The mission of the department is to create, evaluate, exchange, and apply knowledge about leadership, learning, and organizational performance to prepare scholars and scholar practitioners who cultivate equity and educational opportunity in a diverse and changing world.

Many varied educational constituencies need to be able to analyze and to inform debate on educational issues, and to lead and develop learning communities that meet the diverse learning needs of students and society. We believe effective educational leadership in any institution embodies three core values: inquiry, equity, and reflection.

Graduates and recipients of the department’s instruction are expected to reflect the knowledge, skills, and personal qualities that will be successful in promoting, producing, and improving learning and increasing public trust in educational institutions.

In keeping with this mission, the department has three research named options:

Higher Education (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/educational-leadership-policy-analysis/educational-leadership-policy-analysis-higher-education-phd/), focused on the effective administration of postsecondary institutions, including higher education leadership, student affairs administration, and athletic administration.

K–12 Leadership (http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/educational-leadership-policy-analysis/educational-leadership-policy-analysis-k-12-leadership-phd/), emphasizing the effective administration of primary and secondary institutions.

Educational Policy (http://elpa.education.wisc.edu/elpa/academics/educational-policy/), Analysis and Evaluation (https://elpa.education.wisc.edu/elpa/academics/educational-policy/), stressing effective formation and analysis of policies governing the administration of all educational institutions.

Students in each named option will focus their course work within the emphasis, although students are encouraged to learn about other areas as well.

The department has long held a commitment to diversity (https://elpa.education.wisc.edu/about/) and the strength it brings to a program. The department seeks to attract a very diverse student population. As one of its core values (https://elpa.education.wisc.edu/about/), the ELPA learning community celebrates wholeness, while, at the same time, values the richness of differences in life experiences, cultural backgrounds, ways of knowing, and perspectives of its individual members. The department seeks to renew itself continually by attracting faculty and students who contribute to this diversity as well as enhance the larger community.

Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement: 51 out of 75 credits must be completed in graduate-level coursework; courses with the Graduate Level Coursework attribute are identified and searchable in the university's Course Guide.

Overall Graduate GPA Requirement: 3.00 GPA required.

Other Grade Requirements: The Graduate School requires that students maintain a graduate grade-point average (GPA) of 3.00 (on a 4.00 scale) for all graduate courses (excluding research) to receive a degree. Grades of Incomplete are considered to be unsatisfactory if they are not removed during the next enrolled semester.

Assessments and Examinations: Doctoral students are required to take a comprehensive preliminary/oral examination after they have cleared their record of all Incomplete and Progress grades (other than research and thesis). Deposit of the doctoral dissertation in the Graduate School is required.

Language Requirements: Contact the program for information on any language requirements.

Doctoral Minor/ Breadth Requirements: Doctoral students must complete a doctoral minor. Minor coursework is completed in areas that serve to enhance the major coursework.

REQUIRED COURSES
Select a Named Option (p. 2) for courses required.

NAMED OPTIONS
A named option is a formally documented sub-major within an academic major program. Named options appear on the transcript with degree conferral. Students pursuing the Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis must select one of the following named options:

- EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND POLICY ANALYSIS: EDUCATIONAL POLICY ANALYSIS & EVALUATION, PH.D. ([http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/educational-leadership-policy-analysis/educational-policy-analysis-evaluation-phd/](http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/educational-leadership-policy-analysis/educational-policy-analysis-evaluation-phd/))
- EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND POLICY ANALYSIS: HIGHER EDUCATION, PH.D. ([http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/educational-leadership-policy-analysis/educational-leadership-policy-analysis-higher-education-phd/](http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/educational-leadership-policy-analysis/educational-leadership-policy-analysis-higher-education-phd/))
- EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND POLICY ANALYSIS: K-12 LEADERSHIP, PH.D. ([http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/educational-leadership-policy-analysis/educational-leadership-policy-analysis-k-12-leadership-phd/](http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/educational-leadership-policy-analysis/educational-leadership-policy-analysis-k-12-leadership-phd/))

POLICIES
Students should refer to one of the named options for policy information:

- Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis: Higher Education, Ph.D. ([http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/educational-leadership-policy-analysis/educational-leadership-policy-analysis-higher-education-phd/](http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/educational-leadership-policy-analysis/educational-leadership-policy-analysis-higher-education-phd/))
- Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis: K-12 Leadership, Ph.D. ([http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/educational-leadership-policy-analysis/educational-leadership-policy-analysis-k-12-leadership-phd/](http://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/educational-leadership-policy-analysis/educational-leadership-policy-analysis-k-12-leadership-phd/))
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES
Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Articulates research problems, potentials, and limits with respect to theory, knowledge, or practice within the field of study.
2. Formulates ideas, concepts, designs, and/or techniques beyond the current boundaries of knowledge within the field of study.
3. Creates research or scholarship that makes a substantive contribution.
4. Demonstrates breadth within their learning experiences.
5. Advances contributions to society in the field of study or field of practice.
6. Communicates complex ideas in a clear and understandable manner.
7. Fosters ethical and professional conduct.

PEOPLE

Faculty: Professor Jerlando Jackson (chair); Professors Conrad, Diamond, Halverson, Kelley, Mead, Miller, Underwood, Wang, Welton, Winkle-Wagner; Associate Professor Hillman; Assistant Professors Burt, Goff, McQuillan; Clinical Professors Crim, Sramek, Salzman