**Student Affairs Concentration Handbook Table of Contents**

**FROM COLLEGE STUDENT PERSONNEL TO THE STUDENT AFFAIRS CONCENTRATION: AN ONGOING (CONDENSED) HISTORY** ........................................... 3

**OVERVIEW OF ACADEMIC PROGRAM AND DEPARTMENT** .......................................................... 5
  - Important People to Know: ........................................................................................................... 6
  - College of Education Organizational Chart ................................................................. 7

**STUDENT AFFAIRS CONCENTRATION** ................................................................. 8

**COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS** .................................................................................. 8
  - Professionalism and Changing Roles .................................................................................. 9
  - Community Engagement ................................................................................................... 9

**GENERAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES** ............................................................ 11
  - Student Affairs Concentration Online Resource Site .................................................. 11
  - Annual Student Reviews/Graduate Outcomes Assessment .......................................... 11
  - Continuous Registration ................................................................................................. 11
  - Credit for Previous Coursework (Ph.D.) ....................................................................... 12
  - Pre- and Post- Candidacy Research Credits ................................................................. 12
  - Minimum GPA Requirement .......................................................................................... 12
  - Policy Regarding Termination of Student Status ......................................................... 12
  - Dismissal Procedures ..................................................................................................... 13
  - Variable Credit Courses ............................................................................................... 14
  - DC Consortium ............................................................................................................... 15
  - Independent Study, Internship, and Practica ................................................................. 15
  - Dropping a Single Course ............................................................................................... 16
  - Withdrawing from Courses .............................................................................................. 16
  - Advising .............................................................................................................................. 17
  - Enrolling in More than 10 Credits in a Semester .......................................................... 17
  - Assistantships and Fellowships ..................................................................................... 18
    - *On-Campus “Side Hustles”* .......................................................................................... 18
  - Returning Students and Assistantships ........................................................................ 18

**LISTING OF SAC CORE AND AFFILIATE FACULTY** .................................................... 19

**MASTER'S DEGREE, STUDENT AFFAIRS CONCENTRATION** ........................................... 20
  - Description of the Student Affairs Master's Concentration .......................................... 20
  - Degree Options .................................................................................................................... 21
Completing the Curriculum ................................................................................................. 21

THE MASTER'S CURRICULUM ......................................................................................... 23

While EDMS 645 or EDCP 773 can fulfill the methods requirement, students can take
courses in other department across campus. Sample Concentration Plans ............. 25

Comprehensive Examination Expectations, Policies, and Procedures .................... 27

PH.D. DEGREE, STUDENT AFFAIRS CONCENTRATION ........................................ 30

Premises of the Ph.D. Curriculum .................................................................................. 30
Description of the Curriculum ....................................................................................... 31
Curriculum .................................................................................................................. 33

Summary of Credit Hours Required in the Ph.D. Curriculum .................................. 35
Sample Schedule for Full-time PhD Student ............................................................... 35

SAC DOCTORAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION GUIDELINES ...................... 37
SAC DISSERTATION COMMITTEE REQUIREMENTS ............................................. 43

RESOURCES ................................................................................................................ 45

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES (ETS) .................................................. 45
GRADUATE SCHOOL WRITING CENTER (GSWC) FELLOWS .............................. 45
MCEWEN RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM .............................................................. 46
SPARC GRANTS ........................................................................................................... 46
TRAVEL SUPPORT ...................................................................................................... 46
UMD HEALTH CENTER ............................................................................................... 47
FROM COLLEGE STUDENT PERSONNEL TO THE STUDENT AFFAIRS CONCENTRATION:
AN ONGOING (CONDENSED) HISTORY

The Early Years – 1959 to 1986

With the offering of EDUC 228, the subject of college student personnel was introduced in 1958 to the Occupations, Guidance, and Placement curriculum in the College of Education at the University of Maryland. One year later in 1959, George Marx joined the program as a full-time faculty member with the responsibility to develop a curriculum specifically for College Student Personnel (CSP). Faculty such as Thomas Allen, Darrell Rishel, Mark Hardwick, Margaret Bott, Chuck Lewis, and Art Levine taught in the program as it grew over the next decade. In the 70s and 80s, Lee Knefelkamp was joined by Cynthia Johnson as core faculty. Lee brought a focus on student development theory. Her work with William Perry on cognitive development was a hallmark of the Maryland program. Numerous student affairs staff from across campus served as affiliate faculty (e.g., Barbara Jacoby, Dru Bagwell, Linda Clement, Bud Thomas) and by assignments from budgeted Counseling and Personnel Services Department (CAPS) additional faculty included Jan Birk, Vivian Boyd, Tom Magoon, Mary Ann Hoffman, Margaretha Lucas and others. With the departure of Cynthia Johnson, a vacant faculty line opened.

Rebirth and Growth – 1986 to 1992

In 1986 Marylu McEwen was hired to join Lee Knefelkamp, however, Lee left to become dean of the School of Education at American University. Marylu then became the lone full-time faculty member for the CSP program in 1986-1987. She was joined by affiliate faculty members Bud Thomas, Thomas Magoon, and Linda Clement to form a steering committee to provide leadership to the program. In 1987, Susan R. Komives was hired as the second full-time faculty member for the program.

What followed was a refocusing and building period in the program. The CSP program reassessed its curriculum, expanded committees to design and implement significant aspects of program leadership, and created needed policies and procedures. The program adopted and implemented a Multicultural Mission Statement and a values statement. In 1993, the program’s emphasis on multiculturalism was recognized with the Minority Achievement Award to Academic Unit from the University of Maryland President’s Commission on Ethnic Minority Issues.

Maintaining – 1992 to 1997

Marylu and Susan both received tenure in the early 1990s. In the Fall of 1994, Tamela Heath joined the faculty as a third full-time faculty member resulting in the shifting of assignments among the core faculty. The expansion of faculty made more electives possible and all faculty started research teams. Marylu and Susan both served as the acting CAPS Department Chair in the 1996 calendar year. New cohorts up to this era typically enrolled 16-20 master’s students and 5-7 doctoral students.
Re-centering and Renewing – 1997 to 2010
The role of program director transitioned from Marylu (1986 through 1997) to Susan in 1997. A new master’s curriculum was approved in Spring 1997. With the departure of Tamela, Jeff Milem joined the faculty in Fall 1997. The CSP program celebrated its 40th anniversary at the Washington, DC ACPA Convention in the Spring of 2000. In 2000, Jeff moved to the Higher Education program faculty and CSP hired Karen Kurosuchi Inkelas. The first joint Preview Program between the CSP and Higher Education programs was held in Spring 2002. Following Marylu’s retirement, Stephen John Quaye and Susan Jones joined the faculty. New enrollments in this era were reduced and the CSP Program typically enrolled 10-13 new master’s students and 3-4 new doctoral students. In 2009 the program celebrated its 50th anniversary with a chartered excursion cruise on the Potomac at the ACPA Convention.

Opportunities for Change -- 2010 to present
The program experienced several transitions beginning in 2010, with the departures of Susan Jones and Karen Inkelas. Significant changes also occurred in the broader College of Education, with the reorganization of the College resulting in the creation of three departments which encompassed the previous seven departments. The reorganization was finalized in Summer 2011. The College Student Personnel program was renamed as the Student Affairs Concentration (SAC) in the new Higher Education, Student Affairs, and International Education Policy (HESI) program unit. HESI is one of three programs in the Department of Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education (CHSE). After years of cross-departmental collaboration, for the first time, the Higher Education and Student Affairs Concentrations were now housed in the same program and department.

Julie J. Park joined the faculty in Summer 2011 but was followed a year later by the departure of Stephen Quaye. May 2012 brought the official program approval of HESI by the Maryland Higher Education Commission, as well as the retirement of Susan Komives. In Fall 2012, the Student Affairs Concentration welcomed our first cohorts under the new name, as well as two new faculty, Kimberly Griffin and Michelle Espino. As the only tenured faculty member in the Concentration, Kimberly served as the concentration director from 2012-2018. In Fall 2015, we welcomed Candace Moore to the core faculty, who also serves as the director of the UMD Center for Diversity and Inclusion in Higher Education. Julie Park earned tenure in 2017 and served as the concentration director from 2019-2020. Michelle Espino earned tenure in 2018. In the 2018-2019 academic year, we welcomed Bridget Turner Kelly to the core faculty. In fall 2019 Bridget Turner Kelly became the HESI Program Director. In fall 2020, Michelle Espino became the concentration director and Kimberly Griffin was appointed Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies and Faculty Affairs for the College of Education.

As we look to the future, we are excited to build on our many traditions and legacies, as well as forge new ground for the future. Our faculty share a passion for advancing equity and justice through our research, teaching, and service. We look forward to shaping the future leaders of the field and growing together as a learning community.

Drafted collaboratively by Susan Komives, Ann Becks, Julie J. Park, and Michelle M. Espino
OVERVIEW OF ACADEMIC PROGRAM AND DEPARTMENT

The College of Education at the University of Maryland provides research and practice-oriented programs through its three departments: Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership (TLPL); Counseling, Higher Education and Special Education (CHSE); and Human Development and Quantitative Methodology (HDQM). College programs prepare students to be educators, counselors, psychologists, administrators, researchers, and educational specialists. Graduates work with individuals from infancy through adulthood in schools, community agencies, and colleges and universities. Educational programs are accredited and approved by the following: National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, Maryland State Department of Education, American Psychological Association, and the Council on Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Professions. Dr. Jennifer King Rice serves as the Dean of the College and was appointed in 2017.

The Student Affairs Concentration (SAC) is part of the Higher Education, Student Affairs, and International Education Policy program (HESI) within the CHSE department. CHSE’s mission is to prepare scholars and practitioners to become leaders in administration, counseling, policy, psychological services, and special education. We promote excellence in education and human services across the spectrum of abilities and individual differences, from birth to adulthood, in a wide range of settings.

The mission of CHSE is characterized by four overarching goals that guide the work of the Department’s faculty and specializations:

1. To produce nationally and internationally recognized research, scholarship, and policy guidance for all levels and aspects of education and applied human development;
2. To enhance educational organizations and individual development through application of our scholarship;
3. To promote equity, diversity, global perspectives, and social justice in education and human service contexts; and
4. To provide innovative and exemplary graduate and undergraduate education.

The Higher Education, Student Affairs, and International Education (HESI) program is committed to advancing the positive role education can have in society. Our faculty and students study core facets of the education system; this includes the functioning and impact of colleges and universities, student learning and development in higher education, and the enactment and implementation of P-20 and non-formal education policies in an international context. HESI offerings are characterized by an emphasis on social justice, diversity, policy, and system change. Our students and faculty are scholars, practitioners, change agents, and innovative leaders active in universities, as well as in national and international organizations and policy-making bodies. The program is a collaborative community that develops theory, conducts research, translates these elements to practice, and engages students, educators, and professionals in the advancement of education.
Important People to Know:

Dr. William Liu (He/Him), Department Chair: Dr. Liu is a CSP alumnus and earned his doctorate in counseling psychology from UMD.

Dr. Julie J. Park (She/Her), Student Affairs Concentration Faculty (On parental leave during Fall 2020)

Dr. Michelle M. Espino Lira (She/Her), Student Affairs Concentration Director: Dr. E works with the core faculty to address policy concerns and programmatic opportunities. If you have questions or concerns about the Concentration, you are encouraged to meet with your academic advisor first and then present your questions or concerns to Dr. E.

Dr. Kimberly Griffin (She/Her), Student Affairs Concentration Faculty, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies and Faculty Affairs for the College of Education.

Dr. Candace Moore (She/Her), Student Affairs Concentration Faculty and Director of the Center for Diversity & Inclusion in Higher Education

Dr. Bridget Turner Kelly (She/Her), Student Affairs Concentration Faculty and HESI Program Director

Terra Hall, Doctoral Student and Graduate Assistant for the Concentration (sagrad-ga@umd.edu): Terra is responsible for supporting the programmatic needs of the Concentration. She works closely with the faculty to implement policy and address student concerns. Terra is also the primary contact for prospective students interested in applying to the Student Affairs Concentration.

Carol Scott (escott18@umd.edu), CHSE’s Graduate Program Coordinator: All correspondence with the Graduate School goes through Carol. Carol manages all program deadlines, guidelines, and processes degree related paperwork. She can also help you register for courses that need department permission and obtain signatures for academic forms.

Stefanie James (yjames@umd.edu), CHSE Office Staff: Stefanie serves as our Business Service Specialist. She can answer questions about benefits and payroll if you are employed by the CHSE department as a graduate assistant. She also organizes travel for students who receive travel funds through a grant or award.

Denisse Garcia (dgarcia7@umd.edu), CHSE Office Staff: Visit with Denisse if you have questions about room reservations, course availability, and websites.
College of Education Organizational Chart

- College of Education
  - Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education (CHSE)
  - Human Development and Quantitative Methodology (HDQM)
  - Teaching and Learning and Policy and Leadership (TLPL)
  - Higher Education, Student Affairs, and International Education Policy (HESI)
    - Student Affairs
      - Higher Education
      - International Education Policy
    - Special Education (EDSP)
    - Counseling Psychology, School Psychology, and Counselor Education (CoPE)
STUDENT AFFAIRS CONCENTRATION
COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

Every member of the Student Affairs Concentration has an obligation, privilege, and responsibility to create inclusive learning environments that encourage critical thinking, reflection, engagement, and care.

Students are expected to...
• Be dedicated to learning and willing to put forth the effort necessary to excel.
• Take advantage of as many professional learning experiences as they can.
• Become active members of the student affairs profession by joining regional/(inter)national associations, attending conferences, submitting program proposals, and volunteering for special projects.
• Be self-motivating and seek assistance when it is needed.
• Attend all classes and be on time.
• Read all assigned materials before the appointed class and come to class prepared with questions and topics for discussion.
• Submit work by specified deadlines.
• Cooperate and support others in their efforts to learn.
• Contribute to the learning community.
• Actively participate in the classroom by refraining from inappropriate use of technology (checking e-mail on computers, text messaging, etc.).
• Initiate desired contact with full-time and affiliate faculty related to advising and other student needs.
• Adhere to high standards of academic integrity and professional ethics such as the ACPA Statement of Ethical Principles and Standards, NASPA Standards of Professional Practice, and the University of Maryland’s policy on academic honesty.
• Be supportive of the Concentration and those associated with it. If a student has a problem or criticism of the Concentration, other students, or faculty, it should be dealt with within the program and directly with the persons involved.
• Openly, respectfully, and directly communicate with involved/affected parties when concerns arise.

Students can expect faculty to...
• Work hard and reflect credit on the Concentration and HESI program.
• Be available to students and hold regular office hours.
• Be prepared for class.
• Set high standards for academic performance, professional behavior, and personal development
• Provide support based on the individual needs of each student as communicated and articulated by students.
• Care about students as persons and as developing student affairs professionals.
• Be involved in regional and (inter)national professional organizations, giving the Concentration and HESI program national visibility
• Conduct research and publish.
• Support students in initial job searches after graduation and throughout their careers.
• Provide feedback on professional behavior concerns, ethical issues, and appropriate
demeanor as well as on academic progress.

Student Affairs as a Profession and Changing Roles

The role of a graduate student is significantly different from that of an undergraduate and from full-time professional work. Assistantships serve as a period of apprenticeship and contribute to students’ development as professionals. Working at an assistantship means that students are representatives of the University of Maryland and of the Student Affairs Concentration. As such, students in assistantships, practica, apprenticeships, or internships are held to the same ethical standards as full-time professional staff.

In addition, technology provides an increasing number of spaces that may seem somewhat private but are, in fact, public. It is essential that students are cognizant of how they present themselves in on-line forums as well as more traditional public settings.

Community Engagement

To maintain the vibrancy of the Concentration, faculty, students, affiliate faculty, and alumni are asked to actively participate in the coordination of the Concentration’s goals and objectives in a variety of ways. The success of each committee is contingent on committee member engagement and creativity:

1. **Membership in a Committee:** We expect each member of our community to serve on at least one committee each academic year. These committees do much of the work that maintains our community gatherings and spirit and support key goals and outcomes of the program. The committees are as follows:

   **ADMISSIONS:** Members of the Admissions Committee review Master’s and Doctoral applications to the Student Affairs Concentration. This committee is composed of faculty and doctoral students, and most of the work for this committee takes place in January and February.

   **AWARDS:** The Awards Committee is a small group of faculty and doctoral students who select the winners of the annual Thomas and Magoon Awards. Established by the College Student Personnel (CSP) graduate program in 2003, the Thomas Award honors excellence in mentoring between higher education professionals and graduate college student personnel students in the spirit of Bud Thomas. The Magoon Distinguished Alumni Award is given to a graduate of the CSP/SAC Concentration who exemplifies the best of being a scholar/practitioner in the spirit of Tom Magoon.

   **COMMUNITY EVENTS:** This committee, composed of faculty, master’s students, and doctoral students, plans social events for the members of our community. They are
responsible for planning one event in the Fall semester and one event in the Spring. This committee also plans the summer social events to welcome new members of the SAC community. Additional events, social gatherings, and professional development opportunities within the Concentration and across the Program throughout the year are most certainly welcomed!

THE VECTORS: Members of this committee are responsible for planning Vector 0 (our orientation to the SAC) and 8th Vector (our graduation celebration). Much of the work on this committee takes place in the late spring semester and during the summer. First-Year Master’s and Doctoral Students/Candidates are encouraged to participate in the committee.

PREVIEW: Members of this committee (master’s and doctoral) plan all aspects of Preview, from housing to campus tours to coordinating interviews with potential employers. Most of the work takes place during the early part of the spring semester (winter), but the committee begins meeting in the fall semester.

2. **Student Representation on Steering Committee**: Each year, two master’s and two doctoral students are selected to serve as student representatives on the SAC Steering Committee, composed of the full-time Student Affairs faculty and an affiliate faculty member. Student representatives are expected to attend steering committee meetings, alternate attendance at HESI and CHSE meetings, communicate with their peers about program issues and goals, encourage participation in SAC events, and offer feedback on key program issues. In addition, representatives will chair either the Community Events Committee or The Vectors Committee.

3. **Ad Hoc Committees**: These are short-term committees that are designated by the Core Faculty or Steering Committee to complete a specific need for the Concentration.

   **For this year**: Social Media Team: Help us promote our Community! Coordinate social media posts to our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/UMDSAC/ and strategize our social media presence.

4. **Membership in Committees within the Division of Student Affairs**

5. **Conference attendance (e.g., NASPA, ACPA, ASHE, AERA), and involvement/support in SAC Prospective Student Recruitment (e.g., meeting with prospective students) and Preview (e.g., hosting admitted students, providing campus tours to admitted students)**

6. **Contributions to the InBasket, a quarterly newsletter sent to alumni, current students, faculty, and other stakeholders to the SAC GA (sagrad-ga@umd.edu). The deadline is the first Wednesday of every month.**

7. **Involvement in Research Teams**: Students are encouraged to meet with their academic advisors to learn more about joining a faculty member’s research team. Most opportunities to participate in a research team will be publicized through the Concentration listserv.
**GENERAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

Many policies are abridged here from the Graduate School for your convenience. Please consult the Graduate School and College of Education websites for policies related to academic probation and dismissal, taking a leave of absence, degree completion deadlines, application for graduation, religious observance, academic honesty, sexual harassment, deadlines related to the filing of a dissertation or thesis, etc.

**Student Affairs Concentration Online Resource Site**

The Student Affairs Concentration provides many of the forms and documents needed for concentration requirements via our ELMS/Canvas site. When students are admitted to the program, they are added to this site. Before meeting with your academic advisor, check Canvas for the annual review template, internship documents, and other helpful resources, such as a list of potential electives.

**Annual Student Reviews/Graduate Outcomes Assessment**

All students will complete an annual review form at the end of the spring semester and upload the form via the Student Affairs Concentration ELMS site.

Once the form is uploaded, students are asked to meet with their professional advisor (master’s) or their academic advisor (doctoral) to review the form and establish goals for the next academic year. For both master’s and doctoral students, the faculty advisor will review the uploaded form and provide recommendations to the Concentration director. This feedback will also inform the completion of the Graduate Outcomes Assessment (GOA) that is required by the Graduate School. The Concentration director will then send a letter along with a copy of the GOA to the student and their advisor(s) informing them of the faculty’s assessment of the student’s progress.

**Continuous Registration**

Students using any university facilities or services (such as visiting the library, consulting with faculty, taking exams, or filing for graduation) must be registered for at least one credit hour each semester, including students who have advanced to doctoral candidacy. Students who miss two consecutive semesters of registration will have their admission revoked. Students must be registered for a minimum of one credit in the semester they intend to graduate (including one of the summer sessions for an August graduation and dissertation/thesis credits).

To be certified as full-time, a graduate student must be officially registered for a combination of courses equivalent to 48 units per semester. Graduate assistants holding regular appointments have full-time status if they are registered for at least 24 units in addition to the assistantship; holders of half-time assistantships are considered full-time if registered for 36 units. For more information about this policy visit: [http://www.registrar.umd.edu/current/registration/Full-Time%20Status.html](http://www.registrar.umd.edu/current/registration/Full-Time%20Status.html)
Credit for Previous Coursework (Ph.D.)
Ph.D. students may receive credit up to 9 credit hours of coursework if the course(s) were completed at the University of Maryland, College Park as an advanced special student prior to admission to the SAC Ph.D. program. The total number of classes cannot exceed 3 classes/9 credit hours. Students can receive credit for any combination of the following:

1. No more than 1 elective;
2. No more than 1 methods course; and/or
3. No more than 2 core courses

Please Note: Master’s students cannot obtain credit for previous coursework outside of the master’s program.

Pre- and Post- Candidacy Research Credits
A Pre-Candidacy course (EDCP 898) is available for a variable 1-8 credits. Once advanced to candidacy, students must register every semester for EDCP 899 Doctoral Dissertation Research. EDCP 899 will carry 6 credit hours and will be covered by the flat candidacy tuition policy. Ph.D. students should register for the appropriate courses under their dissertation chair’s section number. Graduate School policy requires 12 dissertation credits, which must include two consecutive semesters of 6 credits (fall semester and spring semester), to graduate.

Minimum GPA Requirement
All students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or be subject to academic probation and possible dismissal.

Policy Regarding Termination of Student Status
The dismissal of a student is a significant event for both the student and the faculty. It represents the conclusion by the faculty that the student has not demonstrated an adequate level of competency in academic performance or in other critical areas of professional conduct. The final decision regarding termination from the department, or under what conditions a student making unsatisfactory progress will be allowed to continue (e.g., in a probationary capacity, with remedial provision), is a decision that rests with the department chair, HESI program director, and SAC faculty.

At any point during the student's matriculation, the faculty retain the right to review circumstances or performances that raise questions about the student's academic or professional competencies. By virtue of their training, roles, and the dictates of professional ethics, faculty members are responsible for documenting (as early as possible) and helping to address any concerns they have regarding a student's performance or professional functioning. The following are examples of circumstances that may form the basis for dismissal action:

1. Failure to maintain minimum academic standards: According to University policy, graduate students must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. All core courses offered in the
doctoral and master’s curricula must be a B- or above. Courses outside of the core that earn less than a B- will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis with the SAC faculty. Students should contact their advisors should they anticipate earning a grade less than B- in a non-core course.

The current Graduate School Catalog should be consulted for specific academic probation criteria. In general terms, a cumulative GPA of less than 3.0 after the completion of 12 credit hours will result in automatic probation by the Graduate School; a second, successive semester at this level of performance requires close consultation with one's advisor regarding a remedial plan; three consecutive semesters of such grades will result in academic termination.

2. Unsatisfactory performance in practica, internship, or other practice-related courses: All practica, internship, or practice-related courses must earn at least a B- or a “pass”. A grade lower than B- or "pass" on the second attempt will result in the student being dismissed from the program.

3. Failure of comprehensive examinations: Master’s students complete a comprehensive examination in the form of a seminar paper. Doctoral students complete a comprehensive examination during one month in the summer. Students who do not pass their exams are permitted to retake the exam one time. Two failures are grounds for academic dismissal, although students may petition for a third attempt.

4. Failure to comply with University, departmental, or program policies and timetables

5. Unethical clinical practices, unprofessional conduct, and/or behaviors that obstruct the training process: Students are expected to subscribe to the professional and ethical standards of the professional associations related to the field they are preparing to enter. Serious ethical breaches and unprofessional conduct - especially behaviors that impede the training process or that threaten client/student welfare - may constitute grounds for dismissal.

Dismissal Procedures

Dismissal due to poor academic performance: Dismissals based solely on poor academic performance will be initiated either by the Graduate School or by the Student Affairs Concentration director, in consultation with the faculty advisor. Academic dismissal signifies the faculty's judgment that the student has failed to master the relevant subject matter and to perform adequately in required coursework and/or examinations. Students will receive written notice of such dismissal decisions from the HESI program director or the Graduate School. Questions or concerns about such decisions should be referred to the HESI program director or the Graduate School.

Dismissal due to unethical practices or unprofessional conduct: Dismissals based on unethical or unprofessional behavior, including violations of the University student code of conduct, require especially careful review and judgment by the Concentration faculty. Concerns (which may emanate from departmental faculty members, clinical supervisors, clients, fellow students, or
professionals or agents outside of the University community) should be brought to the attention of the academic advisor, professional advisor, and the Concentration director.

In such instances, the director will consult with the student's faculty advisor and, if applicable, full-time professional advisor and decide on an appropriate course of action, typically including a personal meeting with the student to attempt to resolve the issue. If efforts at problem resolution are unsuccessful, or if the complaint is judged to be sufficiently serious (e.g., involving threats to client/student welfare or questions about the student's ability to function competently within the training context), the Concentration director will inform the student and their academic and professional advisors (in writing) that a formal meeting of the Concentration faculty will be convened to review the circumstances and to arrive at a decision regarding the student's continuation in, or termination from, the Concentration.

The student will be invited to provide input, either in person or in writing, for the faculty to consider at this meeting, and input may also be solicited from other faculty or persons judged to have relevant information about the student's professional functioning or about the specific circumstances surrounding the complaint against the student. After weighing the information presented, the SAC faculty will arrive at a decision regarding the student's standing. The decision may result in either: (a) no further action or impact on the student's standing in the program; (b) a decision to allow the student to continue in the program under probation, pending satisfactory completion of, or compliance with, specified conditions (e.g., a remedial plan, active monitoring, temporary suspension of certain professional activities); or (c) immediate dismissal.

The SAC director will inform the student in writing of the faculty's decision and, if appropriate, specify any conditions that must be satisfied by the student during a probationary period. A copy of relevant correspondence will be maintained in the student's program file. When students disagree with the decision rendered, they will have up to one semester to request a second review from the SAC faculty. The second review will follow the same basic format as the initial review, culminating in a written decision. When students disagree with the second decision, they will have up to one month to request a formal review by the HESI program director as well as the CHSE department chair. In such instances, the decision of the department chair is considered final and shall be conveyed to the student in writing.

Variable Credit Courses

All independent studies and/or courses that fall outside of standard format classes (e.g., apprenticeships, internships, practica) must abide by the hours-to-credit ratios as listed below. To confirm the number of credits, students should consult with their academic advisor, who will serve as the supervising faculty member for the course.

Per university policy (http://www.vpac.umd.edu/policies.html#contacthours) courses offered in non-standard formats must still meet MHEC requirements stipulated in COMAR 13B.02.02.16:

- 1 semester hour of credit for a class = A minimum of 15 hours, of 50 minutes each of actual class time, exclusive of registration, study days, and holidays;
- 1 semester hour of credit for supervised course = A minimum of 30 hours, of 50 minutes each of supervised laboratory or studio time, exclusive of registration, study days and holidays;
- 1 semester hour of credit for practica/internships/apprenticeships = A minimum of 45 hours, of 50 minutes each of instructional situations such as practica, internships, and cooperative education placements, when supervision is ensured, and learning is documented

DC Consortium
Students can also take classes through the DC Consortium if there are electives or methodology courses that are not offered at UMD. This program allows students to register for a class at other institutions in the DMV area. More information is available here: www.registrar.umd.edu/current/registration/consortium.html

Independent Study, Internship, and Practica
Students completing independent studies, practica, or internships are required to submit a form available on Canvas that describes specific objectives, learning outcomes, and projects that will be completed in order to obtain academic credit from the learning experience. The form should be submitted to the SAC faculty member or professional advisor who will grade the independent study, practicum, or internship. The administrator (if applicable) who will supervise the learning experience will also be asked for feedback and grade recommendation. Students can choose the number of credit hours (see above) as well as grade type (i.e., letter grade or Pass/Fail).

Examples of practica or internships include:
- Conducting an assessment of a functional area
- Shadowing staff throughout the semester with a culminating project
- Coordinating a significant event
- Advising students or a student group not directly connected to their GAship on a regular basis
- Developing policies, documents, social media for a functional area

Generally, a reflective component is included to evaluate what the student is learning and the types of skills s/he is honing (e.g., bi-weekly reflections, regular meetings with the professional advisor or SAC faculty member, etc.).

Doctoral students are encouraged to engage in administrative internships that can extend prior knowledge, skills, and experiences. Due to the breadth and scope of internships, the policies and processes related to internships are in the Doctoral Field Work Manual, located on ELMS. Students should review the manual and refer specific questions to their academic advisor.

The course number for internships and practica is EDCP 888 and the section number is the number assigned to the supervising faculty member.
The course number for master’s apprenticeships is EDCP 888A, which is generally offered in the summer term.

Please Note:
Students are encouraged to meet with their academic advisor to discuss completing an Independent Study course. Independent Study courses are appropriate in the following instances (but are not limited to):

1. A student seeking academic credit for participation in a research team, and is not receiving financial compensation (e.g., 10-hour GAship or tuition remission);

2. A specific methodology course OR content area course is not being offered through the university or DC Consortium during the time that the student is enrolled at UMD.

Internships/Practica credit cannot be used as elective credit in the master’s program. Internships/Practica credit can only be used for up to 3-credits worth of electives in the doctoral program.

Dropping a Single Course
A graduate student may drop a course, add a course, change between audit and credit status, change the number of credits for a course within the listed range, cancel registration, or withdraw from the University without special approval until the tenth class day each semester. Please see [http://registrar.umd.edu/deadlines.html](http://registrar.umd.edu/deadlines.html) for appropriate deadlines. No credit level changes, or grading option changes are permitted after the tenth week of classes. The deadlines are published each semester in the Schedule of Classes; the procedures governing each of these transactions are listed below. Drop/Add and other changes may be done in person at the Registrar's Office or online at [http://www.testudo.umd.edu](http://www.testudo.umd.edu). Full refunds are not available for reductions in total credits after the first day of classes. For more information, please see the Refunds section of the [Graduate Catalog](http://www.umd.edu).

Exceptions to the published deadlines require a petition to the Graduate School, which must include the written approval of the instructor and the Graduate Director of the program. Petitions should be submitted to the Graduate School, 2123 Lee Building. The graduate program stamp must be placed on the Change of Grading Option/Credit Level Form.

Withdrawing from Courses
Students admitted to the University of Maryland are expected to make regular and consistent progress towards the completion of their degree. However, the University understands that in exceptional circumstances a student may find it necessary to completely withdraw from all classes. The University considers such an interruption to be serious as it delays normal progress towards the degree. Any student considering withdrawal is strongly encouraged to meet with their academic advisor before leaving the University.
Withdrawal from all classes may be a violation of the Graduate School’s Continuous Registration policy. Students withdrawing from classes who intend to continue in their graduate degree or certificate program should secure a Waiver of Continuous Registration or Leave of Absence from the Graduate School before withdrawing. For more information, please refer to: https://ece.umd.edu/sites/ece.umd.edu/files/resource_documents/petition-for-waiver-of-continuous-registration.pdf

Advising

All students who enter the SAC program will be assigned an advisor. Doctoral students will be assigned an academic advisor (note: A Ph.D. student’s dissertation chair does not have to be the same person as their advisor). Master’s students will be assigned two advisors, an academic advisor and a professional advisor. In this case, academic advisors are one of the full-time faculty members within the program, while the professional advisor will be one of the affiliate faculty members of the program who hold full-time professional positions on campus. Academic advisors can offer support on courses, complete administrative paperwork, and discuss program policies and procedures. Professional advisors focus primarily on personal and career development and can provide particularly helpful guidance in identifying internship and apprenticeship opportunities, networking with professionals on and beyond campus, and planning long term developmental strategies. All advisors are selected based on the student’s personal, professional, and academic interests.

Students are strongly encouraged to establish and maintain advisor/advisee contact; to take initiative in seeking advising meetings; and to consult with their advisors on a regular basis concerning course work, involvement in professional organizations and activities, and other career/professional development issues.

Students can change their academic advisor or professional advisor if they wish. If students wish to change advisors, the student must complete the advisor change form, which is located on the Canvas site under “Forms”.

Enrolling in More than 10 Credits in a Semester

The Student Affairs curriculum has been designed for students to be able to complete their degrees without having to exceed 10 credits in a semester.

However, in the rare case when students anticipate having to take four 3-credit classes in a semester, students should:

1. Discuss the situation with the academic advisor and identify a course in the overload semester that is taught by one of the Student Affairs core faculty members. Only classes taught by SAC core faculty are eligible.

2. Approach the course instructor about enrolling in independent study credits (798 with the instructor as sponsor, see handbook for section numbers) in Winter session immediately preceding or following the course. If the 798 credit precedes the actual class, the student
will receive a temporary incomplete grade for the class. Upon completion, the grade for
the course will be retroactively assigned to the independent study.

3. Document any correspondence with the course instructor and write a memo explaining
the situation for the academic advisor to include in your file. Please also send a copy of
the memo to the Student Affairs Concentration Director.

4. Attend the course, but do not enroll in the class. Remind the course instructor that you are
taking the course but want to receive credit in another semester. At the end of the
semester, you should remind the instructor to assign your grade.

Assistantships and Fellowships
Assistantships are professional positions that can supplement graduate students’ experiences.
Graduate assistant compensation includes health benefit options, tuition remission, and a salary
dependent upon the length of the position (9.5 or 12 month) and the level of the student (master’s
or doctoral). Assistantships offer wonderful job-related experiences for graduate students who
plan to work as full-time professionals in the field. Half-time graduate assistantships are 10 hours
per week and usually provide five credits of tuition remission each semester, and full-time
graduate assistantships are 20 hours a week and provide 10 credits of tuition remission each
semester and may provide tuition remission during the winter and summer terms. Graduate
assistantship listings can be found at: https://ejobs.umd.edu.

The CHSE Department has a limited number of fellowships that are typically awarded the first
year of doctoral study. Fellows receive mentoring and support from an experienced faculty
member, and have opportunities to teach, research, and publish. The fellowships offer a stipend
each semester, and 12 credit hours of tuition remission. Fellows can seek external fellowship
support past the first year of study. Additional assistantship and fellowship information available
at: https://www.gradschool.umd.edu/funding/student-fellowships-awards

*On-Campus “Side Hustles”*
Students who are full-time graduate assistants (GAs; working 20 hours/week) AND doctoral
students on Fellowship who add ANY responsibilities (e.g., teaching a course, tutoring) on-
campus outside of their GAship or Fellowship that results in additional financial compensation
must complete the Graduate Student Overload Assignment Request Form. Regardless of
GAship/Fellowship, students cannot work over 30 hours/week total in Fall/Spring. Differences
between an overload for fall/spring compared to winter/summer are available here:
https://gradschool.umd.edu/sites/gradschool.umd.edu/files/uploads/Forms/graduate_student_over
load_assignment_request.pdf

Returning Students and Assistantships
Returning students are encouraged to have discussions with their current assistantship
supervisors in early January for the upcoming summer and fall semester. Students leaving their
current assistantships or seeking other assistantship opportunities should inform their supervisors
of their intentions, so they are able to recruit a replacement during the Preview Program in the spring.

**LISTING OF SAC CORE AND AFFILIATE FACULTY**

The SAC Program is fortunate to have affiliate faculty who serve as professional advisors for master’s students as well as chairs/committee members for theses and dissertations. This list indicates whether a faculty member currently has Graduate Faculty Status, which allows the faculty member to serve on directed research (i.e., theses and dissertations). In accordance with the Graduate School, faculty with Full Status are tenure-track/tenured faculty who can serve and chair theses/dissertation committees. Faculty with Adjunct Status can chair theses committees, co-chair dissertations with a Full Status faculty member, and serve on theses/dissertation committees.

To apply for Graduate Faculty Status as an affiliate faculty member, a member of the core SAC faculty will submit a nomination along with the affiliate faculty member’s CV to the HESI program faculty. With a majority vote from the HESI program faculty, the application will be submitted along with a letter of support from the HESI program director to the Graduate School. The Graduate School will then evaluate the application and render a decision.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Name</th>
<th>Graduate Faculty Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Espino Lira</td>
<td>Yes/Full Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kimberly Griffin</td>
<td>Yes/Full Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marsha Guenzler-Stevens</td>
<td>Yes/Associate Member until 5/6/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adrienne Hamcke Wicker</td>
<td>Yes/Associate Member until 8/15/2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Hummel</td>
<td>Yes/Associate Member until 12/3/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridget Turner Kelly</td>
<td>Yes/Full Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Kiely</td>
<td>Yes/Assoc. Member until 12/3/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Kirkland-Gordan</td>
<td>Yes/Assoc. Member until 10/27/2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Komives</td>
<td>Emerita/Full Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marylu McEwen</td>
<td>Emerita/Full Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alice Mitchell</td>
<td>Yes/Associate Member until 12/3/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candace Moore</td>
<td>Yes/Adjunct Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Ostick</td>
<td>Yes/Assoc. Member until 1/30/2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristen Cilente Skendall</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Slack</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie Park</td>
<td>Yes/Full Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Zacker</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**MASTER'S DEGREE, STUDENT AFFAIRS CONCENTRATION**

Higher Education, Student Affairs, and International Education Policy Program
Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education Department
College of Education • University of Maryland, College Park

Description of the Student Affairs Master's Concentration

The Student Affairs Concentration is committed to the professional preparation of counselors, administrators, and student development educators in higher education environments. The concentration is designed to meet the Council for the Advancement of Standards (CAS) criteria for Master's graduate preparation programs. CAS is a cooperative effort of over 41 professional associations in Student Affairs Administration who have designed standards of preparation and practice for this profession (see [http://www.cas.edu](http://www.cas.edu)). The curriculum has also been designed to meet the professional competencies of the student affairs profession outlined by ACPA and NASPA, including: advising and helping; assessment, evaluation, and research; equity, diversity, and inclusion; ethical professional practice; history, philosophy, and values; human and organizational resources; law, policy, and governance; leadership; personal foundations; and student learning and development.

The foundation of the master's curriculum rests on two mutually enhancing "core" dimensions: counseling knowledge and skills and knowledge and skills concerning the college student population and the student affairs profession. From these perspectives, skills are developed to enable the graduates of the concentration to effect developmental changes for individuals, groups, and environments. The course work is developmental. For example, individual differences are affirmed, and a developmentally appropriate sequence is followed to facilitate the learning of specific competencies. The curriculum also emphasizes skills in assessment and research.

The Master of Arts (M.A.) or Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree recipient will have professional entry-level competencies in each of the following areas:

1. defining the role and functions of student affairs work in higher education;
2. interpreting research significant to the profession and conducting related research;
3. identifying factors affecting human and organizational behavior;
4. translating theoretical knowledge about the development of organizations and individuals into meaningful practices of the profession: counseling, instruction, supervision, program design, administration, and research;
5. developing multicultural competence and social justice perspective to engage with diverse students with effectiveness and confidence;
6. developing and incorporating skills in the areas of program assessment, design, implementation, and evaluation as appropriate for individuals, student services offices, and organizations.

Individuals who complete the master’s curriculum are prepared to seek employment in a variety of student affairs settings such as: student activities centers, academic advising offices, career planning and placement centers, offices of resident life, orientation, commuter affairs, multicultural centers, college unions, and counseling centers at various institution types. Students may also continue their studies and enter a doctoral program in higher education administration, student affairs administration, counseling psychology, counselor education, and numerous other fields.

Degree Options

Students may elect to earn either a Master of Arts degree (M.A.) or a Master of Education degree (M.Ed.). Students choosing to complete the M.A. are expected to complete a Master's thesis. Students electing to complete the M.Ed. complete one seminar paper and two professional concentration courses. We expect all master’s students to become competent readers of research and know how to engage in research design. Students in both degree programs will complete a one-credit research proposal seminar (EDCP 799A for thesis students/798A for seminar paper students) in which they will learn about research design.

The program of study for M.A. students also requires one additional methods course (either a statistics course [EDMS 646 or an advanced statistics course] or a Qualitative methods course [EDCP 773]) and six additional research thesis credits. Students in the M.Ed. concentration will complete six credits (two courses) of a professional concentration to explore topics of interest to their professional practice or research. The professional concentration courses can be taken in other HESI concentrations, as well as other departments on campus. Students will develop the professional concentration in consultation with their academic advisor.

Completing the Curriculum

Previous Coursework: In general, courses cannot be substituted, double-counted, or waived. If students have taken an introductory statistics course already, they may be able to enroll in advanced statistics course through HDQM or another department, per permission from that department.

Concentration Duration: Each student has different talents, family responsibilities, and work responsibilities. Curriculum requirements are designed so that full-time students can complete their coursework in four semesters. Students may also enroll part-time during some of or during their entire coursework; program completion is then extended to approximately three years. We encourage each student to work diligently, but plan to take the time needed to successfully complete their educational and professional training. The master’s curriculum must be completed within five years.
Comprehensive Examinations: All students must successfully complete a written comprehensive examination to graduate. A research proposal in the form of a seminar paper or thesis proposal, completed in EDCP 798A/799A during the fall semester of the second year serves as the written comprehensive examination. If a student’s comprehensive exam is judged as not passing or incomplete, they have an opportunity to revise and resubmit the completed exam. The deadline will be determined by the student and professional advisor, in consultation with the instructor for EDCP 798A/799A.

Apprenticeship Requirement: The Master’s Administrative Apprenticeship provides professionally supervised, consistent, and comprehensive exposure to the administrative roles and functions of Student Affairs offices. They generally do not involve direct service to students but are designed to learn how a functional area is organized and accomplishes its mission and goals. They are designed for persons with little or no work experience in Student Affairs. This is the required, formal administrative apprenticeship accompanied by a supervised seminar with reading and learning assignments.

All master’s students are expected to enroll in 3 credits of EDCP 888A to earn academic credit for fulfilling their administrative apprenticeship requirement. Most students will complete their apprenticeship during the summer between the first and second year in the master’s program. Students who do not have tuition covered in the summer will register for credit in the fall, but still take the course in the summer. Students with apprenticeships outside of the College Park area will be able to participate in the course via an online platform. The expectations for the apprenticeship are as follows:

1. Scheduling appointments with other staff in and out of the functional area, attending staff meetings, reading literature or materials that are circulated, and shadowing the apprenticeship supervisor to specific programs/events/activities to understand the nature of the work in that functional area.

2. Engaging in a regular activity that results in meaningful involvement (i.e., working with and/or advising students) and/or a project that could be done on site or independently (i.e., designing a workshop, writing a proposal, editing publications, conducting a research study or needs assessment).

3. Seeking supervision, guidance, and instruction from a supervisor who can support the student’s educational and professional development.

Based on the CAS standards for master’s preparation programs, students are required to complete 120 to 180 semester hours of experience, including the hours spent in class (e.g., 15 weeks x [3-hour seminar + 8 hours on site] = 165 hours).
THE MASTER'S CURRICULUM

THE CONCENTRATION TOTALS 40 CREDIT HOURS. The master's curriculum in Student Affairs consists of the following required courses:

A. Required courses for all students:

- EDCP 610 Professional Orientation: Student Affairs 3 credits
- EDCP 614 Counseling Skills: Intro. to Practicum (Fall term) 3 credits
- HESI 655 Organizational Dimensions of Student Affairs 3 credits
- HESI 672 Individual and Organizational Assessment in Student Affairs 3 credits
- EDCP 741 Multicultural Practice in Student Affairs: Self, Education, and Society 3 credits
- HESI 771 The College Student (Student Development Theories) 3 credits
- EDCP 798A/799 Research Design & Proposal Writing Seminar 3 credits (Fall)
  - Thesis students register for 3 credits of EDCP 799A
  - Seminar Paper students register for 3 credits of EDCP 798A
- EDCP 888 Internship/Practicum in Student Affairs Research/Practice 1 credit
- EDCP 888A Apprenticeship in Student Personnel Services 3 credits (Summer)

Methods

- EDMS 645 Quantitative Methods I (or advanced quantitative course) 3 credits
- Or HESI 773 Qualitative Research Design 3 credits

Practicum

- EDCP 619B Practicum in College Counseling 3 credits
- Or HESI 671 Intergroup Dialogue Facilitator Practicum 3 credits

Elective

One course of your choosing to enrich your learning 3 credits

B. Additional Requirements by degree: (6 M.A. credits and 6 M.Ed. credits)

M.A. (Thesis)
EDCP 742  Campus Environments\(^1\) (Quantitative Research Design)  3 credits  
Or  EDMS 646  Quantitative Methods II  3 credits  
Or  HESI 773  Designing Qualitative Research in Counseling and Student Affairs Contexts\(^2\)  3 credits  
EDCP 799  Thesis Credits (Spring)  6 credits

**M. Ed. (Seminar Paper)**

Two Professional Concentration/Focus Courses  6 credits

**Electives**

Electives can be taken in any college or department in the university. Students are encouraged to explore their interests and gain depth to their student affairs experiences and knowledge. Students should contact their academic advisor to discuss potential alternatives. Many students have found electives of interest in the Higher Education curricular offerings (which can be found at [http://www.education.umd.edu/CHSE/academics/specialization/HE.html](http://www.education.umd.edu/CHSE/academics/specialization/HE.html)).

**Schedule of Course Offerings**

Some graduate courses are offered on a rotating basis or during alternate years. Students are encouraged to plan accordingly. Check with related departments for updates as this information may change:

**Once per year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Only</th>
<th>Spring Only</th>
<th>Summer Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDCP 610</td>
<td>EDCP 614</td>
<td>EDCP 888A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDCP 619B</td>
<td>HESI 672</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HESI 671</td>
<td>HESI 655</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDCP 741</td>
<td>EDCP 694</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDCP 799A/798A</td>
<td>HESI 771</td>
<td>HESI 773</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Three times per year:**  
EDMS 645 (subject to enrollment availability), EDMS 646 (subject to enrollment availability), EDCP 798A, EDCP 799A, EDCP 888 (for additional practica/internship experiences)

---

\(^1\) This course is recommended for students interested in conducting quantitative theses. This course is offered in the spring semester of the first year.

\(^2\) If a thesis student has already taken EDMS 646, EDCP 742, or HESI 773 for their one required methods course, they can either choose to take a second methods course or use the remaining credit for elective space or additional thesis credit. An advanced statistics course is required for those completing a quantitative thesis, with at least one advanced course being taken at UMD. Please see Dr. Espino Lira for sequencing of quantitative courses as soon as possible if you are interested in a quantitative thesis.
**A Note About Sequencing of Courses:**
Students are encouraged to note prerequisites and important sequences for some courses:

- EDCP 610 must be taken prior to HESI 771, which must be completed prior to the administrative apprenticeship -- EDCP 888A.
- EDCP 614, HESI 672, EDCP 741 must be taken PRIOR to the EDCP 619B counseling practicum or the EDCP 671 intergroup dialogue practicum and must be completed with a B or better letter grade.
- EDCP 671 will be offered each Fall and EDCP 619B is offered in fall of the second year. An additional EDCP 619B section may be offered in the spring depending on student preferences.

**Methods Courses**
While EDMS 645 or HESI 773 can fulfill the methods requirement, students can take methods courses in other department across campus.
Sample Concentration Plans

**Full-time Students**

**Sample schedule for a full-time M. A. (thesis) student:**

Many variations are possible; these illustrate only ONE possibility for each emphasis area. Electives may also be taken in January or Summer term. The first year is foundational and usually taken in this format:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 1st Year</th>
<th>Spring 1st Year</th>
<th>Summer 1st Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDCP 610 Professional Orientation</td>
<td>HESI 771 College Student</td>
<td>EDCP 888A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDCP 741 Multicultural Practice</td>
<td>A Methods Course or Concentration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HESI 672 Assessment</td>
<td>EDCP 614 Counseling Skills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2nd Year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDCP 799 Thesis credits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDCP 619B Counseling Practicum or HESI 671</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or HESI 671 Intergroup Dialogue Practicum</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Methods</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sample schedule for a full-time M. Ed. (seminar paper) student:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall 1st Year</th>
<th>Spring 1st Year</th>
<th>Summer 1st Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDCP 610 Professional Orientation</td>
<td>HESI 771 College Student</td>
<td>EDCP 888A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDCP 741 Multicultural Practice</td>
<td>A Methods Course or Concentration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HESI 672 Assessment</td>
<td>EDCP 614 Counseling Skills</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2nd Year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDCP 798A (Seminar paper)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDCP 619B Counseling Practicum or HESI 671</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or HESI 671 Intergroup Dialogue Practicum</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration/Elective</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Spring 2nd Year                                    |                                                      |                                                      |
| HESI 655 Organizational Dimensions                 |                                                      |                                                      |
| EDCP 799 Thesis credits                            |                                                      |                                                      |
| EDCP 888 Internship/Practicum Credit               |                                                      |                                                      |

| Spring 2nd Year                                    |                                                      |                                                      |
| HESI 655 Organizational Dimensions                 |                                                      |                                                      |
| EDCP 799 Thesis credits                            |                                                      |                                                      |
| EDCP 888 Internship/Practicum Credit               |                                                      |                                                      |

| Summer 1st Year                                    |                                                      |                                                      |
| EDCP 888A                                          |                                                      |                                                      |
Comprehensive Examination Expectations, Policies, and Procedures

The goal of the master’s comprehensive examination is for students to demonstrate their competence in a variety of skills vital to the development of a strong scholar/practitioner: to identify and articulate the significance of topics or problems salient to the field of student affairs and higher education; to apply and integrate relevant theoretical, conceptual, and empirical literature into their work; and to develop a research design with rigorous methods that will undergird a strong empirical study.

The master’s comprehensive examination takes the form of a research proposal, developed through a seminar paper (M.Ed.) or thesis (M.A.). Full-time master’s students will enroll for 3 credits of either EDCP 798A (M.Ed.) or 799 (M.A.) in the fall of the second year. In EDCP 798A/799, students work to develop a final draft of their seminar paper or thesis research proposals, which are due at the end of the fall semester.

The research proposal will be evaluated by the student’s professional adviser and the instructor of EDCP 798A/799A for two purposes: a) a percentage of the student’s final grade for EDCP 798A or 799; and b) determination of the student’s comprehensive examination score.

Completed research proposals include three (3) chapters:

- Chapter I, the introduction, includes a statement of the problem, the research question(s), and the significance of the study.

- Chapter II, the review of literature, summarizes and provides a critical review of the extant research and theory on the topic.

- Chapter III, the methods, states the study’s research hypotheses, describes the intended sample and instrumentation, and details the data collection and analysis plan. Chapter III will also include a conclusion to close the proposal that discusses limitations of the proposal design and possible implications for student affairs theory and practice.

Research proposals that do not include three chapters or are otherwise incomplete will not be evaluated. All students are expected to abide by the University’s Code of Academic Integrity regarding their work on the examinations. Any student found to be violating the Code of Academic Integrity will be reported to the Honor Council.

Master’s Seminar Paper

A seminar paper in the master’s program is the development of a research proposal without conducting the actual research. A complete seminar paper is comprised of chapters I, II, and III (developed in the Fall semester) in addition to a conclusion that discusses implications for research and practice as well as the possible limitations of such a study. The seminar paper is directed by the professional advisor in consultation with the instructor of EDCP 798A. Once the seminar paper has been completed and approved by the professional advisor, the student will submit the final seminar paper to the SAC Concentration Director. The seminar paper title page (only) must be filed in the
College of Education, Graduate Studies Office by published deadline for the semester in which the student intends to graduate.

The title page of the seminar paper must be submitted in a specific format, which includes signature lines for the SAC faculty member and the professional advisor directing the seminar paper. Three copies of the cover page must be submitted to the SAC Concentration Director.

**Please Note:** The final seminar paper is due no later than April to fulfill Graduate School deadlines for a May graduation. The specific date will be announced annually and can also be obtained from Carol Scott.

**Master’s Thesis**
A Master's thesis is a requirement of the Master of Arts (M.A.) degree in the SAC Concentration and demonstrates the student's research competence. The thesis includes design of a study with relevant and appropriate reviews of the literature, analysis of data and presentation of results, and discussion and interpretation of findings.

A thesis is guided by a three-person committee comprised of at least two tenured or tenure-track graduate faculty of the University of Maryland. Affiliate faculty who have Graduate Faculty Status can direct a thesis and serve as the third member of a thesis committee.

A Master's thesis may be original research, or a replication or quasi-replication study. Students may collect their own data for the research study or may use archival data with permission of the individual or office who "owns" the data. All proposed research, whether using archival data or collecting original data, must have approval of the University's Institutional Review Board prior to proceeding with data collection and data analysis.

Students will be asked to indicate their interest in a thesis, if applicable, in their second semester Annual Review document. They have until **August 15** to notify their academic and professional advisers of their intent to conduct a thesis. It is possible that a thesis student could write the first three chapters and decide not to conduct the rest of the study, in which case the thesis is converted into a seminar paper and the student will graduate with the M.Ed. degree.

A thesis is typically comprised of five chapters:

- The first three chapters are the proposal for the thesis (developed in the Fall semester) and include an introduction to the research, a review of the relevant literature, and the methodology proposed for the study, including limitations, which can be identified in advance of the study.

- Chapter IV is a presentation of the results of the research (completed in the Spring semester).

- Chapter V is a discussion/interpretation of the results, relating the findings to previous research and literature and identifying limitations of the study, implications for practice, and recommendations for future research (completed in the Spring semester).
After completing the thesis, students will defend their research study. Due to the nature of conducting a full research study, it is possible that students will complete the thesis in the summer after their second year. Students are responsible for keeping track of all deadlines for fulfilling Graduate School requirements pertaining to submitting a thesis.
Ph.D. Degree, Student Affairs Concentration

Higher Education, Student Affairs, and International Education Policy Program
Department of Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education
College of Education • University of Maryland, College Park

The doctoral curriculum in Student Affairs prepares student development educators and administrators for professional work in institutions of higher education. The doctoral concentration is enriched by our alignment with the Higher Education and International Education Policy Concentrations in our degree program, as well as the unique resources in the Washington, D.C.-Baltimore area including government agencies, professional associations, and a variety of higher education institutions.

The concentration is designed to assist doctoral students in developing as expert practitioners, administrators, researchers, and university faculty. Entrance requirements include a master's degree in college student personnel/student affairs, higher education, counseling, or a closely related field.

Premises of the Ph.D. Curriculum

Important assumptions and values inherent in doctoral preparation and training in Student Affairs are represented in the following principles:

1. An in-depth knowledge and understanding of college student development is central to research and practice.

2. The Student Affairs Concentration is committed to the consideration of social justice and to the recognition of social identity and intersectionality. The Concentration provides for the development of an awareness and appreciation of diversity, a commitment to social justice, and the development of strategies to enhance learning in an environment that respects individual differences and cultural diversity.

3. Research and assessment are emphasized as a core of the Concentration and are infused throughout the curriculum. We support inquiry using both qualitative and quantitative methods and methodologies.

4. The importance of inclusive and critical consultative and interactive processes necessary to work with individuals, groups, and organizations is reflected in the Concentration.

5. Through an individually designed selection of courses termed a professional concentration, the student is provided an opportunity for in-depth study in a specialized area of personal interest related to student affairs administration and other professional goals.

6. Teaching opportunities provide doctoral students with an increased understanding of undergraduates’ classroom experiences and the relationship with their co-curricular experiences. Teaching experience facilitates more effective communication with faculty and
persons in academic affairs. Opportunities exist for teaching undergraduate courses in career development, peer counseling, leadership, and orientation. Opportunities also exist for co-teaching in the master’s concentration.

7. Each student’s program of study is designed with full consideration given to previous student affairs work experience and previous academic course work in college student development theories, counseling theory and practice, organization and administration of student affairs and student services, and research and evaluation.

Description of the Curriculum

Course Requirements: The doctoral curriculum has a central core including courses that explore college student development and student learning at an advanced level. The student and advisor will determine the range of research methods and methodology courses that lead to successful dissertation research. Electives and a professional concentration allow for an individually designed academic experience including additional methods courses.

In addition to Concentration requirements, students are strongly encouraged to select other courses outside of the College of Education when possible, especially in disciplines such as psychology and sociology, which serve as foundations for student development theory and student affairs practice. Cultivating relationships with faculty outside of the HESI program will be valuable as students formulate their dissertation committees and select a Dean’s representative who not a member of the HESI program faculty.

Concentration Planning: The Concentration represents approximately 54 hours of course work and 12 hours of dissertation beyond the master's degree. A student with an assistantship or fellowship can complete minimum course work requirements in two-and-a-half years after admission. A longer period of time is required for students needing some prerequisites or attending part-time. Certain courses must be taken sequentially and may not be offered each semester or every academic year.

Concentration planning should be done in consultation with one's advisor to design a program of study that meets the student's needs and goals and the Student Affairs Concentration requirements. The student’s program of study is developed after the first semester enrollment and becomes a part of a formal Advancement to Candidacy process. A student must be advanced to candidacy for the doctorate within five years after admission to the doctoral concentration including passing Comprehensive Examinations and filing an approved research competency. The College of Education requires that students must submit their application for program approval after completing 12 credit hours but not more than 21 credit hours in the doctoral program.

In general, courses cannot be “double-counted” to meet multiple requirements and prior coursework cannot be substituted for curriculum requirements/electives. Effective Fall 2013, students will not be allowed to transfer credits from previous coursework and will be encouraged to take more advanced courses that will enhance their knowledge base. Ph.D. students may
receive credit for up to 9 credits only if taken at the University of Maryland, College Park as an advanced special student if SAC Ph.D. courses were completed prior to admission to the SAC Ph.D. program. Students can receive credit for any combination of the following:

- No more than 1 elective,
- No more than 1 methods class, and
- No more than 2 core classes.

The total number of transfer classes taken prior to admission cannot exceed 3 classes/9 credits. All decisions regarding transfer credits and substitutions should be made in consultation with the student’s advisor.

**Doctoral Comprehensive Examinations:** The College of Education requires that doctoral comprehensive examinations be taken before the student’s advancement to candidacy and is offered in the summer before the dissertation proposal seminar. Doctoral students in Student Affairs must complete foundational coursework and a research competency prior to taking the comprehensive examination. Refer to the SAC Doctoral Comprehensive Examination Guidelines for more information.

**Research Competency:** Prior to taking the comprehensive examination, students should demonstrate working knowledge of the construction and implementation of a research study, which is referred to as having research competency. This includes a variety of skills, namely: reviewing relevant literature, selecting, and applying a theoretical/conceptual framework, developing a data collection plan and instruments, collecting, and analyzing data, and reporting findings. The goal of the research competency requirement is to provide students with early exposure to multiple dimensions of the research process, offering early preparation for the level of work that will be done in the completion of a dissertation.

Students who completed an empirically based Master's thesis may submit it to their advisor for review to determine whether it satisfies the research competency requirement. Students who did not complete such a thesis or students whose thesis does not meet the criteria must demonstrate research competency by conducting an empirical study of equivalent complexity that either focuses on the student’s research interests or is part of a larger research study that is being conducted by a faculty member. Primary and/or secondary data can be used to complete the study. Students are strongly encouraged to complete the research competency early in their coursework and to share the results or findings from this work through a professional or academic conference or via publication.

**Advancement to Candidacy:** In order to advance to candidacy, students must have completed the research competency and successfully passed the doctoral comprehensive examinations. Students may not have incomplete grades in any attempted courses. Students must advance to candidacy in order to hold a dissertation proposal meeting.

**Other Concentration Requirements:** Other concentration requirements are provided in the [Graduate School Catalog](#). Students are responsible for consulting these and other appropriate documents as well as their advisor, Student Affairs policies, the CHSE Department, the College
Curriculum

Core Courses (18 credits)

Professional seminars serve as a foundation for students beginning the doctoral program, as an on-going opportunity to stay abreast of current professional issues, and as a capstone experience for students toward the end of their doctoral course work. The first-year seminar is taken with first-year doctoral students in the Higher Education Concentration. The core also includes theoretical foundations of student development, social justice, and student learning.

- **EDHI 750** International Higher Education (or similar course on global issues in student affairs or higher education) 3 credits
- **EDCP 774** Advanced Seminar in College Student Development Theory 3 credits
- **EDCP 775** Facilitating Student Learning in Higher Education 3 credits
- **EDCP 776** Social Justice in Student Affairs 3 credits
- **EDCP 870** First-year Doctoral Seminar 3 credits
- **EDCP 871** Professional Capstone Seminar 3 credits

Research and Evaluation (18 credits plus 12 credits of dissertation)

These requirements encompass coursework in qualitative and quantitative methods and methodologies as well as research design, and a doctoral dissertation. Work in this area is predicated upon previous graduate-level coursework in research methodologies. Students are encouraged to enroll in an advanced methods course that can be applied in the student’s dissertation. Advanced methods courses are often offered through the TLPL and HDQM departments within the College of Education, as well as other departments across campus.

- **EDHI 672** Modes of Inquiry in Education Research 3 credits
- **EDCP 742** Examining College Environments and Outcomes 3 credits
- **EDCP 772** Research in Student Affairs (Dissertation Proposal Writing Class) 3 credits
HESI 773  Designing Qualitative Research in Counseling and Student Affairs Contexts 3 credits
TBD  One course in Quantitative Methods* 3 credits
TBD  One Advanced Research Methods/ Methodology Course* 3 credits
EDCP 899  Dissertation 12 credits

* Note: These courses may have prerequisites

**Professional Concentration (9 credits)**

This concentration consists of a minimum of three courses, or 9 credit hours beyond the core courses and research requirements. This concentration should be defined by the student and their advisor based upon the student's professional goals and interests; it is an opportunity for the student to develop an area of expertise. To add breadth to their understanding in their area of concentration, students are encouraged to select appropriate courses from outside the College of Education. Examples of professional concentrations include student affairs research, teaching, social justice in student affairs work, leadership and organizational development, or a focus on a social group identity. The internship may not count as one of these three courses.

**Electives (9 credits)**

Electives provide the opportunity to explore timely courses, add breadth to the academic program, and engage in field work experiences. A minimum of three graduate-level courses are required. Students are encouraged to explore courses outside of the department and college that may supplement their learning experience. Only 3-credits worth of practica/internships will count as part of elective credit.

**Optional Internship (3 credits)**

Options for electives include EDCP 889 Doctoral Internship (3 credits), as doctoral students often find it helpful to engage in a significant professional internship. Each internship will be individually designed, dependent on the student's professional goals and on their previous and current experience. Requirements for the internship will take into consideration the student's previous professional experience, current assistantship or work experience, and professional goals. The nature of the work experience and the degree of supervision will be related to the scope of the additional experience required in the doctoral internship. See the Doctoral Field Work Manual on Canvas for more details. The internship may count as one of the general electives noted above but will not count within the Professional Concentration.
Summary of Credit Hours Required in the Ph.D. Curriculum

Total Credit Hours Required

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Core Courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Research and Evaluation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Professional Concentration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Electives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Dissertation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GRAND TOTAL OF HOURS REQUIRED BEYOND THE MASTER'S DEGREE 66

Sample Schedule for Full-time PhD Student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Term</th>
<th>Course number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall #1</td>
<td>EDCP 870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDCP 774*/EDCP 775*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Quantitative Methods or EDHI 672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Term #1</td>
<td>Concentration/Elective**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring #1</td>
<td>Concentration/Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDCP 773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDCP 742*/776*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer #1</td>
<td>EDHI 672 or Concentration/Elective**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall #2</td>
<td>EDCP 774*/EDCP 775*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDHI 750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDHI 672 or Concentration/Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Term #2</td>
<td>Concentration/Elective**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring #2</td>
<td>Concentration/Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Advanced Methods Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester</td>
<td>Course Code(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer #2</td>
<td>EDCP 742*/776*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall #3</td>
<td>EDCP 772</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EDCP 871*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring #3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer #3</td>
<td>Comprehensive Examination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth year</td>
<td>EDCP 899 Dissertation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* These courses are offered in alternate years, so be sure to check course offerings.
** Course offerings during the Winter and Summer terms are limited, so check course offerings and confirm that your graduate assistantship and/or fellowship funding includes tuition remission during winter and/or summer terms (if full-time student). Students do not have to take a concentration or elective each winter or summer term but should plan to take classes during some of the winter or summer terms to complete classes in the timeline presented above.
University of Maryland, College Park
College of Education
Department of Counseling, Higher Education, and Special Education
Higher Education, Student Affairs, and International Education Policy Program
Student Affairs Concentration

All doctoral students in the Student Affairs doctoral concentration are required to complete and pass a doctoral comprehensive examination taken at the end of the student’s foundational coursework and immediately prior to their dissertation proposal-writing course (EDCP 772). The comprehensive examination is intended to evaluate students’ proficiencies in identifying, synthesizing, and critiquing theoretical and empirical literature, translating such literature into recommendations for effective practice and future research, writing clearly for diverse audiences, and intended to support progress on their intended dissertation research. This set of guidelines will outline the eligibility requirements, contents, evaluations, and scheduling of the comprehensive examinations for students pursuing a Ph.D. in Student Affairs in the CHSE Department. This document is applicable to all Student Affairs doctoral students who have not taken the dissertation proposal-writing course and who have not yet begun the comprehensive examination process under any other version of this policy.

Eligibility for the Examination

Before students can take the comprehensive examination, they should have completed all of their foundational coursework (including no outstanding incompletes) for the doctoral program. Some electives and professional concentration courses may not yet be taken. The research competency should also be completed and approved by the student’s advisor.

Students may have individual circumstances for which they request an exception to the comprehensive examination policy. Such students should submit a “Memorandum of Request” to the chair of the SAC comprehensive examination committee that documents the exception. Before a student can submit the memorandum of request to the chair, she or he will need to consult with and obtain the approval from her or his SAC advisor.

Contents of the Examination

The doctoral comprehensive examination consists of two questions: a Contemporary Issues question and an Individual Expertise question. For both questions in the examination, students
are expected to consider and infuse in their responses the significance of: (1) multiculturalism and diversity; (2) student development theory; and (3) the broader context of higher education as a foundation for the field of student affairs.

**Question #1—Contemporary Issues Question**
As future student affairs scholar-practitioners, researchers, and/or faculty, it is important to keep abreast of key issues happening in the field and utilize relevant literature and research to develop an appropriate response for moving forward. In this question, students will analyze a specific contemporary issue happening in higher education using student development theory as well as relevant literature and scholarship, develop an adequate response to this issue, propose a set of recommendations for responding to this issue, discuss the benefits and limitations of their response, and address how their response affects key stakeholders.

**Question #2—Individual Expertise Question**
Doctoral students in the Student Affairs concentration form an area of expertise from their professional experience, research interests, and course work, including those courses that tie together to form a Professional Concentration. This Individual Expertise question will support the student’s progress on some dimension of their dissertation proposal. This Individual Expertise question is individually designed for students to display the research expertise that they have developed through one or more of the following: synthesizing relevant literature, showing evidence of theoretical sophistication, or designing the methods for their dissertation. Students will work with their advisor in developing a question connected to their intended dissertation proposal.

To assist in the design of the Individual Expertise question, on May 15 or by a date specified by the chair of the examination committee, students should furnish a two-page overview of their intended dissertation topic. In addition, students should identify the doctoral course work they have completed that supports this dissertation research inquiry that may include an explanation of their professional concentration, including an overview of the content of courses that comprise the concentration. Students may also provide any other information that will assist the advisor in drafting an appropriate question.

**Format of the Examination**

The doctoral comprehensive examination is a take-home examination in which students may use whatever books, articles, and resources are helpful to them. Students are expected to abide by the University’s Code of Academic Integrity regarding their work on the examination.

Students’ responses to the examination should be their original work for this specific purpose. The written examination should not include cut-and-pasted material from written work that students have completed for other purposes, including their dissertation proposal.

Students may use any written resources relevant to this examination. Students should not, however, use people as resources (e.g., peers, colleagues, and faculty) regarding the content of the examination and the content of responses. The examination should represent the students’ own work, and students should ask no one else to read their examination, edit their work, provide
resources, or provide feedback.

Students should provide proper documentation for all sources they have used/cited in their responses. They should be sure to indicate material that is quoted directly from a source. For each response, students should also include a complete list of references they have used/cited.

Students should select and use a pseudonym to identify themselves on the Contemporary Issues Question. The pseudonyms are used as a way to protect students’ identities, so that readers can evaluate responses without knowledge of individual students’ names.

Responses to each question should begin on a new page. Pages should be numbered and identified with the chosen pseudonym (except students should use their own names for the Individualized Question since it is not written anonymously) and topic or question number.

Students will respond to the General/Contemporary Issues question in 15-20 pages. Students will respond to the Individual Expertise question in 25-30 pages. A list of references and the cover page do not count as part of the total number of pages for a response.

[ nb: The comprehensive examination is designed as a one-time activity, meaning that the expectation is that all questions are responded to and turned in during each and every administration of the comprehensive examination. Therefore, if students do not turn in a response to a question, it technically counts as a “fail,” meaning it represents the first attempt. When students do turn in the response to that question, it would be during the next administration of the exam and would be considered their second (and final) attempt.]

**Administration of the Examination**

The doctoral comprehensive examination will be offered annually in the summer prior to the dissertation-proposal writing course (EDCP 772). This year’s exam dates are June 15 – July 15, 2020 at 4 PM.

The examination will only be offered once per year to all students during the same time frame, and the final deadline is not flexible. No special arrangements will be made with individual students, except in the case of a documented rationale or emergency. If a student knows that she or he will experience difficulty in taking the examination or meeting the examination deadline because of a documented disability or participation in a religious observance, notification of such a condition/observance must be made to the SAC comprehensive examination committee chair well in advance of the beginning of the examination so that appropriate accommodations can be made. Appeals for unanticipated and extraordinary circumstances may be made to the SAC comprehensive examination chair, who will determine if an exception may be made. In the event the student does not pass one or both examination questions, an individual plan to retake that question(s) will be developed with the Student Affairs examination committee.

The response to the Individualized Question (#2) should include a copy of the original examination question prior to the beginning of the response, in order to facilitate the review of the exam; the copy of the question does not count towards the page count. The text for the
General/Contemporary Issues Question does not need to be included with the response.

Beginning Summer 2020, students will submit response questions to the SAC ELMS/Canvas site and run preliminary reports from TurnItIn prior to turning in the final responses. Doing so allows the student to identify instances where they may have made errors related to paraphrasing, etc. in their response and make the appropriate corrections prior to turning in the response. Students will receive more detailed instructions on how to do through the SAC ELMS/Canvas site. Please do your best to avoid emailing faculty on “gray” areas in your TurnItIn report, when in doubt, just change the phrasing.

Students will put their name on the Individualized Question response. Students should write a pseudonym (not your real name!) to their General/Contemporary Issues Question.

Exam responses will be uploaded to the SAC ELMS/Canvas website no later than 4 PM of the exam turn-in date. Using the SAC ELMS/Canvas site for the Individualized Question will allow the reviewer to directly access the TurnItIn report since anonymity is not a concern with the second question. Only the Program Coordinator will have access to the General Question responses and will email them to the reviewers so anonymity will not be compromised. (The PC will not review General Question responses)

A signed version of the Statement of Compliance (the last page of this file) should be emailed to the SAC Program Coordinator (Dr. Espino) when the exam responses are uploaded. The signature can be digital, or a scanned/photographed copy of a handwritten signature.

Evaluation of the Examination

Since the examination is not timed and students are permitted to use books and other written resources, the standards and criteria for adequate/passing responses will be rigorous. The use of the pseudonym is designed to protect the identity of each student on the General/Contemporary Issues question, so that readers can evaluate responses without knowledge of the student’s name or previous performance.

After the examination is taken, the questions are separated according to question number. Faculty members who are knowledgeable about the area covered by the question are assigned to evaluate those questions. Each response is read by two (2) faculty members. In the event of a discrepancy in evaluations between the two readers, a third reader may be asked to read and evaluate the essay.

Responses to each question are evaluated as follows:

1. Each question will be evaluated on a scale of 1.0 to 5.0, with 3.0 as a passing evaluation and 5.0 as a high pass. Evaluations can be assigned in whole or half points.

2. Subcategories on evaluation sheets will be scored on the same 1.0 - 5.0 system. The criteria for the subcategories are described below.
3. When an answer is evaluated as not passing (i.e., below 3.0), written comments giving the reason for the grade must be provided on the evaluation sheet.

Students must receive a score of 3.0 or higher on each of the two questions in the examination. A student receiving an overall score below 3.0 for any question must retake the question(s) that was/were not passed. According to policy of the College of Education, comprehensive examinations may not be attempted more than two times.

The chair of the comprehensive examination committee will notify all students of the results; evaluation results and feedback for each response will be available through the student’s advisor. Formal acknowledgement of the results will be sent by letter from the CHSE department chair. Results will also be reported to the College of Education as an overall score of passing or failing. Honors may be awarded for exceptionally strong scores on both questions of the comprehensive examination.

**Criteria for the Subcategories**

Both the content and presentation of the responses will be evaluated. Evaluations of content (weighed more heavily than presentation) include:

- Whether the response accurately reflected the question asked
- The accuracy of the material presented
- The completeness of the response
- The level of complexity of the response
- The appropriate use of references
- The originality of approach or thought

Evaluations of presentation (weighed less heavily than content) include:

- The organization of the response
- The clarity of the response
- The proper use of grammar, spelling, and syntax.
STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

This Statement of Compliance indicates that I have abided by the expectations, policies, and procedures outlined above for taking and completing the written comprehensive examination.

Further, I pledge on my honor that I have abided by the Code of Academic Integrity, and I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this examination.

_______________________________________
Your Signature

_______________________________________
Your Printed Name

_______________________________________
Your Phone Number (best way to reach you)        Date
SAC DISSERTATION COMMITTEE REQUIREMENTS

Begin by familiarizing yourself with the required Graduate Student Forms for both the College of Education and the Graduate School (e.g., Doctoral Dissertation Proposal Form, Dean’s Representative Role Form, Nomination of Thesis or Dissertation Committee Form):

College of Education forms are located at: http://www.education.umd.edu/studentinfo/graduate_info/Forms.html

Graduate School forms are located at: http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/forms

Notes to Consider before Assembling your Committee: The College of Education shall require that a doctoral student be admitted to candidacy prior to approving the doctoral research committee or accepting the dissertation proposal. The College shall require that a student’s doctoral research committee be approved, and dissertation proposal accepted prior to forwarding the application for formation of an oral examining committee to the Graduate School (oral examining committee = dissertation defense).


A doctoral dissertation committee will consist of:

- Minimum of five voting members of the Graduate Faculty, including three Full Members
  - The committee members should include representatives of supporting areas and an individual versed in the methodology and/or literature of the dissertation
  - Chair is generally a student’s advisor but is not required. The Chair must be a Full Member of the Graduate Faculty. Requests for a Co-chair must have prior Graduate School approval.
  - Each committee needs a Dean’s Representative as a voting or non-voting member. The Dean’s Representative must have a research interest related to that of the student. The Dean’s Representative must be a tenured member of the Graduate Faculty and must be from another tenure home than the student’s primary advisor, or co-advisor(s).
  - More information on the Dean’s Representative role as well as implications of having the Dean’s Representative as Voting vs. Non-Voting can be found at: https://education.umd.edu/student-resources/student-services/graduate-studies-student-services-office/graduate-studies-forms#deansrole

- Faculty who leave UMD (except Emeriti) are Graduate Faculty for one year and are then nominated as Special Members.
  - NOTE: any member outside of UMD must be nominated to serve on the Graduate Faculty as a special member. Special members, and University of Maryland
adjunct and emeriti graduate faculty, must maintain their status (5-year term) to serve on student committees.

*These are important forms that students need to complete as part of the dissertation process:*

1. **College of Education Doctoral Dissertation Proposal Approval Form**
   To be completed after the dissertation proposal is successfully defended (and before the formal appointment of the dissertation committee): [https://education.umd.edu/student-resources/student-services/graduate-studies-student-services-office/graduate-studies-forms#dispro](https://education.umd.edu/student-resources/student-services/graduate-studies-student-services-office/graduate-studies-forms#dispro)

   **NOTE:** Formal appointment of the committee takes place when the “Nomination of Thesis or Dissertation Committee” form is approved by the Graduate School (normally submitted early in the semester of graduation, prior to the final oral defense). If any member, identified on this form, is ineligible to serve on student committees the dissertation chairperson will be notified by the College.

2. **Nomination of Thesis or Dissertation Committee Form**
   This form must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar at least 6 weeks before the final examination and before the established deadline dates (and will include an approved IRB form). This will be completed in the semester that the doctoral candidate anticipates completion of the dissertation:
RESOURCES

Additional resources are located on the Student Affairs ELMS/Canvas Site

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES (ETS)

Educational Technology Services (ETS) has been a support unit in the College under various names since 1968 and provides direct support to College of Education faculty and staff for UMD owned and purchased equipment, including office desktop IT support, classroom and computer lab support, equipment loan, web and learning technology services.

Educational Technology Services (ETS) also supports circulating technology equipment at no charge to College of Education faculty, which may be used for instruction or special events that can be checked out and utilized on campus. Members of the COE (faculty, staff, and graduate students with approval, only) have the option to reserve equipment with advanced notice. Equipment reservations are subject to availability and are booked on a first-come, first-served basis. Available equipment includes laptops, LCD projectors, video cameras, laser pointers, digital voice recorders, and wireless and handheld microphones. Equipment requests can be made at (https://education.umd.edu/about-college/administration/ets/equipment-loan#inventory). Confirmed equipment may be picked up by the faculty member or designee and returned to Benjamin room 0234 during office hours.

A computer lab is in the basement of Benjamin. Printing for a fee is available.

GRADUATE SCHOOL WRITING CENTER (GSWC) FELLOWS

The University of Maryland GSWC Fellows offer one-on-one writing consultations for enrolled University of Maryland graduate students. Consultations are available during Fall, Spring, and Summer terms. Fellows work with graduate students within their colleges on structure, argument, disciplinary expectations, citation, voice, syntax, and, as appropriate, usage and grammar. GSWC Fellows do not edit, but rather work collaboratively with students on their writing. For more information on how to register for an appointment with the GSWC Fellows, please see http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/graduate-school-writing-center

In addition, the GSWC Fellows, the GSWC hosts a weekly write-in on Friday afternoons from 1:00-4:00 p.m. for graduate students to attend to focus on writing projects where staff is available to provide feedback and support. write-in sessions and information can be found at: https://gradschool.umd.edu/graduate-school-writing-center/weekly-write-ins

The Graduate School Writing Center also assist students who want to start a writing group or join one. Information can be found here: https://gradschool.umd.edu/graduate-school-writing-center/writing-groups
NATIONAL CENTER ON FACULTY DEVELOPMENT & DIVERSITY
UMD is a member of the NCFDD, which offers unique resources for scholars ranging from semester planning to teaching to writing. We highly recommend participating in the 14-Day Writing Challenges that occur once per semester, including the summer! A great opportunity to engage with scholars across the country and maintaining a writing schedule (log in to www.facultydiversity.org using your UMD account!)

MC EWEN RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM
Established in 1995, the Mac and Lucille McEwen Research Grant was established by Professor Emerita Marylu K. McEwen in honor of her father and mother. The grants will initially be reserved for master's thesis and doctoral dissertation research. Should additional funds be available any given year, proposals may be considered for other student-initiated research. SAC Master’s and doctoral students are eligible to receive funds once per degree program. It is strongly recommended that students applying for funds have a research proposal that has been approved by their thesis/dissertation committee prior to their application. A call for proposals is usually issued in the Fall. Additional information for the McEwen scholarship is located on the Student Affairs Canvas site.

SPARC GRANTS
The College of Education's Support Program for Advancing Research and Collaboration (SPARC) is a competitive grant program for new assistant professors and doctoral candidates. SPARC funds are intended to support the student’s dissertation research. Doctoral students who have Advanced to Candidacy are eligible to apply. Only research that has been approved by the student's advisor will be supported. A doctoral student may receive only one award. More information can be found at: https://education.umd.edu/sparc-support-program-advancing-research-and-collaboration. Application deadlines vary by term so please check the website for updated deadline information.

TRAVEL SUPPORT
One source of travel support can be accessed through the Graduate School. Any graduate student presenting at a conference can apply for a Goldhaber Travel Grant. The Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grants are intended to help defray the expenses incurred by graduate students who are traveling to scholarly, scientific, or professional conferences to present papers, posters, or other scholarly material. Please note that preference for Goldhaber Travel Grants is given to students who have advanced to candidacy and can be awarded twice during a student’s graduate education at UMD (once pre-candidacy and a second time post-candidacy) for conference travel. More information about the application process and guidelines can be found at: https://www.gradschool.umd.edu/funding/fellowships-awards/student-fellowships-awards/graduate-school-travel-grants

3 Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, UMD has restricted travel to conferences and there are many conferences that are moving on-line.
Disseminating scholarly work is essential to advance practice, promote additional research, and to begin establishing students as scholars in their field. The CHSE Department, therefore, seeks to provide partial support for professional travel. Toward that end, the Department provides travel support for doctoral students who are presenting research at a national conference. Maximum funding level depends on the location of the conference to which the student is traveling. Maximum travel award amounts are: $250 for travel east of the Mississippi, $400 for travel west of the Mississippi, including Canada or Mexico; and $600 for international travel outside of North America and Mexico.

https://education.umd.edu/academics/departments/chse/resources/forms-and-handbooks

UMD HEALTH CENTER
Be sure to have your immunization form (https://health.umd.edu/immunizations) completed and turned into the Health Center before school begins your first semester in the HESI program. The Health Center will not notify you if you do not have your completed immunization form on file until mid-way through your first semester. You will receive a warning message that you cannot register for classes in the spring when attempting to register for courses online. If there are any immunizations you are missing, they can be completed at the Health Center. Ideally, it is best to have your Primary Care Physician (if you have one) do this during the summer before starting the program.