THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE is a dynamic Research 1 university, committed to the professional development of our graduate students as we prepare them to become the next generation of educational scholars.

UD’s PhD in Education program is grounded in interdisciplinary perspectives, high quality research, and rigorous methodological approaches, preparing students to address critical issues in education within one of four specialization areas: Learning Sciences, Literacy, Mathematics Education, or Sociocultural and Community-Based Approaches.

The College of Education and Human Development, comprised of 2 academic departments, a children’s campus, and 10+ centers for research, education, and service, offers a vibrant and productive community right on campus.

PhD in Education

Program Experiences
• Conduct research on ground-breaking projects with nationally-known, award-winning faculty
• Develop knowledge and skills through coursework in education research, advanced qualitative and quantitative methods, and specialization content areas
• Present independent research at conferences and prepare publications for peer-reviewed journals
• Learn in a climate of collaboration and camaraderie with small class sizes, thought-provoking symposia and supportive faculty mentors

Financial Support
Full-time students receive support for 4 years through assistantships and tuition scholarships. Students with assistantships receive 100% tuition scholarship and a 9-month stipend, plus health insurance. Merit-based supplemental funding is also available.

Career Opportunities
• Faculty or academic positions in research universities, departments of education, and school districts
• Leadership positions in state departments of education and school districts
• Policy positions in government and education

www.education.udel.edu/doctrinal/phd
Doctoral students in the interdisciplinary Sociocultural and Community-Based Approaches specialization, which draws from the social sciences, situated cognition, critical pedagogy, critical race theory, feminist theory and disabilities studies, examine sociocultural, community-based and equity issues in education.

Specialization Experiences

- Gain a rich understanding of the complex contextual, dialogic, and relational aspects of education and sociocultural issues affecting children, families, and communities.
- Develop equity literacy and learn how research related to race, ethnicity, gender, and disability can help create equitable models of education in diverse schools and communities.
- Conduct qualitative and mixed-methods research on current educational interventions.

Faculty

Our faculty hold grants from the National Science Foundation, the Institute of Education Sciences and private foundations.

Our faculty include Deborah Bieler, Laura Eisenman, Elizabeth Farley-Ripple, Robert Hampel, Erica Litke, Eugene Matusov, Janine de Novais, Yasser Payne, Rosalie Rolon-Dow, Elizabeth Soslau and Lynette Young Overby.

Contact Us

To learn more about how you can apply to UD’s PhD in Education: Sociocultural and Community-Based Approaches program, contact our specialization coordinator: Robert Hampel (hampel@udel.edu)

“My research interests include the role of culture and community in equitable education, race and diversity in education, and teaching as a means for social justice. Taking interdisciplinary classes has helped me to situate my intersecting interests within the field. UD has been a great place for me to study education and to develop my skills as a qualitative researcher. The program is challenging, but it is also a supportive and welcoming environment where faculty want to see you succeed.”

–Diane Codding, PhD student