



The Ed.D in Leadership

Our Doctor of Education in Leadership degree is designed to provide students with the skills needed to manage, maintain and influence organizations, and to succeed in positions of leadership. Designed for those interested in critically examining leadership in education, our program provides learning experiences that allow students to research real-world problems of education and leadership. Emphasis is placed on problem-solving and translational research, as well as team instruction and team learning.

Our Mission for Excellence, Innovation and Community Impact

As members of a university in an urban area, we have a responsibility to serve the communities around us. This is especially true here at VCU, where so many underserved and disadvantaged are within our reach. Every day, our city, its schools and its students face unique challenges. But where there are obstacles, there are opportunities:

A CHANCE FOR CHANGE.
A CHANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE...

The Context In Which We Work

40%

Economically-disadvantaged students now make up 40 percent of Virginia's student population.

34%

Thirty-four percent of children in Virginia currently live in **low-income** families.

17%

Nearly seventeen percent of children in Virginia face **food insecurity**.

12%

Students currently receiving **special education services** now represent twelve percent of the student population in Virginia.

10%

English language learners now represent ten percent of the student population in Virginia.

3.3%

One in every 30 children in the United States have **experienced homelessness**.

The Coursework

First Year**Summer**

Effective Learning Networks
Principles for Professional Writing I

Fall

Understanding Self as Leader: Theory & Data Analysis
Understanding Self as Leader: Practice Applications
Leadership Presence

Spring

Frameworks for Decision Making: Legal Perspectives
Frameworks for Decision Making: Ethical Perspectives

Second Year**Summer**

Equity and Leadership
Planning for Sustainable Change

Fall

Evidence Informed Perspectives on Practice
Principles for Professional Writing II

Spring

Evidence Informed Perspectives on Practice II
Communicating Research Findings

Third Year**Summer**

Planning for Sustainable Change II
Capstone Development

Fall

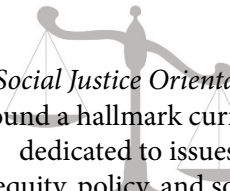
Capstone Plan Implementation

Spring

Capstone Completion

Why choose Educational Leadership at VCU?

The VCU School of Education combines innovative teaching with real-world learning experiences, drawing on the resources of our culturally rich and diverse urban environment. Our research and development focuses on critical education issues, contributing to our fields of study. Graduates leave fully prepared for 21st century careers as leaders in schools, universities, and other educational settings.



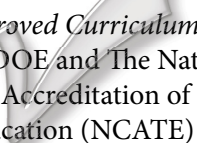
Social Justice Orientations
ground a hallmark curriculum
dedicated to issues of
equity, policy, and society



Flexible Program Experiences
allow for degree completion
in three years



Internationally Recognized Faculty
support and empower students
as leaders of educational reform
and policy change



Approved Curriculum
by the VDOE and The National
Council for Accreditation of Teacher
Education (NCATE)

The Capstone Experience - Transcending the Dissertation

The Ed.D. program culminates in a capstone in which teams of participants (3-5 participants per team) collaborate to conduct a study for organizations that have an educational component. The Ed.D. program empowers students to serve clients (universities, schools, government agencies, etc.) in various ways. Candidates for the Ed.D. degree collect and analyze data relative to high priority topics. An extensive dossier is created which contains traditional components of the dissertation as well as specific recommendations relative to leadership practice. Candidates formally present and defend the dossier to their Capstone committee, along with the client.

Impressions from the Field

"We have been impressed because candidates are receiving practical leadership experience focused on real world education challenges in economics, legal and political dynamics, human relations, ethics, and systems thinking. The evidence of success of the program can be seen in the outstanding leadership for our administrators who have graduated from the program."

- Marcus J. Newsome, Superintendent of Petersburg

Contact Information

If you are interested in learning more about an Ed.D. in Leadership, please visit our website at <http://go.vcu.edu/edleadership> or contact Suzanne Furman at srfurman@vcu.edu