Ph.D. Program in
Higher Education Administration
Bowling Green State University

2023-2024 Program and Admission Information

Review of applications begins Wednesday, December 1, 2022
Virtual interviews: To be determined

Statement of Mission and Purpose

This nationally recognized Ph.D. program at Bowling Green State University emphasizes informed, ethical decision making in the administration of higher education. It is intended to launch its graduates into new areas and/or higher levels of leadership in colleges and universities. Students take core coursework in higher education foundations, administration, governance and organization, law, and the college student. In collaboration with their advisors, students can fashion their electives to choose an area of interest.

The sequence of four research courses culminates in a dissertation of original contribution to the knowledge of higher education. Based on a full-time cohort model, the program is designed to be completed in three to four years. Full-time students are employed in a variety of graduate assistantships that both support and supplement the program, and that include a stipend and tuition scholarship. Part-time enrollment is also available. A global understanding requirement broadens and diversifies the student’s conception of higher education and how it is influenced by culture and custom.

The program values:
▪ a commitment to educational leadership grounded in expressed principles, ideals, ethics, and values
▪ a zeal for involvement and advocacy in the higher education profession
▪ a holistic perspective of higher education that reflects an understanding of the interests and concerns of the internal campus environment (its faculty, staff, students, and administrators), external constituents (the public and governmental agents), and the global community
▪ expertise in a discipline-based academic specialty in addition to a command of a core of professional studies in higher education and appreciation for both quantitative and qualitative tools of inquiry, emphasizing an understanding of their application to an array of problems, challenges, issues, and practices in higher education.

Academic Program

The Ph.D. program in higher education administration requires the successful completion of a minimum of 64 credit hours of coursework beyond the master’s degree and a global understanding course or experience.

Students who have already completed courses equivalent to those required by the HIED program may, with the permission of their program advisors and the chair of the Department of Higher Education and Student Affairs, substitute those courses for the required courses and complete an equivalent number of credit hours in elective courses.

The minimum 64 credit hours of coursework are allocated as follows (Courses are 3 credit hours unless otherwise noted):

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Core Courses

HIED 7105: Foundations of Higher Education
This course emphasizes the social foundations of higher education (e.g., history, curriculum, and philosophy).

HIED 7110: Governance and Organization of Higher Education
In this seminar emphasis is placed on developing an understanding of the missions, organizational structures, and governance of institutions of higher education.

HIED 7120: Administration of Higher Education
This seminar involves an exploration of the functional areas/skills that contribute to the effective administration of institutions of higher education. Emphasis is placed on planning, leadership, personnel administration, and facility management in the higher education environment. (Prerequisite: HIED 7110 or consent of instructor)

HIED 7210: Law in Higher Education
This course emphasizes the legal environments of postsecondary institutions, legal processes and analyses, and problems incurred in the administration of colleges and universities.

HIED 7310: Postsecondary Student in the U.S.
This course offers a comprehensive overview of the American college student from the perspectives of demographic, psychological, and cultural differences; patterns of growth and change during the college years; and the expected educational outcomes of college attendance.

Diversity and Social Justice Courses
Six credit hours of coursework must be completed in courses focused on diversity and social justice. Some BGSU courses are only offered in certain semesters. Students are encouraged to begin working with their advisors to develop a plan as soon as possible. At most three credit hours earned in practicum/internship or independent study/directed readings courses may be applied to this requirement. The remaining three credit hours must be associated with formal classroom instruction. Credit hours earned in other courses required by the HIED program may not be counted toward this requirement.

Research Methodology Courses

EDFI 7510: Advanced Quantitative Methods in Education I
Theoretical and philosophical constructs in research designs and projects; formulation and critique of research proposals; statistical inference and application of selected techniques (basic research designs, chi-square, F- statistics, measures of relationships, covariance analyses, and other topics). (Taken concurrently with EDFI 6410: Statistics in Education or exemption from advisor)

EDFI 7520: Advanced Quantitative Methods in Education II
Continuation of EDFI 7510; second semester of a two-semester course sequence. (Prerequisite: EDFI 7510)

HIED 7510: Qualitative Research Problems and Methods in Higher Education
An examination of alternative paradigms and methods of research in higher education with a comprehensive overview of extant models, including naturalistic inquiry, case study, and ethnography, and their application to problems and practices in higher education.

HIED 7520: Issues and Methods of Applied Inquiry in Higher Education
This course focuses on research methods used by higher education administrators and emphasizes the application of data or information to the processes of decision-making and policy formulation. (Prerequisites: EDFI 7510, EDFI 7520, HIED 7510)

Dissertation Seminar and Research

HIED 7000: Graduate Seminar in Higher Education: Introduction Seminar
This one credit course, during the first semester of coursework, is designed to help students successfully transition to doctoral studies in higher education at BGSU.

HIED 7800: Graduate Seminar in Higher Education: Dissertation Seminar
This two-semester course, during students’ last year of coursework, helps students prepare for the dissertation process. Students select research topics/methods, select committee chairs/members, and acquaint themselves to the dissertation process

HIED 7990: Dissertation Research
Students must maintain continuous registration in this course during their dissertation phase. At least 16 credit hours is required.
Global Understanding Requirement
This program requirement is intended to assist students in developing a holistic perspective of higher education through knowledge of its internal and external constituents within the global community. To complete this requirement students must demonstrate an understanding of a non-U.S. culture (international students must select a culture other than their own) and the effects of that culture on its system of postsecondary education. Students must work with their program advisors, preferably during their first semester in the HIED program, to develop their plans for completing their global awareness projects. Project proposals must be approved by the student’s advisor and the HESA chair. Completed projects must be summarized in oral presentations that integrate art, music, film, or other cultural expressions and that demonstrate an understanding of how the cultures examined affect institutions of higher education. Projects must be completed, presented, and approved prior to preliminary examinations.

Students may fulfill the global understanding requirement by taking a course for credit, integrating their projects into existing courses, completing independent studies, studying abroad, completing internships in other cultures, or using alternative means (creativity and ingenuity are encouraged) to gather information and then present their findings to an audience composed of students, faculty, and friends of the HIED program. The following are the most common ways in which students have pursued their global understanding of higher education:

1. Completion of EDFI 7010: Comparative Higher Education – Analysis of worldwide higher education systems.
2. Completion of internships or study abroad programs at universities in other countries. If students choose this option, they must immerse themselves in the cultures selected for a minimum of one month.
3. Independent study of a particular culture and the influences of that culture on higher education. Perspectives taken may be historical, sociological, religious, economic, etc.

Higher Education and Student Affairs Electives
The following courses have been offered by the HESA program as electives. A maximum of three credit hours for independent study/directed readings or practicum/internship may be used for electives. Students may select electives from all graduate courses at the university.

- CSP 6010: Foundations and Functions of College Student Personnel
- CSP 6020: Theory and Assessment of College Student Development
- CSP 6030: Theory and Assessment of Educational Environments
- CSP 6035: Multicultural Competence in Student Affairs
- CSP 6040: Educational Outcomes of American Colleges and Universities
- EDFI 7010: Comparative Higher Education
- HIED 7100: Issues in Higher Education
- HIED 7130: Organization & Administration of the Two-Year College
- HIED 7200: Curriculum in Higher Education
- HIED 7300: Leadership in Higher Education
- HIED 7330: Women in Higher Education
- HIED 7340: College and University Teaching
- HIED 7800: Equity and Justice in Higher Education
- HIED 7840: Advanced Readings in Higher Education (1-3 credit hours)
- HIED 7890: Higher Education Administration Internship/Field Experience (1-3 credit hours)
- HIED 7900: Directed Research in Higher Education (1-4 credit hours)
- HIED 7970: Advanced Practicum in Higher Education (1-3 credit hours)
Program Faculty and Research Interests

Dr. Patrick Pauken, Professor, (Interim Chair) – education law (K-12, higher education, special education); academic freedom; students’ rights; intellectual property; moral leadership; and professional ethics

Dr. Kenneth Borland, Professor – leadership (executive and strategic; philosophy, planning, management, change); decision support (systematic scientific inquiry, institutional research, and assessment)

Dr. Ellen M. Broido, Professor – students with disabilities; social justice allies; racial identity development; diversity education; LGBT issues in higher education; theory and methods of qualitative research.

Dr. Maureen E. Wilson, Professor/Associate Dean in College of Education & Human Development – college students and their development; professional practice in student affairs; college teaching; professional socialization

Dr. Hyeyoung Bang, Assistant Professor (primary academic appointment in the School of Educational Foundations, Leadership, and Policy) – Wisdom and ego identity, adolescents’ traumatic experiences, Q methodology, teachers’ emotionality and its impact on students' academic success, International students’ social adaptability

Dr. Bruce Collet, Associate Professor (primary academic appointment in the School of Educational Foundations, Leadership, and Policy) – immigrant and refugee education; religion/religious education/religious migrants & secular schooling, migration, and schooling in liberal democratic states; liberal multiculturalism; security and secularization studies.

Dr. Christopher J. Frey, Associate Professor (primary academic appointment in the School of Educational Foundations, Leadership, and Policy) – comparative histories of Indigenous schooling; colonial schooling in imperial Japan - Ainu education; minority, immigrant and colonial education; cross-cultural teaching; and geography of education

Dr. Amanda Paule-Koba, Professor (primary academic appointment in School of Human Movement, Sport and Leisure Studies)– issues in intercollegiate athletics, academic clustering and gender equity

For more information on the faculty, please visit http://www.bgsu.edu/education-and-human-development/department-of-higher-education-and-student-affairs/faculty.html

Application and Admissions Process

Admission to the BGSU HIED program is selective and restricted to the number of doctoral students to whom the program faculty believe they can provide quality instruction, advising, and dissertation direction. To be considered for admission, candidates must complete an application file with the following components:

1. Graduate Admissions Application [Apply online at https://gradapply.bgsu.edu/apply/]
2. Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended (graduate and undergraduate)
3. Current résumé or curriculum vitae detailing academic and professional background
4. At least 3 years full – time work experience in higher education or closely related field (preferably post-master’s) is preferred.
5. Statements of Intent in two parts (A personal statement and a contemporary issues essay)
   a) Personal Statement – A 3–5-page (double-spaced) statement that addresses
      • What professional and/or personal experiences and interests have led you to consider a Ph.D. in higher education?
      • What are your goals in the profession of higher education? In what kinds of positions and institutions do you hope to work? Why?
      • How will BGSU’s Higher Education Administration program facilitate your reaching your professional goals?
      • What are your current research interests?
      • What strengths and resources do you bring that will help you to be a successful doctoral student in this program?

   b) Contemporary Issue Essay - A 3–5-page typed essay on a contemporary issue in higher education. Please identify a single-issue creating challenges for students, administrators, faculty, or
institutions of higher education as a whole. Your focus should not be on a single college or university but on colleges/universities generally. Please address the prompt below

- Why is the issue you have identified a challenge?
- What are the consequences of the issue?
- What are some potential solutions?

We will be evaluating your essay on your understanding of higher education, ability to think critically and complexly, and to articulate your ideas clearly. Academic citations are welcome but not required. Feel free to update writing you may have generated in your master’s degree program or as a professional.

6. Three letters of recommendation with HIED program reference form attached. Be sure to sign each reference form indicating whether or not you waive your right to review the reference forms. At least one letter of recommendation must be from a faculty member and you are also encouraged to include a reference from a higher education or student affairs professional. Your application is not complete without 3 references so follow up with your references to be certain these are submitted by the deadline.

Admissions Process Sequence of Events
The HIED Admission Committee, comprised of faculty and current students, reviews completed applications to determine whether to invite the applicant for a personal interview. The purpose of the interview is for the faculty and applicant to determine whether a good “fit” (academically and professionally) between the program’s emphasis and the candidate’s personal and professional goals. If invited to campus, candidates also interview for graduate assistantships. The HESA chair makes a final recommendation on admission to the Graduate College.

Review of applications will begin December 1, 2022. Applications completed after that date will be considered on a space-available basis. On-campus interview dates will be determined.

Background Checks
As a policy of the Graduate College, graduate interns are required to authorize and pass a background investigation prior to the start of employment. Offers of employment are conditional until a background investigation has been successfully completed and all other pre-employment requirements are satisfied. The University reserves the right to determine and confirm suitability for employment and to end any employment already begun if the background check reveals disqualifying information.

Please note that a past criminal conviction identified during a background check does not automatically cancel the contract offer. Candidates will be given the opportunity to provide additional information, to explain the nature and circumstances of the conviction, and any evidence of rehabilitation. In determining suitability for employment, consideration will be given to factors that include: the specific duties of the internship position; the number of offenses and circumstances of each; date of conviction; and whether the conviction rose out of employment. If you have any concerns or would like to have a confidential discussion regarding your situation, please contact the Graduate College Office at BGSU (419) 372-2791 and request to speak to the dean or associate dean of the Graduate College.

Financial Aid
For information about financial aid beyond the assistantship and resources listed above, please visit the Graduate College Fees and Financial Aid web site.

If you have questions about the interview process or the status of your application, please contact the HIED intern Barbra M. Pansiri at pansirb@bgsu.edu; or Patrick Pauken, The Interim HESA Chair at paukenp@bgsu.edu.

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