

# Graduate Catalog Language

## PhD and Other Doctoral Degree Requirements

### **Minimum Course Requirements**

Course requirements for doctoral degrees vary from field to field and from student to student. In all fields, the Ph.D. degree requires at least 90 credits beyond the bachelor's degree **or a minimum of 60 credits beyond an accredited and awarded master's degree formally documented via the Master's Degree Acknowledgement** (process outlined below). At least 45 credits of any doctoral degree must be completed at the University of Florida, and in all cases the student must complete the qualifying examination at the University of Florida.

### **Master's Degree Acknowledgement (MDA)**

The MDA is a formalized process to acknowledge the content, level, relevancy, and contribution of a student's prior earned master's degree earned at a non-UF institution or in another field of study within UF to the specific student's doctoral program of study at the University of Florida. Academic unit program faculty must complete a holistic review of the individual's official records and transcripts to specifically evaluate the previously awarded master's degree. Such a review must consider the following elements: age of the degree, curricular level, grades, and grading schemes. Please note that international degrees may have timelines and curriculums that vary from UF standards.

The degree must have been determined by the Office of Admissions to be an accredited master's degree or equivalent to an accredited master's degree for international degrees. This determination by the Office of Admissions is documented in the student's record and marked as final, official, and complete with official transcript documents viewable in the student's record.

The MDA must be submitted prior to the qualifying examination and will be documented in the student's Student Information System record and is subject to review by the college and approval by the Graduate School. This decision is final and cannot be reversed at a later date.

### **Transfer of Credit policy for doctoral degrees**

Any courses beyond a master's degree taken at another university to be requested to be applied to the UF doctoral degree must be taken at an institution offering the doctoral degree and must be approved for graduate credit by the Graduate School of the University of Florida. All courses to be transferred must be graduate-level, letter-graded with a grade of B or better and must be demonstrated to relate directly to the degree being sought. The maximum allowance for transfer is 15 credits.

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## Doctor of Education Graduate Catalog page

"The Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree offers advanced professional training and academic preparation for the highest levels of educational practice. Programs are available in the School of Teaching and Learning, the School of Special Education, School Psychology, and Early Childhood Studies, and the School of Human Development and Organizational Studies in Education.

A minimum of 90 credits beyond the bachelor's degree *or a minimum of 60 credits beyond an accredited and awarded master's degree formally documented via the Master's Degree Acknowledgement* (refer to process under Doctoral degree requirements). is required. Course requirements vary with the academic unit and with the student's plan for research and/or professional pursuit. With the approval of the supervisory committee, the student may choose one or more minor fields of study. The Ed.D. requires a qualifying examination and a dissertation.

See the Ph.D. and general doctoral requirements section of this catalog for the standards governing all doctoral offerings, such as further information regarding transfer of credit, MDA, graduate minors, leaves of absence, supervisory committee structure, language requirements, campus residence requirements, qualifying and final examinations guidelines, admission to candidacy, the doctoral dissertation, and graduate degree certification. Statements apply to both the Ph.D. and Ed.D. degrees, unless stated otherwise."