

# PhD in Curriculum and Instruction (**CUIN PhD Handbook**) to be updated Su 2026

Nov 2025 CUIN PhD Info meeting



**Attendance**  
Let us know  
you are here!

**Link to the Handbook**



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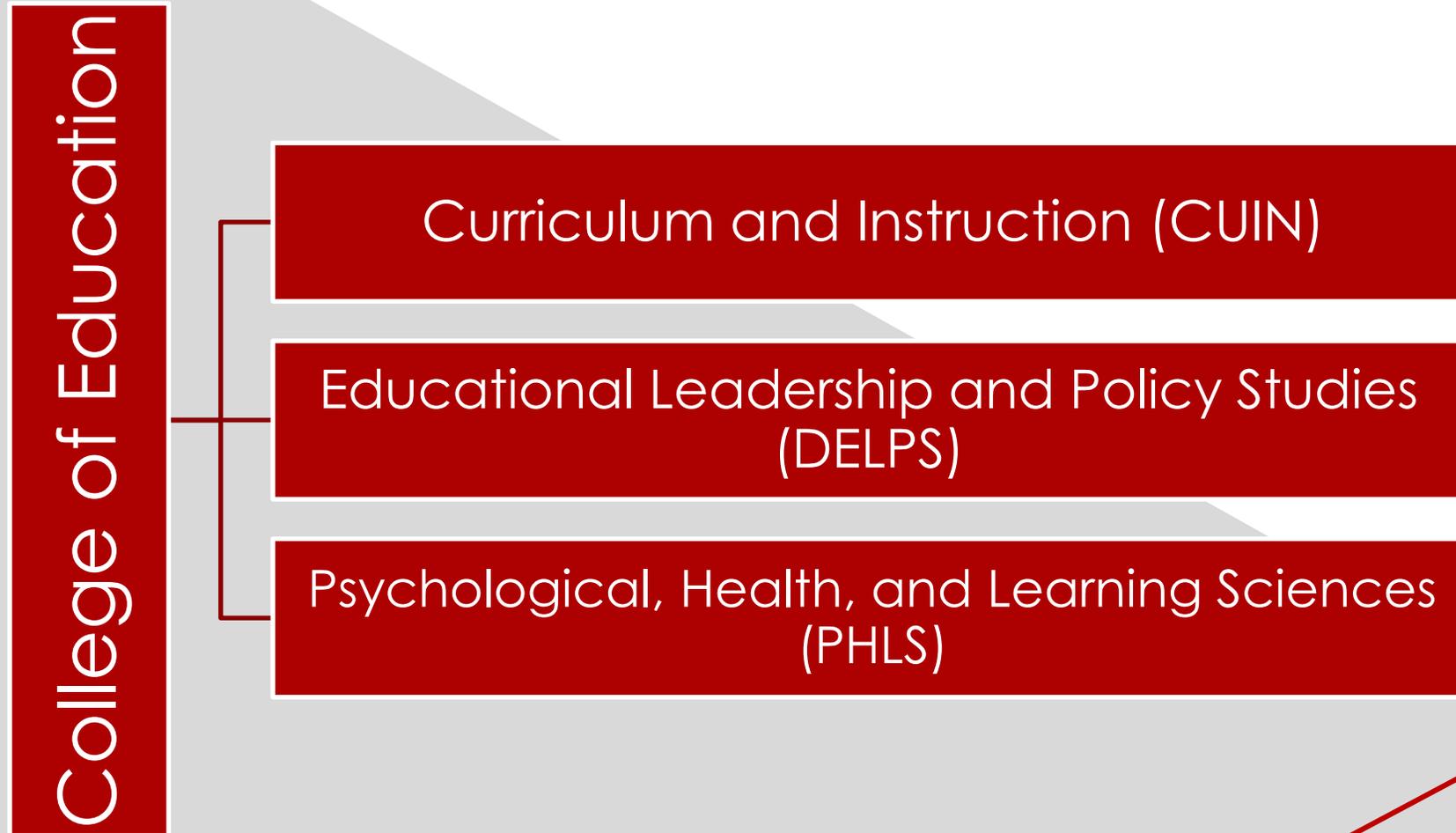
# Welcome! We're glad to meet you.



# Tonight's Agenda

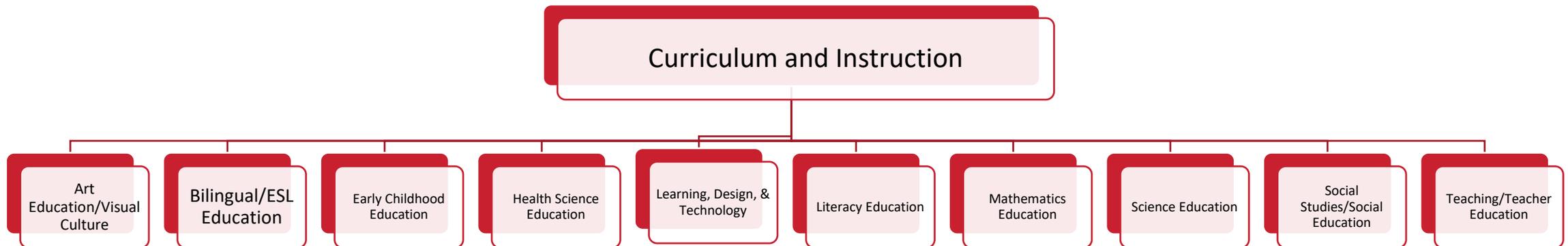
- Programs in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction
- The CUIN PhD Program
  - The coursework
  - Experiences
  - Funding
  - Application processes
- Breakout rooms (specializations) - (6:40 - 7:05)
- Curriculum & Instruction Doctoral Student Association (CIDsA) (7:05 - 7:30)

# About the College of Education

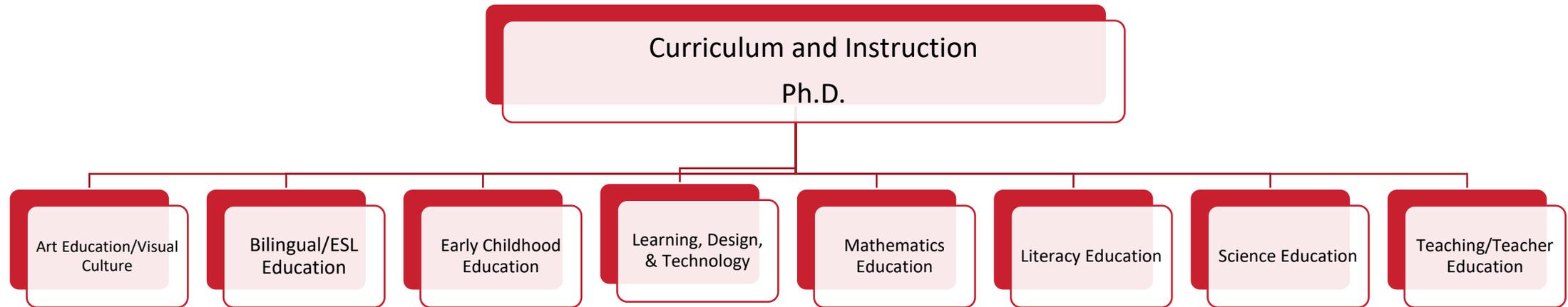


# Curriculum and Instruction Degree Programs & Specializations

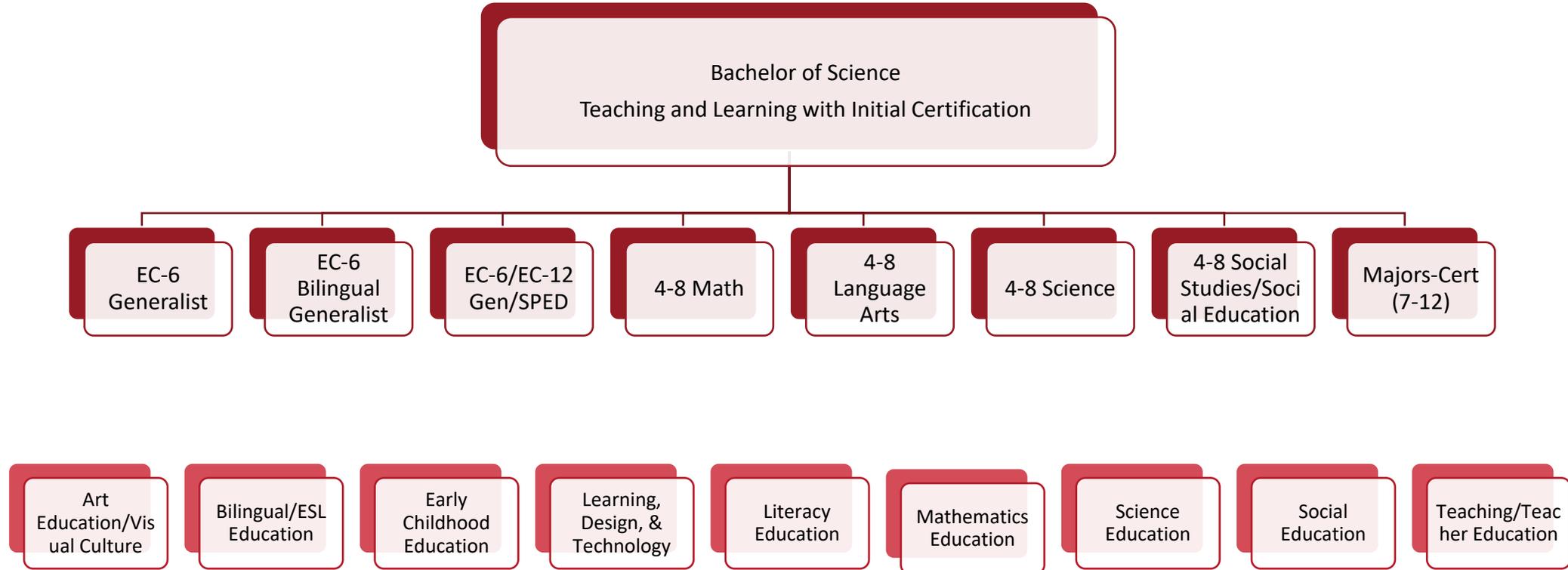
- 10 Specializations
- Bachelor of Science in Teaching and Learning (B.S.) with initial certification
- Education Minor
- Master of Education (M.Ed.)
- Master of Education (M.Ed) with initial teacher certification
- Education Doctorate in Professional Leadership (Ed.D)
- Doctorate of Philosophy in Curriculum and Instruction (Ph.D.)



# Curriculum and Instruction Ph.D. 8 Specializations



# Teacher Preparation



**The specializations contribute to the various initial certification plans which leads to teaching opportunities for our Ph.D. students.**

# Career Paths -What do you want to be when you grow up?

## Academic positions

- Educational researchers
- Teacher educators

## Non-academic positions

- Researcher in non-profits, think-tanks
- Curriculum developer
- Program evaluation

# Program & Schedule Highlights

Focus on equity and social justice in educational contexts

Cohort model

- 66 credit hours (60 hours in coursework, 6 dissertation hours)
- Full-time (9 hours of coursework per semester) – 4 years
- Part-time (6 hours of coursework per semester) – 6 years

Deliberate course scheduling – In compliance with J-1 VISA

- In the evenings, 5:30 pm – 8:30
- Mondays: Ph.D. Core courses, face-to-face
- Tuesdays: Specialization courses – may be online
- Wednesdays: Ph.D. Research – face-to-face
- Thursdays: Ph.D. Research – face-to-face
- No coursework in the summer

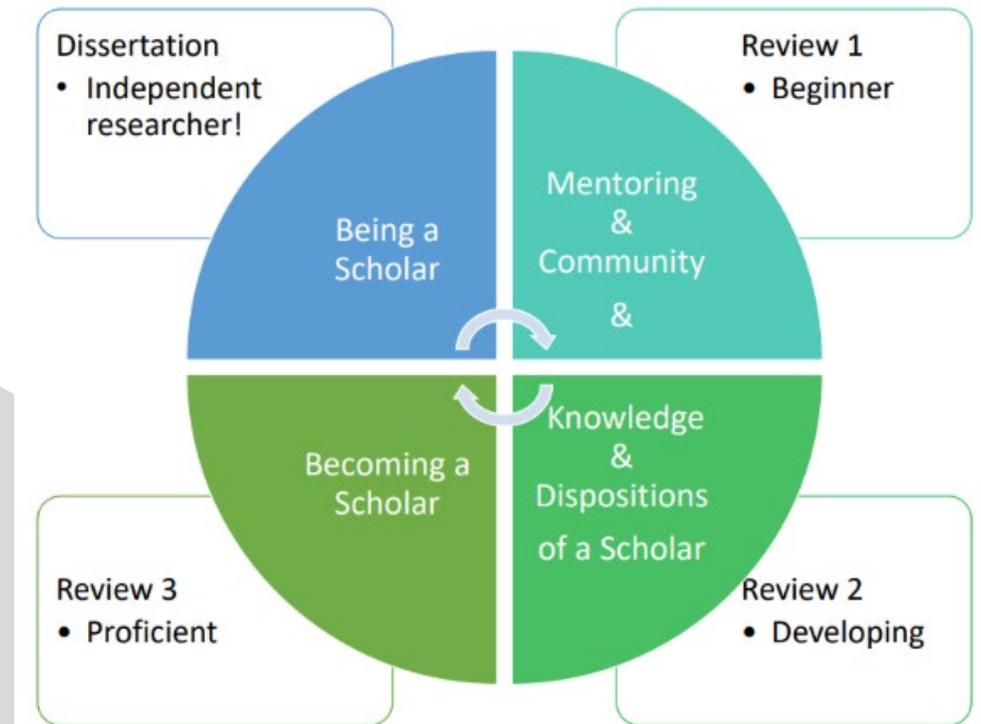
We encourage/expect students to take courses across specializations.

25/26 Degree Plan Overview  
(subject to change for Fall 2026 cohort)

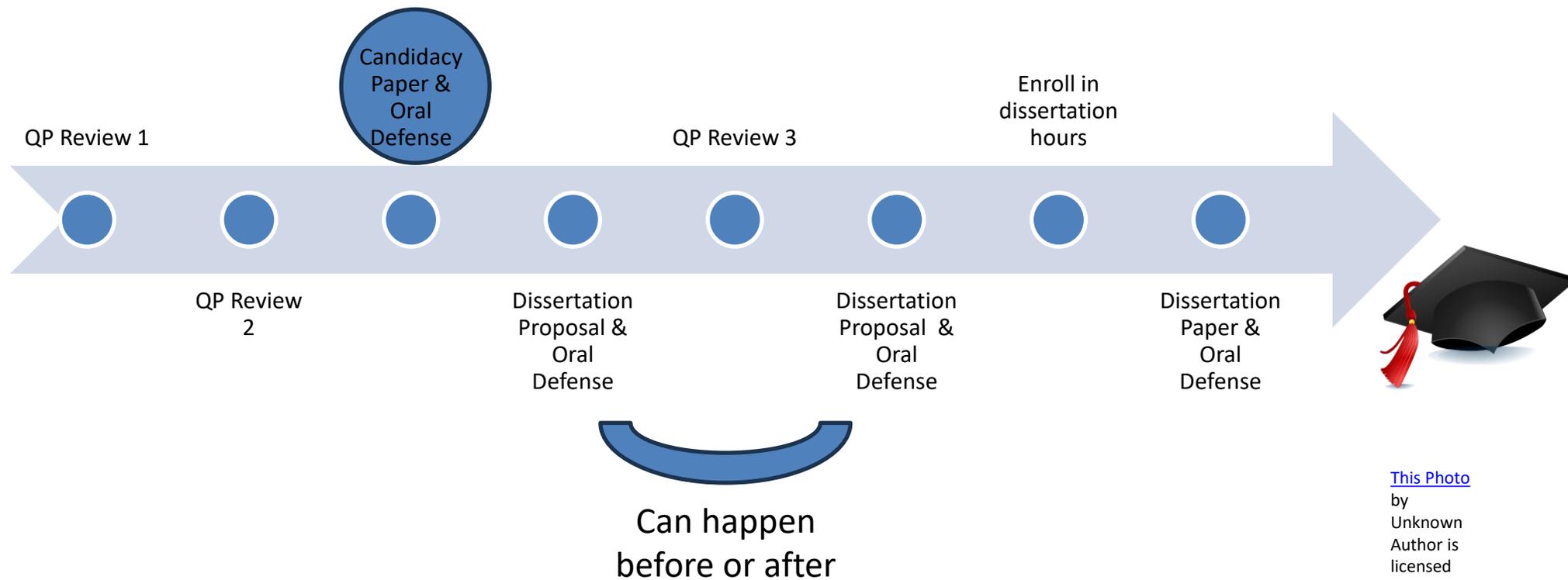
Course Type	# of Courses	# of Hours Earned
<b>REQUIRED RESEARCH CORE</b>	5	15 hrs.
CUIN 8370: Introduction to Educational Research		
CUIN 8371: Introduction to Quantitative Educational Research		
CUIN 8372: Introduction to Qualitative Educational Research		
2 research methods courses from the approved list below		
<b>Required Curriculum and Instruction Core</b> <i>All CORE course substitutions must be approved via graduate petition prior to enrolling in the course.</i>	5	15 hrs.
CUIN 8345: Curriculum and Instruction Seminar		
CUIN 8341: Critical Issues and Research in Urban Education		
CUIN 8342: Social Justice and Equity		
CUIN 7373: Instructional Strategies for Teaching Adults OR CUIN 8361: The State of the Curriculum Field in Education		
CUIN 8352: Technology Applications for Educational Leaders OR CUIN 7360: Curriculum Theory		
<b>Specialization Emphasis: CUIN 8393 (required) and approved specialization/elective courses</b>	10	30 hrs.
<b>Two</b> CUIN 8399 or <b>One</b> CUIN 8699 Dissertation Hours	<b>2*</b> CUIN 8399 or <b>1**</b> CUIN 8699	6 hrs.
<b>TOTAL COURSES AND HOURS TO COMPLETE DEGREE</b>	<b>22* or 21**</b>	<b>66 hrs.</b>
<b>REQUIRED BENCHMARKS:</b> Qualifying Portfolio and Candidacy Research		

# Program Benchmarks

- ⦿ Annual review of progress
- ⦿ Qualifying Portfolio
  - > Reviewed 3 times
    - 9-27 hours
    - 18-45 hours
    - 36-54 hours
- ⦿ Candidacy paper & oral defense



# Program Benchmarks/Significant Events



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# Outside of Coursework Experiences

## Research projects led by faculty

- **Research Assistant**
- Attending and presenting at research conferences
- Co-authoring manuscripts
- Data collection and analysis
- Grant-writing

## Teaching

- Assist a faculty member in teaching an undergraduate course (**Teaching Assistant**)
- Instructor of record of an undergraduate course (**Teaching Fellow**)

## Estimated Costs of Living I-20 & Financial Backing Information

### I-20 Calculator (As of Sept 2025)



Scroll down to I-20  
Calculator and  
then College of  
Education

GRADUATE SCHOOL	
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION	
Admit Term	Fall 2024-Spring 2025
Career Level	Doctoral
Number of Dependents	0
Competitive Scholarship Waiver	No
Competitive Scholarship	No
Graduate Tuition	\$ 16,308.00
Mandatory Fees	\$ 1,226.00
Competitive Scholarship Waiver	\$ -
Competitive Scholarship	\$ -
Health Insurance	\$ 3,598.00
Books and Supplies	\$ 1,300.00
Living Expenses	\$ 15,060.00
Dependents, if applicable	\$ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 37,492.00</b>

#### Notes:

1. Tuition waiver does not equal free
2. Funding is not guaranteed for the 4 – 6 years of the program
3. Students need to plan to support themselves and their families without funding

# Funding Opportunities

- Federal financial aid
- [UH/COE Scholarships](#) (for continuing students)
- Graduate Tuition Fellowship (GTF)
  - **ALL applicants will be considered (do not need to apply)**
- Assistantship
  - Research Assistant (RA)
  - Teaching Assistant (TA)
  - Teaching Fellowship (TF)
  - Administrative Assistant (AA)



COE Scholarships



Tuition Calculator

# Graduate Tuition Fellowship (GTF) & Assistantships

- GTF covers the cost of **in-state** tuition and mandatory fees for **full-time enrollment** of nine credit hours per term (fall and spring only)
  - Guaranteed the **first two years only**; **not** guaranteed for summer
  - You should plan to not have funding for tuition for Years 3 & 4
- Assistantships (RA, TA, TF, AA)
  - Stipend: About \$1577 a month - **BEFORE TAXES**
  - 9 months; summer funding not guaranteed
  - Funding will not fully support cost of living
  - Applied for and awarded each year (via email)
  - Funding sources
    - Dept of CUIN - limited
    - Grants - specific to faculty
  - If you have an Assistantship and you are out-of-state, an out-of-state tuition waiver will be applied

# By the Numbers (as of Sept 2025)

- ◉ Seeking 15-20 per cohort
- ◉ Fall 2025 Admission Cycle: 100 applicants
  - > 26 were offered admission
  - > 3 declined, 5 were nonresponsive, 12 - Visas denied or delayed significantly

Cohort	#
F2019	1
F2021	5
F2022	7
F2023	9
F2024	14
F2025	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>

Specialization	#
Art Education/Visual Culture	5
Bilingual/ESL Education	9
Early Childhood Education	2
Learning, Design & Technology	6
Literacy Education	5
Mathematics Education	5
Science Education	4
Social Studies/Social Education	1
Teaching/Teacher Education	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>

# CUIN PhD Program Application Process

- Deadline January 5, 2026.
- GRE waiver
  - Applicant overall undergraduate GPA is 3.0 or higher (on a 4-pt scale) OR
  - Applicant has a master's degree or terminal degree
  - Otherwise, official GRE scores are required and must have been taken within the last 5 years.
- Online ApplyWeb application
  - Fee: \$50 (domestic), \$80 (international)
- English Proficiency
- What to submit
  - Statement of interest
  - Writing sample
  - Resume/CV
  - 3 letters of recommendation
  - transcripts

# CUIN PhD Program Application Timeline

All materials due Jan 5

Phase 1: Review of submitted application documents (January)

Phase 2: Invitation for an interview (mid-February)

- Interview with specialization area faculty
- Interest forms will be sent via email (by March)
  - Assistantship Funding

Phase 3: Notifications (by April 1)

- In the application system
- Acceptance, with funding offer, response deadline of April 15
- Non-acceptance
- Waitlist, acceptance notifications will happen after April 15

# Application Tips

- Start application early.
- Request transcripts and references far in advance
  - Yes, your **official** transcripts are needed, but we can review applications with unofficial transcripts
- Choose references who know you well professionally and/or academically.
- Write a compelling personal statement that shares
  - Your journey of where you've been
  - Your professional goals
  - Why UH's CUIN PhD program is the right fit for you
  - Your research interests & how your interests intersect with faculty

# Other FAQs

- International Student and Scholar Services Office: <https://uh.edu/oisss/>
- Assistantships
  - Stipend: About \$1577 a month
  - 9 months; summer funding not guaranteed
  - Will NOT cover necessary living expenses
- Health insurance
  - Paid for by the student. Website: <https://www.uh.edu/healthcenter/charges-and-insurance/student-health-insurance/>
- Student Housing & Residential Life: <https://uh.edu/housing/housing-options/>
- Meal plans:
  - <https://new.dineoncampus.com/uh>

# Resources – CUIN PhD Handbook

- Academic calendar: <https://www.uh.edu/nsm/students/deadlines-and-calendar/index.php>
- Center for Students with Disabilities: <https://uh.edu/csd/>
- Counseling and Psychological Services: <https://www.uh.edu/caps/>
- Dining: <https://dineoncampus.com/uh>
- LGBTQ Resource Center: <https://uh.edu/lgbtq/>
- Parking and Transportation: <https://www.uh.edu/af-university-services/parking/>
- Recreation: <https://uh.edu/recreation/>
- Student organizations: <https://uh.campuslabs.com/engage/organizations>

# Specialization Contact Information

Specialization	Contact
Art Education	Dr. Sheng Kuan Chung, <a href="mailto:skchung@cougarnet.uh.edu">skchung@cougarnet.uh.edu</a>
Bilingual/ESL Education	Dr. Mikel Cole, <a href="mailto:mwcole2@cougarnet.uh.edu">mwcole2@cougarnet.uh.edu</a>
Early Childhood Education	Dr. Xin Li, <a href="mailto:xli104@cougarnet.uh.edu">xli104@cougarnet.uh.edu</a>
Learning, Design, Technology	Dr. Sara McNeil, <a href="mailto:smcneil@cougarnet.uh.edu">smcneil@cougarnet.uh.edu</a>
Literacy Education	Dr. Laveria Hutchison, <a href="mailto:lhutchi2@cougarnet.uh.edu">lhutchi2@cougarnet.uh.edu</a>
Mathematics Education	Dr. Jennifer Chauvot, <a href="mailto:jbchauv2@cougarnet.uh.edu">jbchauv2@cougarnet.uh.edu</a>
Science Education	Dr. Sissy Wong, <a href="mailto:sswong3@cougarnet.uh.edu">sswong3@cougarnet.uh.edu</a>
Teaching/Teacher Education	Dr. Conra Gist, <a href="mailto:cdgist@cougarnet.uh.edu">cdgist@cougarnet.uh.edu</a>

# UH COE Graduate Admissions Q&A!

Topic: UHCOE Graduate Admissions Q&A Hour

- Fridays in the Fall: 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM Central Time
- Join Zoom Meeting
- <https://uh-edu-cougarnet.zoom.us/j/81796340905>
  
- Meeting ID: 817 9634 0905
- One tap mobile
- +13462487799,,81796340905# US (Houston)
- +12532050468,,81796340905# US

# Wear Red on Fridays!



# Breakout Rooms & CIDsA

- The rooms are labeled by specialization
- Mathematics Education, stay here
- By 7:05/when finished, go to the CIDsA room and meet with our students