



THE UNIVERSITY
OF ARIZONA

Educational Leadership & Policy (EDLP) Degrees

Presentation to Professional Preparation Board

September 2025

About EDLP Programs

- Advance knowledge and address key education leadership and policy issues
- Engage in research within broad socio-cultural, historical, economic, and political contexts
- Explore issues of educational equity and social justice
- Emphasis is placed on practical application of theory
- Courses incorporate adult learning principles

Prepare graduates to:

- Adapt to a changing world.
- Address problems of practice through ethical decision-making and research-informed strategies.
- Lead and inspire in diverse educational contexts (schools, districts, communities, etc.).
- Support continuous and systemic improvement in education.

EDLP Full-time Faculty



Dr. Joonkil Ahn
Assistant Professor



Dr. Melanie Bertrand
Associate Professor



Dr. Meg Cota
Associate Professor of Practice
M.Ed. Director



Dr. Dawn Demps
Assistant Professor



Dr. Ruth M. López
Associate Professor
EDLP Director



Dr. Cynthia Mruczek
Associate Professor of Practice
Ed.D. Director



Dr. Chi Nguyen
Assistant Professor

EDLP Adjunct Faculty



Dr. Thad M. Dugan



Dr. Tonya R. Strozier



Dr. Roseanne Lopez

K-12 Leadership Expertise

EDLP Adjunct Faculty are recognized leaders and offer much experience and expertise having been teachers, instructional coaches, school administrators, district directors, chief academic officer, associate superintendent, and community leaders.

EDLP Degrees

Degrees:

- Educational Leadership, M.Ed.
- Educational Leadership, Ed.D.
- Educational Leadership & Policy, Ph.D.

Educational Leadership M.Ed.

Dr. Meg Cota, M.Ed. Director
hcota@arizona.edu

Mission:

*Developing leaders for
tomorrow's educational
organizations.*



Program Description

The EDL M.Ed. degree program is designed for aspiring leaders who are seeking administrative certification and careers in leadership roles.

This program will prepare students to:

- Promote inclusive, equitable, safe, and socially just educational environments
- Study theory and research to inform and guide inquiry and practice
- Draw from current trends in education and apply this knowledge to enact change
- Apply best practices to meet the demands of diverse education contexts

About Modality

This two-year, 36-unit program is offered through the:

Tucson Main Campus (hybrid modality)

Distance Campus (mostly online)

Contact us for more details!

Apply today!



Educational Leadership Ed.D.

Dr. Cynthia Mruczek, Ed.D. Director
cmruczek@arizona.edu

The goal of this doctorate is to support educational leaders in becoming ***scholarly practitioners***.



Program Description

Our program is designed to advance knowledge and address enduring and future problems in education by:

- Exploring issues of social justice for educational equity and opportunity,
- Engaging in research situated in socio-cultural, economic, and political contexts,
- Addressing the significance of changing and challenging educational contexts.

About Modality & Courses

Entirely online, mostly asynchronous

Apply today!



Educational Leadership & Policy Ph.D.

Dr. Ruth López, Ph.D. Director
ruthlopez@arizona.edu

Our goal is to prepare education scholars who can translate theory into practice creating real, transformative change.



Program Description

The EDLP PhD Program prepares students to:

- EXAMINE complex issues of equity, inclusivity, social justice in educational contexts
- TRANSLATE theory and research into practice to achieve results in educational institutions
- EXPAND skills as a researcher and policy actor
- PREPARE to work in schools, policy, and academic settings

About Modality & Courses

In-person program with some hybrid and online options. Students in this program have the option to enroll full-time (9 credits/semester) or part-time (3-6 credits/semester) if they are employed full time.

Application opens October 1!
Info session coming soon...



Interested in
learning more or
having us visit your
school/district?

Fill out this short form and we
will reach out to you

U of A Educational Leadership
Interest Form



Table Talk Prompts

1. How can U of A improve Educational Leadership Programs in terms of:
 - a. pathways into leadership?
 - b. curriculum content and faculty expertise?
 - c. meeting the needs in the field?
 - d. communication with schools, districts, and community partners?
2. What would you like to see more of in our leadership programs? How can we co-create what is needed?
3. How are schools and districts looking at educational leadership programs to guide current educational context?



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OF ARIZONA

T H A N K Y O U



Next slides are templates

We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. The university strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.

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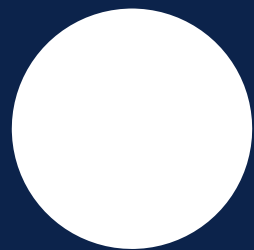
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