

Department of Instructional Technology & Learning Sciences

Utah State University

Effective for Students admitted Summer 2025 to current

Program Requirements: The PhD degree program requires a minimum of **48** credits with a master's degree in this field. A minimum of **54** credits, including ITLS master's core courses, are required for students with a master's degree in a field other than Instructional Technology or Learning Sciences. Students who do not have a master's degree will be required to complete a minimum of **70** credits, including ITLS master's core courses. Students have 8 calendar years to complete all degree requirements.

Delivery formats: O = Online only, I = In Person only, H = Hybrid (at least 50% in-person), C = Connect (formerly IVC), V = Virtual (formerly web broadcast), O = Online (asynchronous), X = Check catalog for most up to date information\ Additional information for specific classes: ^ = odd years, * = even years, & = may be taken more than one time for credit. A number after delivery format shows the suggested year of the program.

Check the ITLS website for the courses available each semester: <https://cehs.usu.edu/itls/courses>

Core Courses – 6 credits required			Credits	Fall	Spring	Summer	Prerequisites
ITLS	7011	Introduction to Theories and Methods of ITLS I	3	I-1			Program Admittance
ITLS	7015	Introduction to Theories and Methods of ITLS II	3		I-1		ITLS 7011

Research Methods Courses – 15 credits – 4 required courses and then 1 additional course							
Note: There are 3 required courses because the college is requiring the two-sequence minimum for basic quant methods. Taking as many methods classes as possible is encouraged. Students can, in consultation with their advisor open up a methods slot by taking EDUC 6050 (applied statistics) instead of EDUC 6600 and 7610. Note that taking 6050 will close the door to advanced methods classes for which 6600 and/or 7610 are prerequisites.							
			Credits	Fall	Spring	Summer	Prerequisites
EDUC	6570	Introduction to Educational and Psychological Research	3	X	X	X	none
EDUC	6600	Statistical Foundations	3	X	X	X	EDUC 6570
EDUC	7610	Regression Analysis	3	X	X	X	EDUC 6600
EDUC	6770	Qualitative Research Methods	3	X	X		Co-requisite EDUC 6570
And choose one course from the following. Note if you want to take more than 12 credits of Methods courses you can take them as electives.							
ITLS	7340	Building Community Partnerships in Research Contexts	3		V^		-
ITLS	7350	Ethnography	3	V*			EDUC 6770
ITLS	7870	Introduction to Learning Analytics	3		I^		
EDUC/ PSY	6010	Introduction to Program Evaluation	3	V			PSY 6010
EDUC	6800	Mixed Methods	3		C		EDUC/PSY

							6600, EDUC 6770
EDUC	7670	Literature Reviews in Education and Psychology	2		I^		EDUC/PSY 6600
ITLS	6760	Grant Writing	3		O		
ITLS	7870	Design Based Implementation Research	3	I^			
PSY	6330	Principles of Psychological Measurement and Test Theory	3	I/V			EDUC/PSY 6600
PSY	6560	Introduction to Psychological Research	3	I			-
PSY	7070	Advanced Measurement Theories and Practice	3				EDUC/PSY 6600
PSY	7090	Quantitative Psychology Seminar	1	I	I		-
PSY	7650	Multilevel and Marginal Models for the Social Sciences	3	I			EDUC/PSY 7610
PSY	7760	Structural equation modeling	3	I			EDUC/PSY 7610
PSY	7770	Longitudinal data analysis	3		I^		PSY 7760
HDFS	6031	Research Methodology	3	I			-
HDFS	7032	Multivariate Data Analysis in Human Development and Family Studies	3		I		EDUC/PSY 7610
HDFS	7033	Dyadic and Longitudinal Data	3	I^			EDUC/PSY 7610
HDFS	7034	Extant/Secondary Data Analysis	3	I*			EDUC/PSY 7610
HDFS	7200	Special Topics: Meta Analysis	3				-
TEAL	7546	Thinking with Theory in Qualitative Research	3	I			EDUC 6770
TEAL	7547	Qualitative Data Analysis	3		I		EDUC 6770
Complete the online responsible conduct of research training, “social and behavior research” focus: https://research.usu.edu/compliance/responsible-conduct-of-research							

Other methodology courses (Computer Science, English, Sociology, etc.) with chairperson approval

General Electives– 9 credits required			Credits	Fall	Spring	Summer
In addition to courses listed above under Research Methods, these courses are suggested general electives, feel free to coordinate with your advisor on specific classes to support your program of study.						
ITLS	7545	Sociocultural Theory	3	V		
ITLS	6910	Independent Research	1-6	X	X	
ITLS	6320	Writing for Design	3		O	O
ITLS	6730	Games and Learning	3	O		
ITLS	6270	Digital Making and Learning	3		I	

Other General Electives as approved by chairperson

Dissertation – 12 credits required for student's w/M; 18 required for student's w/BS			
ITLS	7970	Dissertation	1-18

Master's Core Courses – 6 credits (required w/out ITLS master's degree)						
			Credits	Fall	Spring	Summer
ITLS	6520	Instructional Design I	3		I/O	
ITLS	6535	Design Thinking	3	I/O		

Note: Around 30% of our PhD students navigate their degree while working full time jobs elsewhere. Since a full graduate load of 9 credits/semester is more challenging for them we recommend the following sequence for these students:

Core Courses – 6 credits required		Credits	Fall	Spring
ITLS	7011 Introduction to Theories and Methods of ITLS I	3	I1	
ITLS	7015 Introduction to Theories and Methods of ITLS I	3		I2

Pre-requisite details for the doctoral core can be found above.