



Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership Degree Completion Program

TRIDENT'S DOCTORATE

Designed for Practitioners • Applied Research Skills



**TRIDENT
UNIVERSITY**
INTERNATIONAL

A member of the American InterContinental University System

Welcome to Trident's Doctorate Program

Trident's Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership Degree Completion program (Ed.D. DCP) provides an opportunity to successfully complete a program of study that may have been interrupted for one reason or another. The Ed.D. program is targeted at practicing professionals, in both traditional and non-traditional settings, who are looking to lead complex learning organizations. It's a challenging path designed to shape individuals into innovators and thought leaders who have the know-how and desire to transform educational communities.

Heidi Linn Smith, Ed.D.

Doctoral Studies Director, Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership & Dean, College of Education

Content

Welcome	1
Why Trident - The Trident Difference	2
Program Overview	3 - 4
Milestones	5
Doctoral Resource Links	6



Why Trident?

1. Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (hlcommission.org)
2. 100% online 24-credit program with no in-person class requirements
3. Up to 28 transfer credits required, subject to Director approval (*Transfer credit is evaluated on an individual basis. Not all credits are eligible to transfer. See the University Catalog for transfer credit policies.*)
4. Affordable and Flexible
5. Faculty with a doctoral degree and extensive research, professional practice and teaching experience
6. Access to most required academic resources at no extra cost through our virtual library.
7. Embracing real-world learning with the EdActive™ Learning Approach
8. Culminates in a Doctoral Study that addresses a problem of practice

The Trident Difference

EdActive™ Learning Approach

- Creative learning
- Problem solving
- Experimental learning
- Designed to enhance ability to think, learn, and solve problems.

How EdActive™ learning works

1. Students are presented with a question or issue.
2. They do the research.
3. They apply their own experience.
4. They present their solution.
5. Students receive feedback and suggestions.
6. They apply the learning to their next task.

Flexibility

- Manage your own time to deliver on deadlines
- No daily micro-management
- Faculty is responsive to student needs
- Milestones keep you on track

Affordability

- Accelerated programs
- Low tuition, no extra cost for most course materials
- Scholarships and grants available for those who qualify



With flexible, 100% online classes you can attend at any time, the power to earn a degree is in your hands.



Trident is part of the AIU System, which is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (hlcommission.org), a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.



The 12-week sessions are available to doctoral students with four doctoral start dates.

Program Overview

The Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership Degree Completion Program is a practitioner-oriented program intended for students currently holding leadership positions or aspiring to obtain a leadership position in elementary, secondary, or post-secondary settings. Students learn the conceptual/theoretical, attitudinal, and operation skills to transform educational systems and graduates are prepared to lead change in a PK-12 education system or post-secondary education system. All candidates will develop the skill set necessary to operate as a scholar-practitioner with the completion of a doctoral study.

The Ed.D. Degree Completion Program is intended for students who have achieved advanced standing at a prior institution and wish to complete their program at Trident at AIU. Prospective students may describe themselves as ABD (all-but-dissertation) based on their progress at the prior institution. Students transfer a minimum of 28 doctoral level transfer credits and follow a program of study that focuses on the completion of the Doctoral Study.

Program Learning Outcomes

The Educational Leadership program is committed to developing reflective leaders and practitioner scholars to lead complex learning organizations. Program learning outcomes for students include:

- Determine educational organization values and build a vision and mission that supports the success of students and employees.

- Evaluate theories of leadership to support an organizational culture that results in the success of students, employees, and communities.
- Formulate communication strategies to develop effective working relationships with professional colleagues, policy makers, and the community.
- Select appropriate legal policy to lead equitable and ethical practices within educational organizations.
- Integrate educational research, technology, and information sources into leadership practices to support successful educational organizations.
- Solve problems of practice using quantitative, qualitative, or action research methods to develop meaningful solutions that improve the success of educational organizations.



Designing a Doctoral Study Courses

Students will complete a total of 24 semester credit hours or six courses; 12 semester credit hours of doctoral study preparation courses and 12 semester credit hours of doctoral study courses under the guidance of the chair.

EDD 608 - Designing a Doctoral Study: Identifying the Problem of Practice

EDD 609 - Designing a Doctoral Study: Literature Review

EDD 610 - Designing a Doctoral Study: Methodology and Data Collection

EDD 681 - Doctoral Study I

EDD 691 - Doctoral Study II

EDD 701 - Doctoral Study II

Doctoral Study and Committee

A doctoral study committee will be assembled when students begin their research. Each committee consists of three faculty members, one of whom serves as chair of the committee. One member of the committee may be external to Trident and a practitioner in the field with an earned doctorate. The chairperson and the committee members will be responsible for guiding the student during the research process.

IRB Application


Pursuant to Federal law and regulations, Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval is required for research involving human subjects. Accordingly, prior to conducting research involving human subjects, including the collecting and analyzing of data, the proposed study must be reviewed and approved by the Trident IRB.



Ed.D. Program Milestones

There are several milestones in the development of your doctoral study. Here is a brief overview of milestones. For complete details refer to the Ed.D. Program Handbook.

- 1 Complete Doctoral Study Preparation Coursework
- 2 Draft a Doctoral Study Proposal
- 3 Select a Doctoral Study Chair
- 4 Select Doctoral Study Committee Members
- 5 Obtain IRB Approval
- 6 Complete Data Collection and Data Analysis
- 7 Defend the Doctoral Study Project



“When you don’t understand something, they take the time to make sure you have what you need. They provide several examples. There are various manuals, resources online , YouTube videos through the portal too..”

- Dr. Laura Moore - Doctor of Education

Doctoral Resource Links

As a community-focused and student-oriented institution, we make every effort to make resources available that will promote student success and assistance. Be sure to view our wide range of student services to decide which will assist you in your academic endeavors.

Individual Doctoral Study Project Page

Provides a repository for documents related to IRB and doctoral study manuscript. Facilitates communication between the chair and student.

800 Dissertation Tasks Course

Provides a single place to submit, track, and gain approval for completed tasks.

Webinars

These innovative webinar series are designed to provide continuing education, skills-building techniques, and professional development.

[Culture of Research and Education \(C.O.R.E.\)](#) | [Career Center](#)

Student Gateway

The Student Gateway provides links to the most-used resources for prospective doctoral students.

[MyTLC Portal](#) | [Catalog](#) | [Ed.D. Handbook](#)

Doctoral Articles

- [Trident Health Sciences Professor Receives Teaching Excellence Award](#)
- [Trident Ph.D. in Education Alumnus Publishes Academic Papers](#)
- [Trident Doctor of Business Administration Professor Selected as SME for Conference in Dubai](#)
- [Trident’s DBA Program Adds Experienced Management Professional and Researcher](#)
- [Considering the 4 C’s: The Top 4 Reasons to Choose an Online Doctoral Program](#)
- [Advanced Degrees and Adult Life: How to Pursue a Doctoral Degree with a Career, with Kids, or During Deployment](#)
- [Accredited Online Doctoral Programs: Reputable and Feasible](#)
- [Ten Reasons Now is the Perfect Time to Earn Your Ed.D. or Ph.D. in Education Online](#)



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Trident Strong?
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