



William & Mary  
School of Education

# Ph.D. – HIGHER EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION

Hone your leadership skills in higher education.

Take your career to the next level with William & Mary's Ph.D. in Educational Policy, Planning & Leadership with a concentration in Higher Education Administration. This terminal degree prepares students for positions of leadership and administration within a wide range of institutions of higher education. Learn to advance scholarship and leadership through research and contribute to the body of knowledge in the field. Our committed and experienced faculty will guide you every step of the way.

## FAST FACTS

**Designed for:** Higher education professionals interested in research and advanced leadership positions

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

**Coursework:** 69 credit hours. Most coursework is offered in the evening hours to accommodate working professionals

**Entry term:** Fall

**Culminating Experiences:** Fieldwork is integrated into coursework; Research seminar; 6-credit dissertation

## FIELD/RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

Ph.D. students in higher education are integral members of the higher education program, providing research and teaching support as a part of their program.

**Assistantships:** Graduate assistantships are the primary source of financial aid offered to students, and also provide valuable experience working within a higher education setting. Positions are available in offices and departments at W&M, as well as at neighboring institutions.

**Research:** In addition to extensive coursework in educational research, Ph.D. students develop their own line of research with the help of a faculty advisor. A research seminar is followed by a dissertation experience supervised by a committee made up of three faculty members.

## COURSE TOPICS INCLUDE:

### CORE SEQUENCE

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

### RESEARCH SEQUENCE

- Principals of educational research
- Statistics in education
- Qualitative research design and methods
- Applied field research project

### CONCENTRATION AREA

- History of higher education
- Developmental themes and social contexts of college students
- Organization and governance

### CULMINATING EXPERIENCES

- Research seminar
- Dissertation developed with faculty advisor

## LEARN MORE

Questions about the Higher Education program?  
Contact the program director:

Stephanie Blackmon  
sjblackmon@wm.edu  
757-221-2419

Questions about applying for admission? Contact an admissions representative:  
graded@wm.edu | 757-221-2317



# 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, international school leadership and K-12 administration

### 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.

#### **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.