

Education Policy and Leadership

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) | Department of Leadership, Policy, and Organizations (LPO)

The Ph.D. in Education Policy and Leadership is crafted for individuals aiming to build an academic career as researchers, professors, or policy analysts. Our program equips students with a theoretical foundation and methodological tools to conduct impactful research on today's most urgent educational challenges.



At the heart of the Ph.D. program in Education Policy and Leadership is the mentor-apprentice model that gives students the opportunity to work on research projects alongside a cadre of esteemed faculty. As a doctoral student, you will be matched with an LPO faculty member whose research interests align with your own, and you will design an individualized program of study that reflects your specific interests and background. The program offers two concentrations: K-12 and Higher Education Policy.

PH.D. PROGRAM CURRICULUM

Through our cohort-based model, students take most of their classes in the first two years together, allowing for a supportive, collaborative learning experience. All students take a three-semester quantitative methodological sequence, at least one qualitative methods course, a course in causal research design, and disciplinary courses in the history, politics, economics, and sociology of education. All students take a year-long practicum course in their first year that allows them to conduct quantitative research from the time they begin graduate school. In addition, students take seminar courses with department faculty in their areas of expertise and can take full advantage of the breadth of courses available throughout Peabody College and Vanderbilt University.

HOW TO APPLY

Visit apply.vanderbilt.edu. There is a \$95 application fee.

PRIORITY APPLICATION DEADLINE

December 1 for fall entrance

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vu.edu/pbdy-epi