

PhD in Gifted Education

Accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation

1. Program Outline

The PhD Program in Gifted Education is a 68-credit program that provides candidates with up-to-date knowledge and skills in main areas of gifted education such as (a) assessment, (b) curriculum planning and instruction, (c) creativity, and (d) counseling in order to meet the need of different populations of gifted and talented learners including academically, musically, artistically, and creatively gifted students. In addition to the courses, PhD candidates will learn advanced research and statistical methods such as path analysis, Structural Equation Modeling, Item Response Theory, and Meta-analysis. Candidates are expected to complete a dissertation that will significantly contribute to the body of knowledge relating to the field of gifted education. Upon completing all required courses, each student is assigned two supervisors. After consulting their supervisors, candidates choose their thesis topics depending on their interests.

First Year (First Semester; Foundation Courses)

Course Reference	Course Title	Credit Hours
GED GE 530	Introduction to Gifted Education	3
GED GE 532	Curriculum and Teaching Methods for Gifted Students	3
GED GE 533	Creativity	3
Total Credits for 1st Semester		9

Note: those with a master's degree in gifted education will not take the foundation courses.

First Year (Second Semester)

Course Reference	Course Title	Credit Hours
GED GE 750	Advanced Assessment and Identification in Gifted programs	3
GED GE 751	Social and Emotional Needs of Gifted Students	3
GED GE 752	Advanced Statistical Methods(1)	3

GED GE 753	Advanced Research Methods(1)	3
GED GE 754	Advanced Curriculum and Teaching Methods for Gifted Students	3
Total Credits for 2nd Semester		15

Second Year (First Semester)		
Course Reference	Course Title	Credit Hours
GED GE 755	Planning, Developing and Evaluation of Gifted Education	3
GED GE 756	Theories of Creativity and Applications	3
GED GE 758	Advanced Research Methods(2)	3
GED GE 757	Advanced Research Methods(2)	3
GED GE 759	Seminar	2
Total Credits for 2nd Semester		14

Second Year (Second Semester)		
Course Reference	Course Title	Credit Hours
GED GE 760	Contemporary Issues of Giftedness	3
GED GE 762	Talent Management and Development	3
GED GE 763	Regulation and Policies in Gifted Education	3
GED GE 761	Twice Exceptional Gifted Students	3
Total Credits for 2nd Semester		18
GED GE 766	Internship in Gifted Education	6
GED GE 766	Doctoral Dissertation	12
Total Credit for PhD degree		68

Course Description

Introduction to Gifted Education (GED GE 530)

This course introduces the education of gifted, talented, and creative students. It provides an overview of gifted education through the development of theories relevant to giftedness and creativity and their applications. The course also covers the behavioural characteristics of the gifted according to the curricula and programs to be used with them. Knowledge and concepts needed to understand the area of gifted education are introduced. Finally, the roles of society and parents in caring for and nurturing the gifted will be covered.

Curriculum and Teaching Methods for Gifted Students (GED GE 532)

This course introduces learners to developing and teaching a special curriculum for the gifted and talented. Learners are familiarized with the curriculum and teaching techniques appropriate for gifted children. Through readings and course assignments, learners are taught the different methods for enriching educational settings with programs to improve thinking skills.

Creativity (GED GE 533)

The primary purpose of this course is to study the theoretical and practical aspects of creativity. More specifically, this introductory course addresses several themes on creativity, including the definition of creativity, theories of creativity, levels of creativity, developing and enhancing creative thinking, assessing creativity, the relationship between creativity and other related concepts, as well as the obstacles to creativity and creative thinking. This is not a traditional course since it tackles a topic beyond traditional thinking; thus, practicing creativity is one of the course objectives.

Advanced Assessment and Identification in Gifted Programs (GED GE 750)

This course is intended to provide students with advanced concepts and skills of measurement, assessment, evaluation, and testing to be utilized in identifying the gifted based on approved definitions of giftedness. Students will also be trained to apply formal and informal instruments, grouped and individualized intelligence tests, creativity assessments, and untraditional methods to identify gifted individuals.

Social and Emotional Needs of Gifted Students (GED GE 751)

This course is designed to help students examine research, theory, and practices related to gifted learners' social and emotional needs. The course supports students in designing instructional strategies, methods, and guidance models for addressing the social and emotional needs of gifted and talented students.

Advanced Statistical Methods (1) (GED GE 752)

This course is designed to help students understand advanced statistical methods, employ them scientifically in verifying the study's hypotheses, and distinguish between descriptive and inferential statistics. Students will also be able to realize the differences between the uses of parametric and non-parametric methods, acquire information and concepts related to inferential statistics and hypothesis tests, define the appropriate statistical method, and analyze and interpret the results. This course also

trains students to write reports, extract the most critical results from statistical analysis, and use different statistical software.

Advanced Research Methods (1) (GED GE 753)

This course covers the major approaches to qualitative, quantitative, and mixed research designs, including phenomenology, ethnography, case study, descriptive, correlative, causal-comparative, single, and group experimental research. It also supports and encourages students to develop ideas for their dissertations. Students are provided with experience in writing and assessing published work.

Advanced Curriculum and Teaching Methods for Gifted Students (GED GE 754)

The primary purpose of this course is to study the theoretical and practical aspects of curricular experiences for gifted and talented students. This course is designed to familiarize students with the various theories, principles, and models of curriculum development for gifted and talented students. This course will explore curriculum modification techniques, methods and materials for enrichment learning, assessment strategies, methodological resources, and collaboration techniques that support curriculum differentiation principles.

Planning, Developing and Evaluation of Gifted Education (GED GE 755)

This course aims to introduce models and practices related to planning, developing, and evaluating gifted education programs that reflect the philosophies and goals of international models associated with teaching the gifted worldwide and in the Arab world. Coursework includes an analysis of legislation and current plans for gifted programs and the budgets required to implement them. Candidates will acquire knowledge of strategies to implement gifted programs in terms of planning, administration, and technical aspects. Additionally, candidates will be provided with methods and techniques to evaluate gifted programs, starting with the objectives and ending with a final product. Candidates will also acquire skills for enriching traditional school curricula to fulfil the needs and meet the abilities of various groups of gifted students.

Theories of Creativity and Applications (GED GE 756)

This course introduces students to the concepts of creativity and its components. In addition to addressing the theories of creativity, the course also focuses on concepts such as creative productivity, creative behaviour, and methods of individual and collective creativity in greater depth.

Advanced Statistical Methods (2) (GED GE 757)

This course aims to help students understand advanced statistical methods and employ them scientifically to verify research hypotheses and questions. This course also trains students to write reports, extract the most important results of statistical analyses, and use statistical programs such as LISREL, AMOS, and WINSTEP practically to conduct advanced statistical analyses, such as structural equation models, item response theory, cluster analysis, meta-analysis, and systematic reviews.

Advanced Research Methods (2) (GED GE 758)

This course compares quantitative and qualitative research regarding objectives, methodology, and data collection methods. It also focuses on qualitative research and its types, methods of sampling, and how to write a qualitative research report. In addition, this course discusses mixed research methods and their importance in educational research.

Seminar in Gifted Education (GED GE 759)

This course critically surveys the research issues, policies, ethics, and practices in gifted education. It also enables students to explore theories of giftedness, creativity, and intelligence. The chosen readings are challenging and stimulate interesting discussions about philosophy and practice in gifted education.

Contemporary Issues of Giftedness (GED GE 760)

This course enriches students' knowledge of concepts, topics, and modern and future changes in gifted education. Moreover, it deals with contemporary ideas in theoretical literature, studies, and research on gifted students. In addition, the course stimulates students' attention toward research issues and topics related to building and developing gifted programs from different angles. The course also focuses on the students' in-depth knowledge of the main topics in the field of gifted education and the search for the latest developments in the field of giftedness, as well as the selection of one of the modern and future trends to write an integrated scientific paper that is publishable.

Twice Exceptional Gifted Students (GED GE 761)

This course helps students to recognize gifted students with special needs, or what is known in gifted education literature as "twice exceptional." Moreover, this course discusses appropriate assessments for identifying twice-exceptional students. Another topic this course targets is intervention programs and techniques for tackling some of the social and emotional challenges that twice-exceptional students face.

Talent Management and Development (GED GE 762)

The primary purpose of this course is to introduce the foundations of talent management and development research. This course provides the theoretical and technical tools to determine how talent management and development will transform into a quantifiable strategic advantage. The course also develops students' ability to create the psychological and social conditions that allow employees in organizations and institutions to commit to putting their talents at the service of the success of the organization/institution.

Regulation and Policies in Gifted Education (GED GE 763)

This course aims to introduce students to the policies and legislation related to identifying, selecting, and providing services for the gifted and to introduce students to the educational systems and policies in the field of gifted education. The course also addresses the concept of leadership and its main elements, school administration and its role in identifying and caring for gifted learners.

Internship in Gifted Education (GED GE 766)

This course provides students with advanced experiences and opportunities to refine competencies related to innovative and experimental application of principles and techniques in selected settings under the supervision of the faculty in the gifted education Program.