EDUCATION - RESEARCH AND EVALUATION METHODOLOGY - DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD)

The PhD program in Research & Evaluation Methodology (REM) is a place for intellectually curious and motivated students who want to learn about deep research methodology with an eye toward influencing education policy and practice. The most common methodological specializations are:

- psychometrics and educational assessment
- applied statistics

The program is a full-time commitment, and all admitted students are supported with five years of funding, including tuition remission and a stipend for living expenses. Students participate in graduate research assistantships each semester and can expect to work with faculty on research projects as part of CADRE.

The Center for Assessment, Design, Research and Evaluation (CADRE)

All REM students can expect to be involved in CADRE research. The mission of CADRE is to produce generalizable knowledge that improves the ability to assess student learning and to evaluate programs and methods that may have an effect on this learning. CADRE projects represent a collaboration with the ongoing activities in the School of Education, the University, and the broader national and international community of scholars and stakeholders involved in educational assessment and evaluation. Visit the center’s CADRE Projects and Resources (http://www.colorado.edu/cadre/cadre-projects-and-resources) website for examples.

Career Opportunities

Opportunities for students with a PhD from REM include:

- University teaching and research
- Research, evaluation and testing in state departments of education and large school districts
- Research and policy analysis for think tanks like the RAND Corporation, SRI International, and federally funded regional research and development laboratories
- Measurement or statistical analysis for assessment and testing organizations such as the Educational Testing Service
- Consultation for government and education agencies

Examples of our REM graduates’ careers over the past 10 years:

- National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment (Senior Associate)
- Educational Testing Service (Research Scientist)
- Center for Assessment, Design, Research and Evaluation (Associate Director)
- SRI International (Principal Research Scientist)
- Stanford University (Assistant Professor)

Requirements

Course Requirements

Students must successfully complete 56 credit hours of approved coursework, with 23 credit hours of core courses (see below) taken as a doctoral cohort during the first two years of study. Students must maintain at least a B (3.0) average with no grade lower than a B- while enrolled.

Students must complete 30 hours of dissertation credit. Students must be registered for a minimum of 5 dissertation hours per semester after successful completion of their comprehensive exam.

For more information, visit the department’s Degree Requirements (http://www.colorado.edu/education/graduate-programs/research-evaluation-methodology/phd-rem/degree-requirements) webpage.

Required Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 8230</td>
<td>Quantitative Methods I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 8250</td>
<td>Qualitative Methods I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 8210</td>
<td>Perspectives on Classroom Teaching and Learning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 8240</td>
<td>Quantitative Methods II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 8260</td>
<td>Qualitative Methods II</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 8220</td>
<td>Introduction to Educational Research and Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 6926</td>
<td>Readings in Research and Evaluation Methodology (First year: Fall Semester)</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 6926</td>
<td>Readings in Research and Evaluation Methodology (First year: Spring Semester)</td>
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<td>REM Courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 7396</td>
<td>Categorical Data Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 7456</td>
<td>Multilevel Modeling</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 8710</td>
<td>Measurement in Survey Research</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 8720</td>
<td>Advanced Topics in Measurement</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 7326</td>
<td>Quasi-Experimental Design in Causal Inference in Social Sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 7386</td>
<td>Educational Evaluation</td>
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Total Credit Hours 41

Electives

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<td>EDUC 6210</td>
<td>Education Policy and the Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 7055</td>
<td>Philosophy of Education</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 8045</td>
<td>Philosophical Issues in Educational Research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 8055</td>
<td>Theoretical Issues in Education Policy</td>
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Choose at least 15 additional credit hours of courses from within the School of Education, to be chosen in consultation with your advisor and in the context of your interests and developing expertise. Eligible courses include:

- EDUC 6210 Education Policy and the Law
- EDUC 7055 Philosophy of Education
- EDUC 8045 Philosophical Issues in Educational Research
- EDUC 8055 Theoretical Issues in Education Policy
EDUC 8740  Advances in the Assessment of Student Learning
EDUC 8615  Language Issues in Education Research
EDUC 8730  Advanced Qualitative Data Analysis
ECON 7818  Mathematical Statistics for Economists
ECON 7828  Econometrics
MATH 4510  Introduction to Probability Theory
MATH 5520  Introduction to Mathematical Statistics
SOCY 6111  Data 2: Data Analysis
SOCY 7111  Data III–Advanced Data Analysis

Total Credit Hours 15

Transfer Credit
Transfer credit is defined as any credit earned at another accredited institution, credits earned on another campus of the CU system, or credits earned as a nondegree student within the CU system. Students who have transfer credits must complete the transfer of credit paperwork.

The maximum amount of work that may be transferred from another accredited institution to CU Boulder is 12 credit hours, and is accepted only after approval of the faculty advisor and Director of Advising and Student Success. All courses accepted for transfer must be graduate-level courses. A course in which a grade of B- or lower was received will not be accepted for transfer.

Transfer coursework must have been completed in the five years prior to acceptance to the program. Credit may not be transferred until the student has completed 6 credits of graduate-level coursework as a degree-seeking student on the CU Boulder campus with a 3.0 GPA.

Language Requirement
Please see the Graduate Student Handbook for more information on this requirement.

Dissertation Credit
All doctoral students must take a minimum of 30 dissertation hours (EDUC 8994 PhD Doctoral Dissertation).

Students are allowed to take up to 10 hours prior to passing their comprehensive exam. Once students pass their comprehensive exam, they must be registered for a minimum of 5 dissertation hours every semester. Students may be registered for 3 hours if they are "off-campus" status, meaning they are not on appointment and are not taking any coursework hours.

Students must be registered for a minimum of 5 dissertation hours during the semester they defend.

Scholarly Project
All doctoral students are required to complete, at minimum, one scholarly project prior to taking the comprehensive exam. Presentations at professional meetings, published articles, reviews, etc., are typical ways to satisfy the requirement.

Comprehensive Exam
The comprehensive exam should be taken after students have completed the majority of their coursework but prior to completion of the dissertation. The committee comprises three graduate faculty members from the School of Education, and must be approved by the Associate Dean for Students and Director of Advising and Student Success prior to the exam. Students should consult their advisors concerning the format of the comprehensive examination. The candidacy application must also be submitted at the beginning of the semester in which the exam is taken.

Committee members must receive approval from the School of Education prior to the exam. Please check the deadlines sheet for dates.

Proposal Committee
Once students have successfully passed their comprehensive exam, they should consult their faculty advisor in regards to their dissertation proposal committee. The dissertation proposal committee must include at least five faculty; three of whom must be School of Education graduate faculty and one of whom must be CU Boulder campus resident graduate faculty but outside the School of Education. These members must also be approved by the graduate school prior to the proposal.

Committee members must receive approval from the School of Education prior to the exam. Please check the deadlines sheet for dates.

Dissertation Committee and Final Defense
The dissertation committee must include at least five faculty; three of whom must be School of Education graduate faculty and one of whom must be CU Boulder campus resident graduate faculty but outside the School of Education. These members must also be approved by the graduate school prior to the proposal.

After successful completion of dissertation defense, the completed dissertation must be uploaded to the graduate school according to graduate school procedures and deadlines. Please see the graduate school website for deadlines details.

Committee members must receive approval from the School of Education prior to the exam. Please check the deadlines sheet for dates.

Time Limit
The doctoral degree must be completed within six years.