.Ed.).

Students are admitted to the Executive Doctorate as a cohort. 19 course units of graduate work are included in the program. The program consists of a prescribed curriculum that students take as a single cohort offered over six consecutive semesters of enrollment—there are no elective courses or distribution requirements. Students begin in August, and complete coursework over the next five terms. Dissertations are completed during the sixth and final semester of the program. All degree students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least "B" (3.0 GPA) in order to graduate.

CU count

The program is designed as an integrated twenty-two month experience where all classes are predetermined and continue across terms. Students are considered full time and pay a flat tuition/program fee rate regardless of the number of course units they are registered for each term.

Elective courses

The course load per term for Executive Doctorate students is prescribed; students may not take additional courses, either at Penn or elsewhere, nor may students drop or add courses, during the period of their enrollment.

Required Milestones:

Qualifications Evaluation (Also known as Program Candidacy)

The purpose of program candidacy is to provide rigorous review and feedback to Ed.D. students regarding their academic progress within the first two years of study. Program candidacy is a prerequisite to doctoral candidacy.

Preliminary Examinations (Also known as Doctoral Candidacy)

The preliminary examination is a test of knowledge in the candidate's area of specialization. The examination requires students to demonstrate knowledge and reasoning in the key content areas in their specialization as specified by the academic division. The format of the examination varies from program to program, but must include at least six hours of examination, at least three hours of which must be written.

Oral Proposal

All doctoral candidates must present their dissertation proposals orally and in person to the dissertation committee.

Final Defense of the Dissertation

The final dissertation defense is approximately two hours in length and is based upon the candidate's dissertation.

Dissertation Supervision Registration

For students registered after the sixth semester of the program, registration for consecutive semesters is required in the form of dissertation supervision (EDUC 9950). Applicable Penn tuition and fees will apply.

Registering for dissertation supervision does not necessarily mean that a student is on dissertation status. Dissertation status is attained once a student completes all coursework and passes the preliminary examination.

- ¹ Course offerings vary per term, academic year, and/or cohort.
- ² International site location changes per year
- ³ Session may require travel to off site location

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2025 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.

First Year		
Summer		
		Course Units
EDHE 5010	Introduction to Doctoral Studies	0.5
EDHE 5020	Contemporary Issues ¹	1
EDHE 5040	Proseminar I	0.5
		Course Units 2.00
Fall		
Required Courses:		
EDHE 5050	Proseminar II	0.67
EDHE 5070A	Quantitative Methods	0.33
EDHE 5080A	Qualitative Methods	0.67

EDHE 5210A	Leadership, Governance, and Strategy	1
EDHE 5260A	Leading Change in Higher Education I	0.5
Cohort Electives:		
EDHE 5060	Strategic Management Research I	1
EDHE 6160	Advanced Topics in Higher Education Management III	0.33
		Course Units 4.50
Spring		
Required Courses:		
EDHE 5070B	Quantitative Methods	0
EDHE 5080B	Qualitative Methods	0
EDHE 5120	Proseminar III	1
EDHE 5140	Quantitative Methods II	0.67
EDHE 5150	Qualitative Methods II	0.33
EDHE 5160A	Higher Education Finance II	.5
EDHE 5210B	Leadership, Governance, and Strategy	0
EDHE 5260B	Leading Change in Higher Education I	.5
Cohort Electives:		
EDHE 5130	Strategic Management Research II	1
EDHE 5170A	Equity And Diversity	1
EDHE 5190A	University And Community	.33
EDHE 5230A	Globalization	.33
EDHE 5250	Geography of Opportunity	0.33
		Course Units 5.99
Second Year		
Summer		
Required Courses:		
EDHE 6010	International Context ²	2
Cohort Electives:		
EDHE 5160B	Higher Education Finance II	0
EDHE 5170B	Equity And Diversity	0

EDHE 5190B	University And Community	0
EDHE 5230B	Globalization	0

Course 2.00
Units

Fall

Required Courses:

EDHE 5090	Public Policy ³	1
EDHE 6060	Dissertation Workshop I	1.0

Cohort Electives:

EDHE 5180	Managing Intercollegiate Athletics	0.33
EDHE 6020	Student and Campus Services	0.33
EDHE 6050	Enrollment Management	0.33
EDHE 6150	Leadership and Change for Higher Education's Future	0.33
EDHE 6160	Advanced Topics in Higher Education Management III	0.33

Course 3.65
Units

Spring

Additional Requirements

EDHE 6090	Capstone Seminar	0.33
EDHE 6130	Dissertation Workshop II	1.0

Cohort Electives:

EDHE 5100	Leadership and Change	0.33
EDHE 6100	Advancemer	0.33
EDHE 6110	Teaching and Learning	0.33
EDHE 6170	Community Colleges	0.33
EDHE 6190	Quality/ Risk Management	0.33

Course 2.98
Units

Total 21.12
Course
Units