The Ph.D. is a research-focused degree designed to prepare leaders to contribute to the field of higher education as administrators, scholars and/or policy analysts. The focus is on the preparation of individuals for critical application of theory and research in diverse and complex American and international higher education-related environments. Students examine the history, current contexts and demands on higher education, including its mission, policies, funding, leadership and position relative to marginalized social identities. Students develop skills necessary to design focused research that explores the historic, contemporary and/or emerging issues in higher education policy and practice.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

FLEXIBLE
▶ Students in this program are typically enrolled part-time, completing 18 credit hours per calendar year (full-time option is available)
▶ Delivery is designed to accommodate the working professional

COHORT MODEL
▶ The program follows a cohort model, allowing students to progress to graduation with an intact peer support group
▶ Cohort options are offered at OSU-Stillwater, OSU-OKC and international locations
▶ Each cohort includes support elements such as student orientation and a mid-program workshop

STUDENT-ORIENTED FACULTY
▶ The program faculty are committed to student success and the development of highly productive graduates
▶ All students are advised and mentored by full-time faculty and most courses are taught by full-time faculty
▶ The program also utilizes affiliated faculty who are highly experienced practitioner-scholars in higher education and who have doctoral degrees and a long-term commitment to the program

SUCCESSFUL GRADUATES
▶ Graduates go on to hold higher education leadership positions across the country and internationally, including the role of president

education.okstate.edu/hesa
CURRICULUM
A minimum of 63 credit hours beyond the master’s degree, including successful completion of a qualifying exam and doctoral dissertation, are required to complete this program. Course requirements can be found online at okstate.edu/hesa.
The program offers an international higher education class that often includes an overseas study abroad trip. Oklahoma State has dual degree master’s and doctoral programs with the Universidad Popular Autonoma del Estado de Puebla (UPAEP) in Puebla, Mexico, allowing students to take coursework from both OSU and UPAEP and earn either a master’s or doctoral degree from both institutions upon completion. Dual degree candidates must apply to and be accepted by both programs separately.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS
Students complete a committee-approved set of concentrated experiences designed to engage students with university stakeholders in ways that will advance key knowledge. The plan for these experiences is tailored to each individual student depending on previous experiences and career goals. However, all share certain core activities intended to develop key knowledge and skills.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Graduate Teaching Assistantships and Graduate Research Assistantships may be offered through the Provost’s Office, the Office for Student Affairs and the Educational Leadership and Policy Studies program area. The intent is to provide assistantships to full-time students (who are not otherwise employed), in compliance with OSU Graduate College policies related to additional employment.
The Robert B. Kamm Fellowship is the highest scholarship awarded by the program. Kamm Fellows are advanced doctoral students who have demonstrated exceptional scholarship and promise for future leadership in higher education.
Currently enrolled graduate students who are pursuing degrees through the OSU College of Education, Health and Aviation are eligible for EHA scholarships. For more information, please visit: education.okstate.edu/scholarships.

FACULTY
Dr. Kerri Kearney, Associate Professor
Research interests: hidden college student populations, organizational issues in higher education and visual methods in qualitative research

Dr. Tami Moore, Associate Professor
Research interests: higher education and student affairs and roles that universities play in the communities they serve

Dr. Steve Wanger, Associate Professor
Research interests: international issues in higher education, including public policy, student and faculty mobility, the finance of higher education, curricula development, the leadership of change and institutional and disciplinary stratification

Dr. Amber Manning-Ouellette, Assistant Professor
Research interests: student learning outcomes, college student cognitive and identity development, leadership education, STEM education and socially just curriculum development

Dr. Lisa Will, Visiting Assistant Professor
Research interests: hidden student populations in college, spirituality and college, holistic student development
For full faculty listings, including affiliated faculty, please visit: education.okstate.edu/hesa/faculty.html

MORE INFORMATION
Dr. Steve Wanger
Program Coordinator, Doctoral and International Programs
Higher Education and Student Affairs
309 Willard Hall
405-744-3982
osu-hesa@okstate.edu

education.okstate.edu/hesa