**LDL PhD Program Plan Worksheet**

**Program Plan**: *https://appserv7.admin.uillinois.edu/FormBuilderSurvey/Survey/uiuc\_college\_of\_education/ldl/program\_plan/*

**Optional Program Plan Advising**: *Schedule a session with Dr. Kara Francis regarding regular course selection or the exam-dissertation sequence*

**Degree Requirements**

*Regular Courses (48 credits)*

* 4 LDL Core Courses: EPOL 481 (formerly EPS 431), EPSY 408, EPOL 534 (formerly EPS 535), ERAM 557 (formerly EPOL 513 and 590 - Meaning Patterns)
* 4 Research Courses: EPOL 550, 3 Elective Research Courses
  + See <http://catalog.illinois.edu/courses-of-instruction/eram/> for a list of approved methods
  + While 557 is allowed as a methods course for other programs, it does not count for LDL
  + Submit this plan for approval, for completion of the Research Area Requirement.
* 2 Non-LDL Elective Courses
  + Non-LDL refers to any course that is **not** taught by Dr. Kalantzis or by Dr. Cope
* 2 Elective Courses from any program, preferably outside of LDL; additional methods courses are encouraged

*Early Research Project and Exam-Dissertation Courses (16 credits)*

You have some flexibility on how you earn the remainder of your 16 credits (for a total of 64 degree credits)

* Early Research Project (0 to 4 credits)
* 2 Exam-Dissertation Courses: EPOL 586 and/or EPOL 587
* 1 Preliminary Exam Course: EPOL 591
* 4 to 20 credits of EPOL 599
* 6\* Course Dissertation Sequence (\*the 3rd Dissertation course in the sequence, EPOL 588, fulfills the 3rd Research course requirement mentioned above for EdD students only)

**Finding When Courses are Offered**

* Search the **Course Explorer** found at courses.illinois.edu to see what is offered in an upcoming term.
* Refer to the[**LDL Course Annual Schedule**](https://ldlprogram.web.illinois.edu/overview/annual-schedule/) to see when **LDL** courses are being offered over the next year. (note that these are subject to change).
* *We do not know when other courses are offered until they are published in the course catalog*

**Planning Considerations**

* Focus on finding electives that interest you, as those are harder to fulfill.
* Be sure to register as quickly as possible for non-LDL courses to ensure there is space.
* If you plan to take a leave of absence during a given term or semester, please indicate that
* You can have no more than 12 hours of Independent Study credit
* Your Early Research Project should be completed after completing 16-24 credits.
* Your Early Research Project Committee will suggest research methods and elective courses

**Exam-Dissertation Sequence Considerations**

* The Exam-Dissertation courses are offered on a continuing basis. You can start any month, including prior to officially registering. Discuss with Dr. Francis and indicate your plan to begin the sequence on our Google Tracker. [*https://ldlprogram.web.illinois.edu/dissertation/progress-tracker-restricted/*](https://ldlprogram.web.illinois.edu/dissertation/progress-tracker-restricted/)
* Note that the dissertation sequence may take longer than the sample below depending on your topic, your availability, and your data collection strategy. Many students need a full semester for each step in the sequence rather than a term. Refer to the [Navigating the Exam-Dissertation Sequence](https://ldlprogram.web.illinois.edu/dissertation/courses/) page for specific milestones that may influence your timeline.
* The Exam-Dissertation Sequence (EDS) does not follow a normal term schedule. The registration is simply to allow you to earn credit for the work completed. Refer to the Milestones deadline for participating in the EDS: <https://ldlprogram.web.illinois.edu/dissertation/process/graduation-timelines/>
* If you are on financial aid and need to enroll in 6 credits per semester, please indicate that so that we can craft a plan that will work for you and our registration restrictions.

**Your Notes: Indicate Classes of Interest and Possible Terms based on when they are offered**

**Program Planning Worksheet**

**PhD Program Planning Worksheet**

*Reorder the courses and indicate actual years and terms to reflect the order in which you took the courses.*

| **Course** | **Term and Year** | **Code** | **Course Title** | **Requirement** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Offered Fall 1 | EPOL 481 | New Learning  <https://cgscholar.com/bookstore/web_works/new-learning?category_id=higher-education-modules> | LDL Course – 1 of 4 |
| 2 |  | EPOL 550 | Foundation of Educational Inquiry | Research Methods – 1 of 3 |
| 3 |  | TBD |  | Elective – 1 of 2  (LDL or Non-LDL) |
| 4 |  | TBD |  | Non-LDL Elective – 1 of 2 |
| N/A | Complete after your first year | Can be Independent Study or none | Early Research Project | ERP |
| 5 | Offered Spring 1 and Summer 1 | EPOL 534 | Assessment for Learning  <https://cgscholar.com/bookstore/works/assessment-for-learning?category_id=higher-education-modules> | LDL Course – 2 of 4 |
| 6 | Offered Fall 2 and Fall 2 | EPSY 408 | Learning and Human Development with Educational Technologies  <https://cgscholar.com/bookstore/works/learning-and-human-development-with-technologies?category_id=higher-education-modules> | LDL Course – 3 of 4 |
| 7 |  | Research Elective |  | Research Methods – 2 of 3 |
| 8 |  | TBD |  | Non-LDL Elective – 2 of 2 |
| 9 |  | TBD |  | Elective – 2 of 2  (LDL or Non-LDL) |
| 10 | Offered Spring 2 | ERAM 557 | Meaning Patterns  <https://cgscholar.com/bookstore/works/meaning-patterns?category_id=higher-education-modules&path=higher-education-modules%2F160> | LDL Course – 4 of 4 |
| 11 |  | Research Elective |  | Research Methods – 2 of 3 |
| 12 |  | Research Elective |  | Research Methods – 2 of 3 |

**Exam-Dissertation Sequence (16-20 credits total)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Credits** | **Start Term and Year** | **Course** | **Cousre Title** |
| 0 | Semester before EPOL 586 | N/A | Begin acclimating yourself to the Exam-Dissertation Sequence, including attending the group advising sessions, schedule an individual advising session, reviewing materials, etc. <https://ldlprogram.web.illinois.edu/dissertation/courses/prework/> |
| 4 |  | EPOL 586 | General Field Seminar Examination |
| 4 |  | EPOL 587 | Special Field Seminar and Examination |
|  |  | EPOL 588 | Research Methodology Seminar (only allowed for credit for EdD students) |
| 0 |  | No Registration | It is common for students to need more than 8 weeks to complete each step in the Exam-Dissertation Sequence |
| 4 |  | EPOL 591 | Preliminary Examination; do not register until approved to proceed |
| 0 |  | No Registration | Data Collection and Interim Analysis; Update existing manuscript to reflect actual implementation plan |
| 0 |  | No Registration  (Fill out LOA) | Once data collection and analysis are complete, draft your final dissertation |
| 0 |  | No Registration  (Fill out LOA) | Your full dissertation draft must be complete at least one week prior to the start of the term prior to the term you want to defend |
| 2 |  | EPOL 599 (1) | Revisions and Final Draft of Full Dissertation for Advisor Approval  Full approval is due 4 weeks before the desired final defense date |
| 2 | **Indicate Desired Graduation Term** | EPOL 599 (2) | Final Exam: Dissertation Defense  \*Do not register until you have been approved to proceed to examination; you must be registered during the term you defend |
| 0 |  | No Registration | Post Final Exam Dissertation Revisions, Advisor, Departmental, and Thesis Office Review, Final Deposit |