Vanderbilt University requires students to take 72 hours of work to earn a PhD. These hours can be fulfilled through transfer of graduate credits, course work, independent studies, and dissertation work. The number of hours transferred and the number of hours counted toward dissertation work vary according to each student’s particular circumstances. Typically students who enter with a Masters degree with coursework relevant to their area of study will be able to complete coursework in three years. Students with less prior coursework typically will require additional time. Students in the Development, Learning, and Diversity strand are required to take six hours of required courses and additional electives to develop their specialized area of expertise.

### Development, Learning, and Diversity Ph.D. Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1 (18 hrs)</th>
<th>Fall Courses</th>
<th>Spring Courses</th>
<th>Expected Products</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intro. to Statistical Inference <em>&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt; <strong>&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</strong> Learning &amp; Instruction</em>&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt; Inquiry in Education*&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt; Research Group* (no credit)</td>
<td>Foundations in Learning and Development~ Research Group * (for credit) Diversity or Development</td>
<td>First Year Paper (presented as poster Fall of second year)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2 (18 hrs)</td>
<td>Research Methods #1* Diversity or Development~ Specialty Area~ Research Group * (no credit)</td>
<td>Research Methods #2 Teaching as a Social Practice* Research Group * (for credit)</td>
<td>Second year paper (presented Fall of third year) Conference Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3 (18 hrs)</td>
<td>Diversity or Development Specialty Area Elective</td>
<td>Specialty Area Specialty Area Elective</td>
<td>Major Area Paper (depending on coursework needs) Conference presentations, Article or chapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 4</td>
<td>Elective MAP</td>
<td>Elective Dissertation Proposal</td>
<td>Major Area Paper Conference Dissertation Proposal Conference presentations, Article or chapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dissertation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Required by the Teaching & Learning Department  
~ Required by DLD  
^ Vanderbilt Graduate Program Requirement

### Teaching and Learning requirements:

- **Core courses:** 24 hours
  - Introduction to Statistical Inference (PSY 309P)
  - Inquiry into Education (EDUC 3070)
  - Learning and Instruction (EDUC 3120)
  - Teaching as Social Practice (EDUC 3040)
  - Research Methods: Qualitative Research Methods course. Students will select at least one more methodology course in consultation with their advisor.

- **Research Groups:** 6 hours) Participation is required the first two years. In years one and two they are taken for 3 credits and in years three and four they may be taken for zero credits.

- **Research Papers:**
  - year one: project poster delivered to the department and other PhD students (Fall of year 2)
  - year two: paper presented to the department and other PhD students

- **Major Area Paper (MAP):** written and defended in year four (or three).
Development, Diversity and Learning requirements

In addition to completing all departmental requirements for Teaching and Learning, students in the DLD sequence also will complete the following requirements:

Required Courses: 9 hours

All DLD students will take, one course that deals with development (EDUC 3200, one that deals with diversity, and a third that deals with development or diversity. Choose courses from the list below.

Required
- EDUC 3200 Foundations of Development and Learning – Farran

Development (3-6 hour)
- EDUC 3900 Learning In and Out of School – Schauble or Hall
- EDUC 3900 Language, Education and Diversity - Dickinson
  (note: this course may fulfill either the development or diversity requirement)

Diversity (3-6 hour)
- EDUC 3080 Diversity and Equity in Education
- EDUC 3900 Language, Education and Diversity - Dickinson

Specialized Area of Expertise (21 hours)

In consultation with his or her advisor each student develops a program of studies that will enable him or her to acquire expertise that is consistent with his or her career objectives.

Students identify courses from a list of suggested electives that will vary from one year to the next. In addition, they may take other courses that are relevant to their area of interest.

After 12 hours of credit has been taken, students are required to create a Program of Studies (POS form online) with their advisor. Given the variation in course offerings, the POS may have be altered more than once. Every fall all students except those who have just been admitted submit their plan of studies and information regarding their progress toward meeting their goals. The Graduate Review committee examines these materials to determine whether the student is pursuing a course of study that will ensure development of needed expertise and to ensure that adequate progress is being made.

Research Presentation Competence

Students will work to develop competence presenting research results by engaging in varied activities related to presenting research findings. First year projects will be presented to the department and entering doctoral students in the format of posters. Second year papers will be presented to the department. In addition, students will develop and submit abstracts seeking the opportunity to present research at national conferences. A typical student should submit at least three abstracts. Students are also strongly encouraged to submit articles to peer reviewed journals.

Dissertation Hours (1-9) The number of hours reserved for the dissertation will depend on other factors including the number of hours in the student’s specialization and the number of credits transferred.