Doctor of Education

Rationale

The Doctor of Education is a professional doctorate consisting of a rigorous program of advanced coursework and research, designed specifically to meet the needs of the education industry and education professional groups. It is designed to enable participants to pursue higher degree research within the context of their role in the workplace and to receive academic support and recognition.

The Doctor of Education will provide experienced education professionals with the opportunity to make a significant contribution to knowledge and practice in their professional context and may formalise workplace-based research and development. Its interdisciplinary nature and opportunity for inter-professional research provides a framework for the integration of professional expertise and scholarly enquiry.

The course aims to develop the managerial competencies of candidates by equipping them with the ability to evaluate different conceptual approaches to education issues in the context of their own experience and workplace.

Candidates will acquire advanced specialist research training and provide evidence for independent thought and critical analysis, effective communication and expert knowledge of the discipline within a broader framework of knowledge in the international context.

Structure and Timelines

Intake Date

In most instances we expect Ed.D candidates to commence their course at the start of the calendar year (i.e. a suitable date in January). Exceptions to this may be considered in special circumstances.

Course Structure

Professional Doctorates at the University of Tasmania should be comprised of 70% thesis and 30% coursework components.

Thesis Components

The Ed.D research thesis remains 60,000 – 70,000 words. The Ed.D thesis must make an original and significant research based contribution to the field of education. This contribution can relate to practice and/or knowledge.

Coursework Components

A 30% coursework component equates to the equivalent of 7 x 12.5% units (87.5% of a full years load in total).
Compulsory units are XGR501, EPA960, EPA961 (25%) and EPA962. These units should normally be taken in this sequence. The first 3 should be taken prior to Confirmation of Candidature. EPA962 should be taken after data have been gathered.

To complete the coursework requirement 2 additional 12.5% units need to be taken. These can be selected from: EPA963; electives from masters level units; or, GRC units.

It is expected that candidates will enrol in XGR501, and EPA960 upon commencement of their course and will subsequently enrol in EPA961 in their first year (full time equivalent – FTE).