

## Our Faculty



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## How to Apply

January 1 is the priority deadline for fall. Applicants may still apply through February 1 with the understanding that funding will be highly unlikely and space may be limited.

October 1 is the deadline for spring.

[Application requirements](#) can be found on the website.



## Contact Us

[Website](http://epc.utk.edu/adult-learning)  
epc.utk.edu/adult-learning

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THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**TENNESSEE**  
KNOXVILLE

DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY  
AND COUNSELING

## Adult Learning PhD Program

The PhD in educational psychology and research with a concentration in Adult Learning is designed for people interested in any setting where adults can be found learning.



# Program Curriculum

## Basic Core (21 Credit Hours)

EDPY 520 Survey of Adult Education  
EDPY 521 Program Planning in Adult Ed.  
EDPY 522 Adult Development  
EDPY 523 Adult Learning in Social Context  
EDPY 525 Adult Learning  
EDPY 529 Facilitating Adult Learning  
EDPY 539 International and Comparative Adult Ed.

## Advanced Core (13 Credit Hours)

EDPY 601 Professional Seminar (1)  
EDPY 622 Advanced Seminar in Adult Ed.  
EDPY 625 Advanced Seminar in Adult Learning  
EDPY 630 Proseminar in Adult Learning (6)

## Research Methods (15 Credit Hours)

Research courses must include classes in research methods, quantitative methodology, and qualitative research, as well as two additional courses as approved by the student's advisor.

## Electives (12 Credit Hours)

Students, in consultation with their advisor, must select four courses that complement their professional focus.

## Dissertation (24 Credit Hours)

Once dissertation hours begin, they must be registered for continually (fall, spring, and summer terms) until the final defense is completed.

# About our Program

The PhD Concentration in Adult Learning, part of the educational psychology and research major, has a long and rich history at the University of Tennessee. It is designed for people interested in many areas, such as adult education, continuing education, higher education, workplace learning, community-based organizations, and government organizations.

This program offers a great learning community with flexible options benefiting both part-time and full-time study. Adult Learning is designed to develop graduates who are successful scholars and reflective practitioners.

Students gain a background in such areas as educational foundations, adult learning and development, and research methods. Recent graduates of the program have taken positions in such settings as colleges and universities, healthcare, business, and community-based education.

## Program Goals

The Adult Learning program is designed to help participants:

- Better understand adult learning in terms of its theoretical and conceptual underpinnings as well as its operation in practical situations;
- Be further prepared for the increasingly changing demands of professional life and personal enrichment;
- Enhance knowledge and skills in assisting adult learners with global visions;
- Broaden ideas and competency to live and work within a knowledge society; and
- Learn skills in order to make contributions to the areas of adult learning and educational psychology through presentations and publication of original research.

## Program Characteristics

The Adult Learning program is built upon three foundations to help students become well-rounded professionals:

1. **Educational foundations** are focused on the socio-cultural analyses of educational psychology as they related to your areas of interest. Foundations also include the philosophical and historical perspectives that shaped our field over time.
2. **Learning and development** includes conceptual analyses of human development, learning theories, principles, practices, and perspectives that apply to knowledge or skills acquisition in the program.
3. **Research and scholarship** involves advanced work in research necessary for understanding, analyzing, and interpreting data and research design. This also focuses on skills and expertise in conducting, synthesizing, and disseminating original research.

