**Ph.D. in Education Program of Study**

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

**COURSE CREDITS: 84 credits**

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| 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**

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| EDUC | 800 | 3 | Ways of Knowing |

**2. Research Methods: 15 credits**

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| 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**

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| 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**

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|---|---|---|---|
| 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**

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| 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**

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

**PROPOSED DATE FOR COMPREHENSIVE PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT:** November 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**