



## **PH.D. IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

- I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** The Ph.D. in Higher Education at Rutgers University offers focused study of the complexities of colleges and universities, their missions, contexts, challenges, and successes. This interdisciplinary degree program brings together distinguished higher education scholars representing the Graduate School of Education (GSE), the Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy (BSPPP), the School of Arts and Sciences (SAS), the School of Communication and Information (SCI), the School of Environmental and Biological Sciences (SEBS), and the School of Management and Labor Relations (SMLR). Affiliated faculty members are higher education experts in the fields of, for example: education, law, communication, organizational studies, public policy, and economics.

The Ph.D. in Higher Education program prepares higher education researchers who will take their scholarship, knowledge, and research skills into a range of higher education settings such as universities and colleges, state or federal governing and coordinating boards, independent research and policy organizations, and foundations.

**II. APPLICATION DEADLINES:**

Fall admission - December 15 deadline

- III. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:** To be considered for admission to the program, applicants must provide the following before the deadline:

1. Personal statement
2. An academic writing sample
3. Three letters of recommendation (at least 2 from full-time faculty members)
4. Official undergraduate transcripts (and official graduate transcripts, if applicable) showing degrees awarded

Preferred qualifications:

- Earned master's degree in higher education or related area
- Strong undergraduate and graduate GPA and GRE scores
- 3 to 5 years full-time experience in higher education setting(s)
- Higher education research and/or assessment experience

**IV. HOW TO APPLY:** Applications are submitted online at the Graduate Admissions website:

<http://gradstudy.rutgers.edu/>

1. Click on "Create Account or Login" and follow the instructions given.
2. Under "Start an application today!", click **Apply Now**  
Application Selection
3. For "Level of Application", select **Graduate**
4. For "Applicant Type", select **Degree**
5. Continue filling out the application, following the on-screen instructions.  
Program of Study
6. Under "Program Information", make sure **Degree** is selected for "Applicant Type"
7. For "Degree Type", select **Doctoral's (e.g. PhD, EdD, DNP)**
8. For "Area of Study", select **Education**
9. For "Location/Instructional Method", select **New Brunswick**
10. For "Program Selection", select **Higher Education (PHD) New Brunswick**
11. Complete the rest of the application by providing the requested information.
12. Enter payment information for the non-refundable application fee.
13. Submit your application.

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:				
	Course Number	Course Name	Credits	
			Grad	Total
Core Courses (18 credits required)	16:507:510	Higher Education Structures and Governance	3	18
	16:507:515	Diversity and Multiculturalism in Higher Education	3	
	16:507:520	Higher Education Law	3	
	16:507:525	Economics and Finance of Higher Education	3	
	16:507:530	Higher Education Leadership - Theory, Research, Practice	3	
	16:507:535	History of Higher Education in the U.S.	3	
Additional Graduate Course Work (15 credits)	Additional 15 credits of graduate course work from any participating school selected in consultation with faculty advisor.			15
Research Core (15 credits)	15 credits minimum selected in consultation with faculty advisor.			15
Independent Dissertation Research (24 credits)	16:507:701	Research in Higher Education		24
	16:507:702			
			Total Credits	72

**VI. QUALIFYING EXAM:** The qualifying examination assesses students' knowledge of the field of higher education including capacity to conduct original research in a specific area of inquiry. Each qualifying examination requires a faculty committee of three members, who provide feedback and indicate an overall level of achievement (pass, non-pass with revisions, or non-pass) both in writing and at an evaluation meeting with the student.

**VII. DISSERTATION:** Each candidate for the doctorate pursues, under faculty direction, an original investigation of a problem or problems in a field of concentration and presents the results of the investigation in a dissertation. This doctoral work is completed in a minimum of 24 credits of research course work. Before embarking on this original investigation, students must have their dissertation committee approve a proposal that describes research questions and the methods used to address those questions.