Ph.D. in Education Program of Study

CHERYL ANNE BURRIS **FALL 2024 / *FUTURE**

COURSE CREDITS: 84 credits

Core Courses:	18 Credits, including 3 general culture + 15 research methods
Specialization Courses:	57 Credits, including 9 credits from M.Ed.
Dissertation Courses:	9 Credits, including 3 dissertation proposal + 6 dissertation research

Course Work

1. General Culture: 3 credits

EDUC	800	3	Ways of Knowing

2. Research Methods: 15 credits

EDRS	810	3	Problems and Methods in Educational Research
EDRS	811	3	Quantitative Methods in Educational Research
EDRS	812	3	Qualitative Methods in Educational Research
EDRS	821	3	Advanced Applications of Quantitative Methods
*EDRS	824	3	Mixed Methods Research: Integrating Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches

3. Specialization: 57 credits

Primary Specialization (18): Learning Technologies Design Research

EDIT	801	3	Nature and Process of Design
EDIT	802	3	Cognition and Technology: A Multidisciplinary Approach
EDIT	803	3	Design-Based Research
EDIT	895	3	Emerging Trends in Learning Technology
EDIT	891-1	3	Design Research: AI Approaches to Learning Gaps
EDIT	891-2	3	Design Research: Planning Supports for Neurodiverse (ND) Learners in Digital Learning Environments (DLE)

Secondary Specialization (30): Educational Psychology and AI-Assisted Neuro-Informed Instructional Design

EDEP	820	3	Teaching, Learning, and Cognition
*EDEP	821	3	Sociocultural Processes in Learning, Instruction, and Motivation
EDEP	822	3	Advanced Learning, Motivation, and Self-Regulation
EDEP	823	3	Research Project: Designing Your Study
EDEP	824	3	Research Project: Analyzing Your Data and Disseminating Findings
EDEP	825	3	Motivation in Learning & Teaching
EDUC	890	6	Doctoral Internship in Education
*AIT	716	3	Advanced Human Computer Interaction
AIT	790	3	Advanced Special Topics in Applied Information Technology: Artificial Intelligence in Education

Applicable Coursework from Master's Degree (9): Learning, Design, & Technology

LDT	527	3	Designing Constructivist Learning Environments
LDT	581	3	Theoretical Foundations of Learning, Design, and Technology
LDT	832	3	E-Learning Design

4. Dissertation Proposal and Research: 9 credits

*EDUC 998	3	Doctoral Dissertation Proposal
*EDUC 999	6	Doctoral Dissertation Research

PROPOSED DATE FOR COMPREHENSIVE PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT: October 2027

PROGRAM RATIONALE:

My proposed program of study directly supports my PhD research goals by organizing coursework and specializations to build strong expertise in instructional design, learning technology, and educational psychology. This plan supports my goal of developing a scaffolded instructional design framework informed by cognitive, behavioral, and neuroeconomics, and prepares me for research, design, and leadership in learner-centered cognitive accessibility within AI-assisted digital learning environments. This program of study supports this goal with the following objectives:

- aligns with my research interests at the intersection of instructional design, artificial intelligence, and educational psychology
- centers neurodivergent learners by selecting courses that support research aimed at closing latency in behavior gaps between task awareness and task engagement for higher education learners
- offers a comprehensive set of essential methods courses to ensure I can conduct rigorous research, implement accessible interventions, and develop effective engagement protocols
- sets the groundwork for doctoral study to generate practical impacts, especially for ADHD and Autistic learners

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Student Signature **Date**

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Chair **Date**
Doctoral Advising Committee

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PhD Director **Date**
PhD in Education Program

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Member **Date**
Doctoral Advising Committee
(secondary specialization)

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Member **Date**
Doctoral Advising Committee

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Member **Date**
Doctoral Advising Committee