

April 2023

# Doctor of Philosophy

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# Curriculum & Instruction

**KANSAS STATE**  
UNIVERSITY.

College of Education

# Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction

Kansas State University  
College of Education

*Preparing Educators to be Knowledgeable, Ethical, Caring Decision Makers  
for a Diverse and Changing World*

## MISSION STATEMENT

The College of Education is dedicated to preparing educators to be knowledgeable, ethical, caring decision makers for a diverse and changing world through excellence in the:

- delivery of exemplary instruction to students at the undergraduate and graduate levels;
- production, interpretation, and dissemination of sound and useful research and scholarship;
- leadership, collaboration, and service within the profession; and
- promotion, understanding, and celebration of diversity.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction is designed for advanced students who seek a focus on educational research and scholarship in local, national, or international settings. Through their research specialization, graduates contribute their expertise as faculty in careers in higher education, positions in research organizations, or other settings that require educational research.

The Curriculum and Instruction Ph.D. program is directed by a minimum of four members of the university graduate faculty, including a major professor with substantial expertise in the area of emphasis, two other faculty members with strengths in the area of emphasis, and one faculty member outside the student's specialization.

Each student's program of study is individualized with the approval of the major professor and the supervisory committee to optimize the student's interests, expertise, and professional goals. The program is offered on campus and online.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission to graduate study is granted by the Dean of the Graduate School upon the recommendation of the faculty in the graduate program. Applicants seeking admission to this doctoral degree program must submit the information noted below. Before starting the online application, gather all information and documents for all of the following admission requirements so that they can be entered into the application. *All materials must be received before review will begin.*

### A. A Completed Online Graduate School Application

Go to the Graduate School home page <http://www.k-state.edu/grad/> and click on "Apply Now." Follow the prompts for completing the process.

### *Application Deadlines*

The Graduate School application and all additional documentation must be received by the following deadline dates for admission in a particular semester. Domestic applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, however, the deadlines indicated will expedite consideration.

Domestic Students

Fall Semester

March 1

Spring Semester

October 1

	Summer Semester	February 1
International Students	Fall Semester	January 1
	Spring Semester	August 1
	Summer Semester	December 1

**B. Graduate School Application Fee**

*Domestic Students*—A \$65 application fee is required for all domestic students; *your application will not be processed without this fee.* The fee can be paid by credit card when completing the online application.

*International Students*—A \$75 application fee is required; *your application will not be processed without this fee.* The fee can be paid by credit card when completing the online application.

**C. Transcripts**

You must upload to the online application a scanned PDF copy of the transcript(s) from every college or university where you received your bachelor's degree(s) and completed any post baccalaureate course work or degrees. Unofficial transcripts are acceptable. Kansas State Graduates also must upload transcripts.

If you are admitted, the Graduate School will contact you to submit an official transcript for GPA and degree conferral verification from the institution(s) where you received your degree(s) and completed any post-baccalaureate credits.

Students whose transcripts are not in English must furnish a translation by an appropriate authority. Failure to list any colleges or universities attended may result in dismissal from the university.

**D. Statement of Goals and Professional Experience**

You must upload into the online application a 1-2 page statement that includes the following information:

- Career and professional goals and aspirations, and how being accepted to the program will benefit the goals and aspirations
- Your intended *area of emphasis* in the program
- Any research interests
- A description of your work experience with education or a related field (e.g., past and present employment)
- Future professional plans (e.g., Upon completion of the degree, do you plan to stay in your current position? If not, what type of position would you like to seek?)
- Do you plan to complete classes as a part-time or full-time student? Which semester would you begin?
- If you have a request for a certain advisor, indicate that preference in the statement.

**E. Letters of Recommendation**

*Three letters* of recommendation are needed from college or university educators and/or colleagues or supervisors who are qualified to address your professional skills and your potential for success in the graduate program. Enter the names and email addresses of the recommenders into the appropriate area in the online application.

**F. Resume**

You must upload into the online application a professional resume that includes previous academic degrees, past and present employment, other professional activities and roles, and other pertinent information.

**G. Writing Sample**

You must upload into the online application a writing sample that is original and independently written in English. A writing sample may be a research or practice paper written for a previous graduate course, a published article, or other writing for an academic audience (no more than 20 pages).

**H. Interview**

An interview with faculty members in the area of emphasis *may* be requested before an admission decision is made.

**I. English Language Proficiency**

To demonstrate competence in the English language, an official report of scores not more than 18 months old (see the Graduate School web site for dates) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), International English Language Testing System - academic exam (IELTS) or Pearson Test of English (PTE) must be sent to Kansas State University for all applicants whose primary language is not English. Enter your scores in the online application and upload the report of your scores.

Learn more about English proficiency requirements at:

<http://www.k-state.edu/grad/admissions/application-process/international/>

**INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS**

International applicants must meet the same academic standards for admission as those required of domestic students. When applying for admission, documentation of **English language proficiency** must be provided with your uploaded application materials. Detailed information about these issues is provided at the following website:

<http://www.k-state.edu/grad/admissions/application-process/international/>

**THE REVIEW PROCESS**

These are the steps in the application and review process:

1. The applicant completes the online graduate application. This includes paying the application fee and uploading all additional documentation that is required.
2. Once the online application has been completed and all needed additional documentation has been provided, the graduate program to which the student is applying will review the application and make an admission recommendation to the Graduate School.
3. The Graduate School reviews the application and the recommendation from the department. The Graduate School then sends an official decision letter to the applicant.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Faculty Contact in the Program.** For more information, contact:

Dr. Kay Ann Taylor, Associate Professor  
Director, C&I Graduate Programs  
[ktaylor@ksu.edu](mailto:ktaylor@ksu.edu)

**Special (Nondegree) Status.** In some cases, a student may wish to take a course(s) prior to being admitted in a degree program. In these cases, a person must be admitted as a nondegree student (sometimes referred to as special students). No more than nine credit hours earned as a special student may be applied toward an advanced degree. However, *successful completion of any hours taken as a nondegree seeking student does not guarantee admission into the program.* Nondegree students are *not* eligible for financial assistance. A faculty advisor is *not* assigned to nondegree students. See in the Graduate Handbook: <https://www.k-state.edu/grad/student-success/graduate-handbook/chapter1.html#Admission%20Categories>

**Financial Aid.** Questions about financial assistance should be directed to the Office of Student Financial Assistance, 104 Fairchild Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506, 785-532-6420, [finaid@k-state.edu](mailto:finaid@k-state.edu). For information regarding financial aid, you may go to [www.k-state.edu/sfa](http://www.k-state.edu/sfa).

**Graduate Assistantships.** A limited number of graduate assistantships are available in the College of Education. Go to <https://coe.k-state.edu/grad/assistantships.html> for detailed information and application procedures. It is helpful to talk with the appropriate department chair as early as possible to learn about assistantships available in the department.

**Graduate Handbook.** Once admitted, students should become familiar with the Graduate Handbook at <http://www.k-state.edu/grad/graduate-handbook/>. This handbook includes policies and procedures about advising, the program of study, enrollment, transfer credits, the final oral/written exam, required approval forms, and other aspects of the graduate program.

**Advisor and Supervisory Committee.** Once admitted to the program by the Graduate School, an advisor is assigned. The advisor assists the student in selecting the courses to be taken in the doctoral degree. The Program of Study with the list of courses is submitted to the Graduate School upon completion of nine hours (part-time students) or during the second semester (full-time students). The student's program is directed by a minimum of four members of the graduate faculty, including a major professor with substantial expertise in the area of emphasis, two other faculty members with strengths in the area of emphasis, and one faculty member outside the Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

**Individualized Program.** Each student's program of study is individualized with the approval of the major professor and the supervisory committee to optimize the student's interests, expertise, and professional goals.

**Additional Information about the Program.** The College of Education website for this program includes more information about:

- A checklist of student responsibilities
- Student learning outcomes
- Professional dispositions

That information can be found at <https://coe.ksu.edu/academics/graduate-degrees/curriculum-instruction-doctorate.html>

## Program Requirements for the Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction

90 credit hours

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Curriculum and Instruction requires a minimum of 90 post-baccalaureate, graduate credit hours. With the approval of the supervisory committee, up to 30 graduate hours earned as part of the Master's degree may be used to satisfy the degree requirements.

### A. Area of Emphasis (54 hours)

*Theory Course (3 hours)*

Possible courses include:

EDCI 907 Curriculum Theory (This course is offered in the fall of odd years.)

Or a theory course in the content field (e.g., EDCI 818 Theoretical Models of Reading)

Or a theory course approved by the advisor

*Courses with the EDCI prefix (12 hours)*

A minimum of 12 credit hours of the post-master's credits on the Ph.D. Program of Study must designate the EDCI prefix at the 800 or 900 course level. Research credits (EDCI 999) and internship credits (EDCI 991) may not be applied to the 12-credit hour minimum.

*Courses in the major and minor area (42 hours)*

### B. Foundations of Education (3 hours)

Possible courses include:

EDCI 812 History of Education

EDCI 813 Comparative Philosophies of Education

### C. Research Courses (15 hours)

*Programs of Study must include quantitative and qualitative methodologies.*

Possible Research Courses Include:

EDCI 912 - Historical Research Methods in Education (Offered alternate even years in the Fall) **Credits: 3**

EDCEP 817 - Statistical Methods in Education **Credits: 3**

EDCEP 819 - Survey Research **Credits: 3**

EDCEP 917 - Experimental Design in Educational Research **Credits: 3**

EDLEA 838 - Qualitative Research in Education **Credits: 3**

EDLEA 938 - Advanced Data Analysis in Qualitative Methods **Credits: 3**

EDLEA 948 - Data Representation and Writing in Qualitative Research **Credits: 3**

*Note:* EDCEP 816 Research Methods or its equivalent is considered a *prerequisite* for the 15 hours of research in the PhD program. Also, EDCI 760 Action Research in Education cannot be included in the 15-hour research course requirement.

**D. Doctoral Research (18 hours minimum; no more than 30 hours)**

EDCI 999 Doctoral Research

**Preliminary examination**

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Satisfactory completion of all segments of a monitored, written examination of at least 12 hours over all areas of the program of study.

**Dissertation research (18 credit hours; no more than 30 hours)**

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Completion of a dissertation which examines a topic congruent with the program of study using a systematic methodology consistent with accepted research paradigms; the dissertation must be successfully defended in a public, oral defense.

- EDCI 999 - Research in Curriculum and Instruction **Credits:** (1-18)

Graduate Catalog Description URL: [https://catalog.k-state.edu/preview\\_program.php?catoid=45&poid=15028&returnto=8158](https://catalog.k-state.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=45&poid=15028&returnto=8158)

## Doctoral Areas of Emphasis and Faculty in Each Area

Nine doctoral areas of emphasis are available. The list includes faculty members who can serve as advisors for doctoral students and serve as members of doctoral supervisory committees. Faculty members who can serve as advisors for doctoral students are marked with an asterisk (\*).

- Career and Technical Education (Agriculture, Business, Family and Consumer Sciences)
- Curriculum Studies
- Educational Technology
- Language (ESL)/Diversity/Multicultural/Social Justice Education
- Literacy Education (Reading/Language Arts)
- Mathematics Education
- Science/Environmental Education
- Social Science Education
- Teacher Education (General)

### Graduate Faculty

### Email

### Research and Academic Interests

#### **Career and Technical Education (Agriculture, Business, Family and Consumer Sciences)**

Brandie Disberger*	<i>bdis@ksu.edu</i>	Agriculture education
Gaea Hock*	<i>ghock@ksu.edu</i>	Agriculture education
Jonathan Ulmer*	<i>julmer@ksu.edu</i>	Agriculture education, improving STEM education in agricultural classrooms, survey methodology, cognitive discourse

#### **Curriculum Studies**

J. Spencer Clark*	<i>jspencerclark@ksu.edu</i>	Curriculum, teacher education, social studies education
Angela Kraemer-Holland*	<i>akraemer@ksu.edu</i>	Neoliberalism and globalization; teacher education and socialization; metropolitan (urban) education; policy as discourse
Ambry Rios*	<i>ambyrrios@ksu.edu</i>	Curriculum studies, literacy education, teacher preparation, multicultural education
Kay Ann Taylor*	<i>ktaylor@ksu.edu</i>	Historical, philosophical, and comparative studies; multicultural education; critical race theory, postcolonial theory, social justice

#### **Educational Technology**

Mark Ellner	<i>mrellner@ksu.edu</i>	Physical Activity in Academic Learning Environments, Educational Technology, Physical Education and Health
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## Graduate Faculty

## Email

## Research and Academic Interests

Deepak Subramony*	<i>deepak7@ksu.edu</i>	Technology integration into teaching and learning, equitable access to educational technology, social/cultural impact of educational technology, social/cultural foundations of education, systemic change, case study, ethnographic research methods
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## **Language (ESL)/Diversity/Multicultural/Social Justice Education**

J. Spencer Clark*	<i>jspencerclark@ksu.edu</i>	Curriculum, teacher education, social studies education
Pedro Silva Espinoza	<i>pedro1@ksu.edu</i>	ESL, multicultural education, diversity, and teacher preparation
Socorro Herrera*	<i>sococo@ksu.edu</i>	ESL studies, diversity
Melissa Holmes	<i>melissa@ksu.edu</i>	ESL
Shabina Kavimandan*	<i>shabina@ksu.edu</i>	Language (ESL)/Diversity/Multicultural/Social Justice, literacy education, teacher education
Angela Kraemer-Holland*	<i>akraemer@ksu.edu</i>	Neoliberalism and globalization; teacher education and socialization; metropolitan (urban) education; policy as discourse
Tonnie Martinez	<i>tonnie@ksu.edu</i>	ESL, language arts
Leah McKeeman	<i>leahmac@ksu.edu</i>	Content area literacy education, new literacies, world language education, second language acquisition
Kevin Murry*	<i>xmas@ksu.edu</i>	ESL studies, diversity education
Della Perez	<i>dperez@ksu.edu</i>	ESL studies
Ambyr Rios*	<i>ambyrrios@ksu.edu</i>	Curriculum studies, literacy education, teacher preparation, multicultural education
Kay Ann Taylor*	<i>ktaylor@ksu.edu</i>	Historical, philosophical, and comparative studies; multicultural education; critical race theory, postcolonial theory, social justice

## Graduate Faculty

Eileen Wertzberger\*

## Email

*ejm7777@ksu.edu*

## Research and Academic Interests

Literacy education,  
language/diversity/multicultural  
education, teacher education

## Literacy Education (Reading/Language Arts)

Lori Goodson

*lagoodson@ksu.edu*

Todd Goodson\*

*tgoodson@ksu.edu*

Composition, literature, and language  
study in secondary schools

Socorro Herrera\*

*sococo@ksu.edu*

ESL studies, diversity

Kayln Hoppe

*khoppe@ksu.edu*

K-12 literacy education, children's &  
young adult literature, teacher  
preparation, social justice education

Shabina Kavimandan\*

*shabina@ksu.edu*

Language  
(ESL)/Diversity/Multicultural/Social  
Justice, literacy education, teacher  
education

Lotta Larson\*

*lottalarson@ksu.edu*

Literacy

Suzanne Porath\*

*sporath@ksu.edu*

K-12 literacy, teacher learning, reflective  
practice, social media as professional  
development, action research

Tonnie Martinez

*tonnie@ksu.edu*

ESL, language arts

Leah McKeeman

*leahmac@ksu.edu*

Content area literacy education, new  
literacies, world language education, and  
second language acquisition

Ambyr Rios\*

*ambyrrios@ksu.edu*

Curriculum studies, literacy education,  
teacher preparation, multicultural  
education

Vicki Sherbert\*

*sherbev@ksu.edu*

Language arts education

Eileen Wertzberger\*

*ejm7777@ksu.edu*

Literacy education,  
language/diversity/multicultural  
education, teacher education

## Mathematics Education

David Allen\*

*dallen@ksu.edu*

Mathematics education, professional  
development

## Graduate Faculty

## Email

## Research and Academic Interests

Andrew Bennett*	<i>bennett@ksu.edu</i>	Mathematics education
Michael Lawson*	<i>mlawson1@ksu.edu</i>	Mathematics education (K-12), teacher education, teacher practice
Sherri Martinie*	<i>martinie@ksu.edu</i>	Mathematics education (K-12), teacher preparation, professional development, curriculum implementation
Tuan Nguyen*	<i>nguyetd1@ksu.edu</i>	Mathematics education (K-12), professional development, teacher education, and teacher attrition
Beth Pesnell	<i>bpesnell@ksu.edu</i>	Science education, math education, elementary education, STEM education, professional development, teacher education, curriculum

## **Science/Environmental Education**

Beth Pesnell	<i>bpesnell@ksu.edu</i>	Science education, math education, elementary education, STEM education, professional development, teacher education, curriculum
Kimberly Staples*	<i>kstaples@ksu.edu</i>	Science education, biology, education, teacher education

## **Social Studies Education**

Brad Burenheide*	<i>bburen@ksu.edu</i>	Social studies, history education
Tom Vontz*	<i>tvontz@ksu.edu</i>	Social studies education, civic education

## **Teacher Education (General)**

David Allen*	<i>dallen@ksu.edu</i>	Mathematics education, professional development
Fred Burrack*	<i>burrack@ksu.edu</i>	Music education
J. Spencer Clark*	<i>jspencerclark@ksu.edu</i>	Curriculum, teacher education, social studies education
Mark Ellner	<i>mrellner@ksu.edu</i>	Physical activity in academic learning environments, educational technology, physical education and health
Pedro Silva Espinoza	<i>pedro1@ksu.edu</i>	ESL, multicultural education, diversity, and teacher preparation

<u>Graduate Faculty</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Research and Academic Interests</u>
Lori Goodson	<i>lagoodson@ksu.edu</i>	
Shabina Kavimandan*	<i>shabina@ksu.edu</i>	Language (ESL)/Diversity/Multicultural/Social Justice, literacy education, teacher education
Angela Kraemer-Holland*	<i>akraemer@ksu.edu</i>	Neoliberalism and globalization; teacher education and socialization; metropolitan (urban) education; policy as discourse
Michael Lawson*	<i>mlawson1@ksu.edu</i>	Mathematics education (K-12), teacher education, teacher practice
Tonnie Martinez	<i>tonnie@ksu.edu</i>	ESL, language arts
Sherri Martinie*	<i>martinie@ksu.edu</i>	Mathematics education (K-12), teacher preparation, professional development, curriculum implementation
Leah McKeeman	<i>leahmac@ksu.edu</i>	Content area literacy education, new literacies, world language education, and second language acquisition
Debbie Mercer*	<i>dmercerc@ksu.edu</i>	Teacher preparation, education policy, accreditation
Tuan Nguyen*	<i>nguyetd1@ksu.edu</i>	Mathematics education (K-12), professional development, teacher education, and teacher attrition
Phillip Payne*	<i>ppayne@ksu.edu</i>	Music education, assessment, curriculum development, teacher identity, teacher preparation, music technology, ePortfolios, personality and timbre preference
Beth Pesnell	<i>bpesnell@ksu.edu</i>	Science education, math education, elementary education, STEM education, professional development, teacher education, curriculum
Suzanne Porath*	<i>sporath@ksu.edu</i>	K-12 literacy, teacher learning, reflective practice, social media as professional development, action research

## Graduate Faculty

Ambyr Rios\*

## Email

*ambyrrios@ksu.edu*

## Research and Academic Interests

Curriculum studies, literacy education, teacher preparation, multicultural education

Vicki Sherbert\*

*sherbev@ksu.edu*

Language arts education

BeEtta Stoney

*bstoney@ksu.edu*

Multicultural education, diversity

Kay Ann Taylor\*

*ktaylor@ksu.edu*

Historical, philosophical, and comparative studies; multicultural education; critical race theory, postcolonial theory, social justice

Jonathan Ulmer\*

*julmer@ksu.edu*

Agriculture education, improving STEM education in agricultural classrooms, survey methodology, cognitive discourse  
Social studies education, civic education

Tom Vontz\*

*tvontz@ksu.edu*

Eileen Wertzberger\*

*ejm7777@ksu.edu*

Literacy education,  
language/diversity/multicultural education, teacher education