



William & Mary  
School of Education

# PH.D. – CURRICULUM & LEARNING DESIGN

Become a leader in learning design, implementation, and evaluation.

Do you want to help prepare schools and students to better meet the needs of the 21st century? The Ph.D. in Educational Policy, Planning, & Leadership with a concentration in Curriculum & Learning Design prepares educational leaders and researchers with specialized, contextualized knowledge of educational design that sits at the nexus of curriculum, teaching, learning, assessment, and educational technologies. Gain the knowledge and skills to successfully meet the challenges that face K-12 education today and in the future.

## FAST FACTS

**Designed for:** Teachers and other educational professionals seeking leadership and teaching roles in academic and professional settings

**Prerequisite:** Master's degree in education or related field

**Coursework:** 69 credit hours minimum. Most courses are offered in the evening to accommodate working professionals. Part-time and full-time options available.

**Entry term:** Fall

**Fieldwork:** Fieldwork is integrated into coursework and the 9-credit dissertation.

## TAILORED EXPERIENCES

Throughout the program, real-world experiences allow students to study at the intersection of theory and practice.

**Cognate:** In consultation with their advisors, students select and design a 9-credit cognate area to broaden and deepen their knowledge base and specialize their studies. Cognates include educational technology, curriculum leadership, K-12 leadership, or another area of the student's choosing.

**Dissertation:** Ph.D. students develop their own line of research with the help of a faculty advisor, culminating in a dissertation experience supervised by a committee of three or more faculty members chosen by the student.

## COURSE TOPICS INCLUDE:

### CORE LEADERSHIP COMPONENT

- Educational policy development and analysis
- Educational planning
- Educational leadership
- Cross-disciplinary perspectives in education

### RESEARCH COMPONENT (5 courses total)

- Quantitative and qualitative research methods
- Advanced research course

### CONCENTRATION

- Designing and developing curriculum
- Engaging students in learning
- Designing for learning
- Assessing learning
- Learning in context
- Leveraging technology for learning
- Evaluating curriculum and learning design

### COGNATE

Each student designs a 9-credit cognate in an area of their choosing in consultation with an advisor.

## LEARN MORE

**Questions about the Curriculum & Learning Design program? Contact the program director:**

Chris Gareis, Professor  
crgare@wm.edu | 757-221-2319

**Questions about applying for admission? Contact an admissions representative:**

graded@wm.edu | 757-221-2319



## William & Mary School of Education

### EDUCATIONAL POLICY, PLANNING & LEADERSHIP

As the world quickly changes, education must evolve to ensure that today's students are prepared to meet the world of tomorrow. To do that, we need educational leaders with the knowledge, skills and tools to effectively lead that change.

The Department of Educational Policy, Planning & Leadership is preparing the educational leaders who will guide, influence, and shape institutions at all levels of education. We offer on-campus programs in K-12 and higher education administration, as well as an Executive Ed.D. for working professionals who wish to study at the intersection of theory and practice.

In addition to a solid foundation in educational theory, ideas, and inquiry, students are challenged to ask the tough questions in education and lead transformative innovation in schools and communities.

With a focus on equity and excellence, our programs in educational leadership will prepare you to be an agent of change and a bold leader in education.

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#### EDUCATIONAL POLICY, PLANNING & LEADERSHIP DEGREE PROGRAMS

**Curriculum and Learning Design** (Ph.D.)

**Higher Education Administration** (M.Ed. and Ph.D.)

**K-12 Leadership** (M.Ed. and Ph.D.)

**Executive Ed.D.** with concentrations in gifted education, higher education administration, K-12 administration, and school psychology

#### APPLY NOW

Applications are due by **January 15**.

Find full details about applying online at [education.wm.edu/admissions](http://education.wm.edu/admissions)

#### WHY W&M?

Looking to pursue a graduate degree in education? Here are a few reasons to consider W&M:

##### **A welcoming and supportive community**

With just over 650 students, the School of Education is big enough to offer a diverse range of programs, people, and experiences, but small enough to feel like family. You'll make close connections with your fellow students and your professors — relationships that will stay with you for life and help you forge your own career path.

##### **A focus on leadership in education**

Our programs produce leaders — people with the passion, skills, and tenacity to effect change in education. Our alumni achieve early recognition, becoming school leaders and innovators.

##### **A campus in the heart of historic Williamsburg**

Study at a campus that offers more than 300 years of history and countless beloved traditions.

##### **Professors who are leaders in the field**

Our faculty are recognized and respected around the world for instruction and research. They're passionate about their own research as well as the success of their students — they are, after all, teachers first and foremost.

##### **Research and field experiences that will change your life**

You won't be stuck in a lecture hall and you won't have to wait until after graduation to begin making a difference in the lives of students and communities. Opportunities abound to pursue meaningful, fulfilling experiences that allow students to both learn and contribute.

##### **Programs for students at every career stage**

Our graduate programs are designed to meet the needs of a diverse student population that includes full-time and part-time students, people re-entering the paid work force after raising a family, and recent recipients of bachelor's or master's degrees preparing for advanced positions in the field of education.