The Doctor of Philosophy in Education Studies in the field of Curriculum Studies challenges students to engage with foundational theories and focused areas of educational research. Through establishing expertise in curriculum studies, students contribute to existing bodies of research to influence curricular theory, policy and practice.

Students employ and develop a range of theoretical lenses to guide curricular analysis, including complexity theory, cognitive theories, sociocultural theories, connectivism and sociomaterial theories. Students acquire a comprehensive understanding of how different theoretical perspectives and alternative approaches to research inform scholarship and practice in education.
Field of Curriculum Studies

This four-year, onsite program is designed for those wishing to:

- develop robust research skills and deep expertise in Curriculum Studies from world-class faculty actively working in the field
- conduct impactful research using established and innovative methodologies
- sharpen problem-solving and communication skills by managing research complexities and explaining results to academic and traditional audiences
- advance in academia or industry roles related to the design, implementation, analysis, study, and evaluation of curriculum in a variety of contexts

**Strengthen foundational skills in research design and implementation and explore advanced topics in Curriculum Studies within the PhD**

Under the guidance of expert faculty, learn the core research skills and methods used by world-renowned Canadian scholars to address enduring and contemporary issues in the Curriculum Studies field.

**Build expertise in your research area with elective choices, conceptualize your research problem and build a plan to address it**

Specialize in a range of curricular research foci such as early childhood education, literacy education or mathematics education and work with your supervisor and faculty to find an opportunity within a niche to make your mark.

**Implement your research plan and help advance knowledge of curricular theories, practices and effects to improve curriculum**

**Timing and Delivery**

The PhD program is designed to be completed over four years. PhD Candidates typically complete required and elective courses in their first two terms, followed by a comprehensive exam, thesis proposal and presentation, and dissertation work in years 2 to 4.

**Course Content**

Two required courses:
- PhD Seminar in CSSAL
- Advanced Topics in Curriculum

Two elective courses (your choice of 2 from a list of 24, such as...):
- Teaching in a Virtual World
- Language and Literacy Curriculum, Pedagogy, and Learning in a Changing World

One or more of the following strongly recommended courses:
- Elective research methodology courses (e.g., Qualitative Research, Advanced Statistics)

**Comprehensive Exam**

**Thesis / Dissertation**

**Admission Requirements**

- Research-based Master’s degree in Education or equivalent from an accredited university
- Normally an “A” standing (80%) or equivalent in previous graduate work
- Evidence of previous scholarly research, such as a Master’s Thesis, Master’s Research Project or Qualifying Research Paper acceptable to the Doctoral Admissions Committee and the Associate Dean of Graduate Programs
- Clear statement of plans for future study and research
- Professional qualifications and work in an educational setting (teaching experience or other) is recommended

**Learn More**

Interested applicants are encouraged to learn more by visiting our program website, calling the program office or emailing questions to the address below. We look forward to hearing from you.