

Degree Requirements: Online Master's (M.S.) and Specialist (Ed.S.) Degree Program in Educational Leadership Without Florida Certification

Students complete 33 credit hours, including a comprehensive exam in their final semester of the program.

Required Core Courses:

- **EDA5508 Teacher Leadership Development (3)**
This course is based on the increasingly important role of a school leader in identifying and developing teacher leaders in K-12 schools. School leaders need to be able to work with teacher teams effectively as well as cultivate the talents of teachers as leaders in various aspects of school life. This course explores the dynamics of teacher leadership development in schools today and how school leaders can be prepared to cultivate this important resource.
- **EDA5507 Planning Effective Instruction (3)**
This course explores the components and relationships that make up effective classroom instruction. Working on the assumption that effective classroom instruction is a necessary foundation for student achievement, school leaders need to know how to coach and monitor teachers use of effective instructional practices.
- **EDA5423 Data Driven School Improvement (3)**
This course builds expertise in using data for a variety of school-improvement purposes, including instructional decision-making in grades K-12. Collaborative action-research skills are developed to solve school-based problems.
- **EDA5219 Resource Management for Educational Leaders (3)**
This course examines public education as an economic institution, emphasizing the relationship between the purposes of schooling and the human and fiscal- resource allocation role of the principal. The principal's role in selected strategies and techniques in critical thinking and problem solving as applied to school improvement are presented. Procedures involved in school funding are examined, as well as the role of the principal in implementing statutes, audits, procedures, and policies. Recruitment, selection, retention of school personnel, and collective bargaining are examined as they relate to state and federal law.
- **EDA5191 Leadership for Diversity (3)**
This course integrates FDOE requirements of ESOL Standards for School Administrators with a) an understanding of the Consent Decree, accountability and equity issues related to LEP students; b) an understanding of compliance with federal and state regulations; and c) an understanding of cultural proficiency in the school environment.
- **EDA5232 Legal Aspects of Public School Administration (3)**
This course is designed to enable students to identify and apply legal principles that place limits on authority, define individual and corporate liability and inform standards of educational practice in public school settings. It emphasizes knowledge, analysis, and application that explores a range of leadership competencies, including concept formation, organizational sensitivity, problem solving and decisiveness. The course includes readings offering an overview of key legal and ethical issues for school administrators and case scenarios designed for small group and individual analysis.

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- **EDA5503 The Principalship (3)**
This course provides a systemic approach to leadership and management roles, responsibilities, opportunities, and challenges of school principals.
- **EDA5504 Instructional Leadership (3)**
This course is designed to provide an understanding of the ways school leaders bring multiple resources such as teachers, parents, the community, programs, professional development, the schedule, and supervision together to focus on curriculum, instruction, and student achievement.
- **EDA5942 Practical Experiences in Educational Leadership (3)**
The course provides an opportunity to bridge leadership practice with the skills, knowledge, and dispositions to make a positive impact on improving schools and student achievement.

Electives (Master's Students select two electives from the following. Specialist students must take EDA 5231 and select one of the following for a second elective. Elective courses are offered during the summer semesters.

- **EDA5231 Application of Policy in Schools (3)** (Required elective for Specialist students)
This course explores the roots of the educational process, the role of different stakeholders in policy formation and implementation, and applications of these educational policies in schools for the purpose of improving teaching and learning.
- **EDF 5461 Introduction to Program Evaluation (3)**
This course is an overview of current evaluation theory and models; emphasis on role evaluation in needs assessment and planning phase of program development.
- **EDA 5069 Ethics in Educational Leadership (3)**
This course examines educational leaderships as an ethical endeavor; covers the assumptions, values, and beliefs that inform school practice and policies; discusses systemic constraints to educational leadership; and also covers social-justice concerns in education.
- **EDA 5192 Educational Leadership (3)**
This course covers basic leadership theories, motivation, group dynamics, planning, and change processes in educational settings. The course emphasizes knowledge, analysis, and applications that draw from multidisciplinary perspectives, including organizational analysis, psychology, anthropology, and sociology.

Program Completion Requirements

- Maintain a 3.0 GPA
- Completion of the required Field Experience within courses
- ESOL requirement
- Passing grade in the EDA 8966 (Master's) or EDA 8967 (Specialist) Comprehensive Exam