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Doctoral Degree in Computer Education 1983

Nova Southeastern University

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Doctoral Degree in Computer Education

You may earn the Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree with a Major in Computer Education. Specialties in Instructional Technology and in Software Development are also available.

The Office of Computer Studies and the Education Center offer a three-year doctoral degree with a major in computer education. This degree is designed for educators of all types: preschool, elementary, secondary, college, university and business.

The degree program consists of eight study areas plus three practicums. Students earn 24 credits per year for a total of 72 credits. Some credits may be transferred into the program if they exactly parallel program offerings; this may reduce the time and cost of the program. Students receive their own portable microcomputer, modem and essential software. Much of the work is home-based via telecommunications.

Summers (one month) are spent in a cluster format on campus in Florida or in California. An annual meeting is also held in conjunction with the Association for Educational Communication and Technology’s (AECT) national convention. Each student will become a member of AECT and the Division for Instructional Systems and Computers (DISC).

Nova University
ADMISSION

Admission to the doctor of education program is dependent upon the applicant being employed in an education-related field. To be admitted, candidates must hold a master's degree from a regionally accredited institution and have the recommendation of their chief administrative officer as being one of their most competent educators. Applicants must also demonstrate competency in programming in BASIC by submitting a report on a project they have implemented utilizing a computer program which they wrote. Applicants must submit their GRE scores or a portfolio of work, three letters of recommendation, and have a record of success in prior graduate coursework. Applicants must also demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills.

RESIDENCY

Each summer for three years, students are required to spend one month on campus in Florida or California. In addition, each year students must attend an annual meeting held in conjunction with the Association for Educational Communication and Technology's annual convention.

THE DEGREE

The degree is the doctor of education degree (Ed.D.). The major is computer education. For those from the media field, adaptations to the program may be made which will allow them to include a specialty area in "Instructional Technology." Educators with a strong interest in the development of marketable software may elect to include a specialty area in "Software Development." These specialties may still be accomplished within the three-year period of the degree and at the same cost.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

There are eight study areas that must be completed for the degree. Three practicums, including a major applied research project, must be successfully completed. A practicum is an institutional research project undertaken by students to apply the use of microcomputers and original programming to education. Study areas and Practicums are graded on a Pass/Fail basis. Specified competencies must be achieved within the stated time limits at the criterion level indicated to receive a "Pass." Students must also attend three summer sessions and three national meetings. In addition, a total of at least 20 computer-related service hours must be provided to AECT or DISC.

STUDY AREAS

The eight study areas which must be completed are:

1. Telecommunications
2. Research Methods
3. Curriculum (CAI)
4. Advanced Utilization of Microcomputers
5. Learning Theory
6. Systems Analysis
7. Extended Computer Programming
8. State of the Art

For the successful completion of each of the study areas, the student earns 6 semester hours of credit. In addition, the student earns 6 semester hours each for the completion of Practicums 1 and 2. The student earns 12 semester hours of credit for successful completion of the MARP.

To add the Instructional Technology or Software Development Specialty area, modifications will be made in the Practicums, in Study Areas #3 and #4, and in a new Study Area #6 to replace "Systems Analysis."

The order in which modules are taken will differ with the term in which the student enters the program. Below is the sequence of courses for students who enter the program in January or April.

YEAR ONE

January-December  
#1—Telecommunications*
January-March  
#5—Learning Theory*
April-June  
#2—Research Methods
July  
Summer Session 1
Conclude #2 & #5
Start #3
August-December  
#3—Curriculum (CAI)
Year Two

January
National Meeting #1
Practicum Proposal 1 due

January-May
#4—Advanced Utilization of Microcomputers

July
Summer Session 2
#7—Extended Computer Programming
Conclude #3 & #4
Start #5 & #8
Practicum 1 due

August-December
#6—Systems Analysis

Year Three

January
National Meeting #2
Practicum Proposal 2 due

January-May
#8—State of the Art

July
Summer Session 3
Conclude #6 & #8
Practicum 2 due
MARP Proposal due

August-January
Major Applied Research Project

January
National Meeting #3

July
MARP due

The usual start-up time for clusters is in the summer on campus or in California.

*Students entering in April will take telecommunications in April through March and the CHE portion of study area #5 (Learning Theory) when offered again.

DELIVERY SYSTEM

There are four major components to the delivery of instruction in this program:

1) Telecommunications—interactive presentation of study areas using a portable microcomputer, modem and software; on-line and off-line.

2) Cluster Study Areas—presentation of study area content in a classroom setting.

3) Summer Sessions—residential setting for completion of study areas and the introduction of new study areas.

4) National Meetings—intensive workshop format for study of selected topics.

During the first year of the program, students will be integrated within the nearest Center for Higher Education (CHE) doctoral cluster for the theoretical portion of study areas #2, #3 & #5. During the summer session, the computer portions of these study areas will be completed. Simultaneously, students will work from home to become familiar with the UNIX operating system and they will complete study area #1. In the future, a CAI version of study areas #2, #3 and #5 will be available via telecommunications as a student option.

TRANSFER CREDITS

Applicants who have completed the Nova University CAE/OCS educational specialist degree with a major in computer studies and have the recommendation of their faculty will be able to enter the program at the second year level with approximately one year's requirements waived. Those applicants from other institutions with comparable first-year work will be individually evaluated and may be exempted from all or part of the first year's work.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

All applications should be made at least one month prior to beginning the program. Application is made through the Ed.D. Admissions Committee, Nova University, Office of Computer Studies.

TUITION

Tuition and fees are paid for three consecutive years. Tuition for 1983-84 is $3,600 plus transportation, room and board for the summer session and the annual meeting. Tuition may be paid in a lump sum at the beginning of the year or in four equal quarterly payments of $925 which includes a $25 registration and service fee.
OTHER FEES

Additional fees include a non-refundable application fee of $25 that must be submitted with the original application form, a matriculation fee of $250 (due upon acceptance into the program), a security deposit of $500 (due one week before the first class session), and a $25 per credit evaluation and service fee for those students requesting exemption from 3 or more credits in the program based upon prior parallel course work.

For those not completing their work, including the practicums, by the end of a 3-1/2 year period, a continuation fee will be charged.

There is a $25 graduation fee and a separate fee for cap and gown rental.

Students withdrawing from the program may be reinstated upon approval of the Ed.D. Admissions Committee and the payment of a readmission fee. A one year leave of absence may be approved under special circumstances.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Applicants, once accepted into the program will make an initial payment of $1,675 (plus evaluation and service fees, if applicable); this includes the matriculation fee, security deposit, and the first installment of the tuition. The remaining tuition for the first year will be made in three equal payments at the beginning of each remaining quarter. Tuition for the next two years may be made in its entirety at the beginning of each year or in four equal payments each year.

WITHDRAWAL

To withdraw from the program, the student must submit a letter of withdrawal to the Ed.D. Admissions Committee, Office of Computer Studies. Students failing to pass a study area or practicum will be placed on probation. Failure to pass 2 study areas will result in dismissal from the program. A student withdrawn or terminated by the University will be notified in writing.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information may be obtained by writing to: "Doctoral Degree in Computer Education, Office of Computer Studies, Nova University, 3301 College Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314" or by calling 305/475-7445.

Information regarding financial aid and veteran’s benefits can be obtained by contacting the Nova University Financial Aid Office, 305/475-7411.

Information in this fact sheet is subject to change.