



**THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
FACULTY OF EDUCATION**

Doctor of Education (EdD) Information Session 2024-25

December 1, 2023

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EdD Programme Director



Faculty of **Education**
The University of Hong Kong

Why HKU EdD?

Leading in the Education Profession

- World University Rankings for Education
 - **No. 1** U.S. News & World Report 2022-23
 - **No. 6** Times Higher Education (THE) 2024
 - **No. 8** Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) 2023
- link personal professional development to school/institutional development
- develop the capacity for inquiry and evidence-led **decision-making**
- nurture the ability to translate research findings into usable knowledge



For whom?

The programme is for experienced professionals, who are **leaders**, or **aspire to be leaders**, in education-related institutions and services, e.g.

- Principals
- Teachers
- Curriculum developers
- Counsellors
- Edu administrators
- Educational psychologists
- Lecturers
- Policymakers in education sectors
- Librarians
- Trainers in business sectors



Features of the EdD programme

- A professional doctorate
- Emphasis on **educational issues** within workplace contexts
- Strong articulation between the coursework and thesis (research) components
- **Wide variety of courses** with high degree of flexibility
- **Quality supervision** provided throughout the whole period of candidature

Admission requirements

General entrance requirement

- Applicants should (1) hold a **Bachelor's degree with second class honours and a taught Master's degree**; or a **Bachelor's degree with first class honours**; and (2) demonstrate a record of **at least 4 years of professional experience in an educational institution or services** in the education sector or other relevant sectors as judged appropriate by the Faculty. Applicants who do not meet the above requirements will be considered on their own merits.

English Language Proficiency Test

- An applicant who is seeking admission on the basis of a qualification from a university or comparable institution **outside Hong Kong** of which the language of teaching and/or examination is **not English** is required to provide score report of English proficiency test.
- For details, please refer to the language proficiency requirements specified on the website of the Graduate School:
- https://gradsch.hku.hk/prospective_students/application/admission_requirement



Programme structure

4 Core Courses

- (i) Research Methods I
- (ii) Research Methods II
- (iii) Thesis Writing Workshop
- (iv) Issues in Education

Graduate School courses

- (i) Responsible Conduct of Research
- (ii) Stream-based Responsible Conduct of Research

AND

3-4 Elective Courses (with a total of at least 72 hours)

By the end of the probationary period, which should normally not exceed **24 months** for part-time candidates and **18 months** for full-time candidates, candidates must have

- (i) completed the 4 core courses;
- (ii) completed the two courses offered by the Graduate School;
- (iii) completed the first three chapters (i.e. Introduction, Literature Review, and Research Methods) of the doctoral thesis to the satisfaction of the Supervisory Panel;
- (iv) obtained ethical approval; and
- (v) presented a **confirmation seminar**.

Candidates are required to write a thesis of 50,000 to 60,000 words and are expected to attend seminars and present **research reports** regularly after confirmation of candidature.



Core courses

Research Methods I & II

- introduce educational research methods with particular emphasis on **critical reading** and understanding of a variety of approaches to research in education

Thesis Writing Workshop

- develops students' **systematic knowledge of how to write** about their research and apply such knowledge to their writing both within and beyond the course

Issues in Education

- focuses on a range of **contemporary issues in education** affecting learners and educators

Classes are normally scheduled in evenings during weekdays, and/or Saturday mornings or afternoons.



Graduate School courses

Responsible Conduct of Research

- equips students with essential vocabulary, principles, and practices conducive to the promotion of responsible conduct of research in general and in their relevant disciplines
- students are expected to attend this module before taking the Stream-based Responsible Conduct of Research

Stream-based Responsible Conduct of Research

- addresses responsible conduct of research in a number of topics germane to different disciplines
- students are required to choose to take one 3-hour workshop
- complete a reflective report of about 500 words



Research areas/**Academic units**

(http://web.edu.hku.hk/programme/edd/areas_of_study)

Academic units of

1. **Teacher Education and Learning Leadership (TELL)**
2. **Social Contexts and Policies of Education (SCAPE)**
3. **Human Communication, Development, and Information Sciences (CDIS)**



1. Teacher Education and Learning Leadership

- Chinese and English language education
- Mathematics and science education
- Humanities education
- Early childhood education
- Educational psychology
- School guidance and counselling
- Special education
- Information technology in education



2. Social Contexts and Policies of Education

- Globalisation
- Education in China
- Education policy
- Equity in education
- Comparative education
- Higher education
- Internationalisation
- School leadership
- Teaching and learning
- Curriculum and pedagogy

3. Human Communication, Development, and Information Sciences

- **Human Communication:** speech and language development and disorders; hearing sciences and disorders; speech science; voice and swallowing disorders
- **Human Development:** child development; cognition; brain development; special education and disabilities; educational psychology; counselling; the science of learning
- **Information Sciences:** data science; information management; measurement

Research support for EdD students

- Administrative support (Office of Research)
- Research seminars with MPhil/PhD students in the same area of study
- **Research Postgraduate Conference** held in **May/June** annually
- Research Postgraduate Student Exchange Programmes
- Consultation on literature search
- Professional advice on research methodology
- Support for publication
 - **Editing services**

Awards

- **Research Postgraduate Student Publication Awards**
 - **for current MPhil/PhD/EdD students who have produced good publications**
- **Award for the Best EdD Thesis**
 - **for the best EdD thesis each year**
- **Publication Awards for EdD Graduates**
 - **for EdD graduates who have produced good publications out of their thesis**



How to prepare for your application (1-3): Basic materials

1. Complete the online application form at <https://www.hku.hk/tpg/programme/doctor-education>
2. Submit all the required documents in .pdf format by email:
 - Supporting documents (copies of **certificates & transcripts** and your publication record, if any);
 - **EdD Statement** of Proposed Area of Professional Inquiry; and
3. Submit 2 academic **referees' reports** by post/fax/email.

Application Deadline
12:00 noon, February 28, 2024 (Wednesday)



How to prepare for your application (4A): Short proposal

4. Write a short statement of proposed area of professional inquiry (Guided Length: between 2,500 to **4,000** words)

Before writing, ask yourself 5 basic questions:

- a. Is the problem I propose to address meaningful and significant?
- b. What will be the **contribution** of my thesis to the knowledge, understanding and improvement of practice?
- c. Is it related to the needs and interests of myself and/or my workplace situation?
- d. Is my proposed research feasible in terms of scope and timeframe?
- e. What are the expected end results?



How to prepare for your application (4B): Short proposal

Suggested guidelines

Study background (1 page)

- Provide the aims and objectives of your proposed study;
- Specify the research question(s) or issues you intend to investigate;
- State the research approach to be used; and
- Indicate the expected outcomes.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
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EdD Statement of Proposed Area of Professional Inquiry

Notes:

- These guidelines serve only as a suggested framework of a Statement of Proposed Area of Professional Inquiry. Applicants may, at their discretion, use other formats or add more section(s) to the statement.
- The length of the Statement of Proposed Area of Professional Inquiry should be between 2,500 and 4,000 words (10 to 15 pages double-spaced) excluding references. Each page should be double-spaced and in 12-point font size.

Applicant's Name: _____

Proposed Area of Research:
(Please refer to the Faculty's research areas and provide the subject area in which you propose to work. A list of the research areas is uploaded onto "Programme Information" at the on-line application system.)

Proposed Title: _____

Background of the Study (Suggested length: 1 page)
(Please write a one-page summary that describes the following: aims and objectives; research questions or issues to be investigated; the research approach to be used; and the expected outcomes and their theoretical and practical significance.)

Relevant Literature and Guiding Framework (Suggested length: 3 to 5 pages)
(Please highlight some key ideas from the literature relevant to your research, use them to develop a brief formulation of the framework for your professional inquiry, and give reasons for using this framework.)

Methodology (Suggested length: 3 to 6 pages)
(Please describe your particular research approach and how it addresses your questions. Indicate your proposed research context and where appropriate, such matters as key participants, methods of data collection, approaches of argument, data analysis and interpretation.)

Potential Significance of Proposed Research and Possible Outcomes (Suggested length: 1 page)
(Please indicate the expected outcomes of your research and their significance (theoretical and practical)).

References

November 2011



How to prepare for your application (4C): Short proposal

Suggested guidelines

Relevant literature (3-5 pp.)

- Highlight some **key ideas** from the literature relevant to your research;
- Use them to develop a **brief framework** for your professional inquiry; and
- Give **reasons** for using this framework.

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Proposed Title of Research:

Background of the Study (Suggested length: 1 page)
(Please write a one-page summary that describes the following: aims and objectives; research questions or issues to be investigated; the research approach to be used; and the expected outcomes and their theoretical and practical significance.)

Relevant Literature and Guiding Framework (Suggested length: 3 to 5 pages)
(Please highlight some key ideas from the literature relevant to your research, use them to develop a brief formulation of the framework for your professional inquiry, and give reasons for using this framework.)

Methodology (Suggested length: 3 to 6 pages)
(Please describe your particular research approach and how it addresses your questions. Indicate your proposed research context and where appropriate, such matters as key participants, methods of data collection, approaches of argument, data analysis and interpretation.)

Potential Significance of Proposed Research and Possible Outcomes (Suggested length: 1 page)
(Please indicate the expected outcomes of your research and their significance (theoretical and practical)).

References

November 2011



How to prepare for your application (4D): Short proposal

Suggested guidelines

Methodology (3-6 pp.)

- Describe your **research approach** and how it addresses your research questions;
- Indicate proposed research **context**: site of fieldwork, data collection methods, approaches of arguments, data analysis, and interpretation.

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(Please refer to the Faculty's research areas and provide the subject area in which you propose to work. A list of the research areas is uploaded onto "Programme Information" at the on-line application system.)

Proposed Title of Research:

Background of the Study (Suggested length: 1 page)
(Please write a one-page summary that describes the following: aims and objectives; research questions or issues to be investigated; the research approach to be used; and the expected outcomes and their theoretical and practical significance.)

Relevant Literature and Guiding Framework (Suggested length: 3 to 5 pages)
(Please highlight some key ideas from the literature relevant to your research, use them to develop a brief formulation of the research questions, and give reasons for using this framework.)

Methodology (Suggested length: 3 to 6 pages)
(Please describe your particular research approach and how it addresses your questions. Indicate your proposed research context and where appropriate, such matters as key participants, methods of data collection, approaches of argument, data analysis and interpretation.)

Potential Significance of Proposed Research and Possible Outcomes (Suggested length: 1 page)
(Please indicate the expected outcomes of your research and their significance (theoretical and practical)).

References

November 2011



How to prepare for your application (4E): Short proposal

Suggested guidelines

Potential significance (1p.)

- Indicate possible outcomes of your research; and
- Indicate the potential significance to fields of application or contexts.

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Applicant's Name:

Proposed Area of Research:
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Proposed Title of Research:

Background of the Study (Suggested length: 1 page)
(Please write a one-page summary that describes the following: aims and objectives; research questions or issues to be investigated; the research approach to be used; and the expected outcomes and their theoretical and practical significance.)

Relevant Literature and Guiding Framework (Suggested length: 3 to 5 pages)
(Please highlight some key ideas from the literature relevant to your research, use them to develop a brief formulation of the framework for your professional inquiry, and give reasons for using this framework.)

Methodology (Suggested length: 3 to 6 pages)
(Please describe your particular research approach and how it addresses your questions. Indicate your proposed research methods and, where appropriate, such matters as key personnel, methods of data collection, approaches of argument, data analysis and interpretation.)

Potential Significance of Proposed Research and Possible Outcomes (Suggested length: 1 page)
(Please indicate the expected outcomes of your research and their significance (theoretical and practical)).

References:

November 2011



How to prepare for your application (4F): Declaration

Each applicant has to include a declaration in his/her **Statement of Proposed Area of Professional Inquiry** to **confirm** whether the proposal

- (i) is all his/her original work; names of persons who have provided contribution and the nature and extent of their contribution should be specified if otherwise; and
- (ii) in whole or in part, has not been published and/or submitted to any institution; the extent and the details of the publication and/or submission to the institution(s) should be specified if otherwise.

How to prepare for your application (4G): Academic help

Academic help



*You are strongly encouraged to contact a **potential supervisor** and seek advice on preparing the Statement of Proposed Area of Professional Inquiry.*



**Application
Deadline**

**Dec
2023**

~ 3 months

**Feb 28
2024**



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How to prepare for your application (5): Submission

5. Submit your application

Application form should be submitted by electronic means via the on-line application system at <https://www.hku.hk/tpg/programme/doctor-education> and your supporting documents in .pdf format should be sent to us by email (hkuedd@hku.hk).

Application deadline:

12:00 noon, February 28, 2024 (Wednesday)



Selection procedures

Applications Received



Potential Supervisors

to consider applications and make recommendations



Applicants may be invited for an **interview**
w/ Potential Supervisors by phone/Zoom/Team/Skype
(A more detailed proposal may be requested if necessary)



Faculty reviewers

to consider applications and make recommendations for admission



Faculty Higher Degrees Committee
to consider all the shortlisted applications



Important Note to Applicants (on application)

- Before submitting an application, you are strongly encouraged to **seek a potential supervisor's advice** on preparing the Statement of Proposed Area of Professional Inquiry.
- The name of your **proposed supervisor must be specified** in the online application form.
- Successful applicants will commence their studies in September 2024.



Important Note to Applicants (on student registration)

- According to the EdD Regulations, a person may register as a full-time student when he or she holds
- **no employment**; or
 - **part-time employment** (whether inside or outside the University), provided that the employment entails not more than 150 hours of work per annum; or
 - a **University research assistantship**, provided that the work undertaken in this capacity is focused on the topic of the holder's research degree study; or
 - employment but leave of absence has been granted by the employer.

Important Note to Applicants (on student registration)

- As part of the student registration procedures, students are required to present valid identity documents, and other relevant documents as requested, to the Faculty Office for verification.
- For non-local students, they are required to present a valid visa and landing slip to the Faculty Office for verification of their eligibility for studying in Hong Kong.



Important Note to Applicants (on course attendance)

- The EdD programme is **NOT a distance learning programme**. Students are required to come to HKU campus for their studies when the University runs classes in face-to-face mode.
- **Courses have attendance requirements**. Students who do not attend classes in person on campus (when the University runs classes in F2F mode) will be deemed to fail the course.
- *Non-local students who have no plan at all to stay in Hong Kong on a full-time basis should consider applying to other suitable programmes.*



Announcement of admission results

Normally in mid-April
by e-mail and/or post

*Note: Successful applicants will be informed of the result by **e-mail** as early as possible.*



Composition fees for 2023-24 intake

Part-time: \$85,800 per year (Years 1 – 6)

Full-time: \$112,200 per year (Years 1 – 5)

Note: Composition fees for 2024-25 intake will be announced later.



What else should you consider before application?

- Can you balance your life in the coming 4-6 years (among **work**, study, **family**, **personal & social** life, etc)?
- Can you get support from your family members?
- Can you get support from your workplace (such as school, or institute)?
- How much can you commit to your EdD study (**time**, **efforts**, **determination**, ...)?

How to be a successful EdD student?

- Take initiative to keep in touch with your **supervisors** via various means on a regular basis
- Attend **seminars** given by in-house specialists and/or international scholars
- Participate in formal/informal **gatherings** with staff and students
- **Good time management** and develop productive reading and **writing habits**



Thank you

Email: hkuedd@hku.hk

Website: <https://web.edu.hku.hk/programme/edd>

