

# Department of Educational Leadership & Policy 2012-2013

#### **Introduction to the Department**

The Department of Educational Leadership and Policy (ELP), a division of the College of Education, emphasizes the application of theory and research to the practice of educational leadership in both the Pre K-12 and higher education environments, as well as preparation for scholarly endeavors in higher education. As a result of the department's strong national reputation (consistently ranked among the top twenty-five Educational Leadership Departments in the country) and faculty members' leadership in national organizations such as the University Council for Educational Administration, the American Educational Research Association, the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, and the Association for the Study of Higher Education, students are kept abreast of the latest theory, research, and programmatic advancements within the field.

The department provides research and training opportunities through liaisons with local and state education agencies and associations, including the State Board of Regents, and the public and private higher education institutions in the state of Utah. It also developed and continues to support the Utah Education Policy Center which is part of the College of Education.



# Master of Education (M.Ed.) Emphasis in Student Affairs Program

The M.Ed. with an emphasis in student affairs provides a broad base on which students may build and advance their careers within higher education. Courses for the M.Ed. with student affairs emphasis are divided into three areas noted below. Most classes are three credit hours for a total of 39 credit hours for full-time students and 36 credits for part-time students.

Student Affairs Administration
Introduction to Student Affairs Administration
Leadership in Student Affairs
Introduction to Student Affairs Assessment
Special Topics Seminar I
Special Topics Seminar II

Contexts of Higher Education
College Student Development Theory
College Student Retention Theory
Multiculturalism & Diversity in Higher Education
Group or Individual Intervention in Higher Education
Program Development in Higher Education

Professional Skill Development
Professional Seminar (Three 1 credit classes)
Internship and Internship Seminar

Elective
Full time students are required to take an approved elective the second semester of the second year. This is optional for part-time students.

All courses in the program are offered mid-late afternoon until early evening. The M.Ed. with a student affairs emphasis can be completed as a full-time student in two <u>academic</u> years – i.e. four academic semesters. (The program can also be completed as a part-time student in two <u>calendars</u> years. Students enrolling part-time begin coursework in the summer of the application year. Full-time students commence coursework in the fall of the academic year. All work for the master's degree must be completed within four consecutive calendar years. Candidates are required to maintain a 3.0 or higher GPA in course work. No graded work below a C- is acceptable towards the requirements for the degree.

## **Faculty and Students**

Participating faculty in the Higher Education M.Ed. program include a combination of regular tenured/tenure-track ELP faculty, clinical faculty, and adjunct faculty. Specifically, Clinical Professor Mary Skorheim serves as the program's advisor and supervisor of internship experiences. Tenure-track faculty include Associate Professors Octavio Villalpando and Amy Bergerson and Assistant Professors Nick Hillman and Maria Ledesma. In addition, Dr. Erin Castro is serving a visiting faculty member. ELP adjunct faculty include leading scholars and practitioners.

Students in the program come from numerous locations including California, China, Colorado, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, South Carolina, South Korea, Oklahoma, Utah, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

# **Comprehensive Examination**

A comprehensive examination requirement is the Integrative Paper and Poster Session which are completed the spring semester of the second year of the master's program. All course work, including incompletes, must be finished prior to taking the examination. Successful completion of the requirement is required before approval is granted for graduation and degree completion

#### **Graduate Assistantships**

Graduate assistantships are available for students enrolled in the program full-time. Examples of areas providing graduate assistantship are: A. Ray Olpin University Union, Admissions, Associate Students of the University of Utah (ASUU), Career Services, Dean of Students/Greek Life, Disability Services, Housing & Residential Education, Orientation and Leadership Development, TRIO Programs, Alternative Spring Break, and Women's Resource Center.

Graduate assistantships at the University of Utah include tuition waiver (in and out-of-state) and a stipend. Students interested in applying for assistantships should note their top choices on the program application. Applicants will be contacted by the respective departments following recommendation for admission to the program. Applicants who are accepted for admission will be invited to participate in a campus visit and interviews for Graduate Assistantships on February 14-15, 2013.

# Internship

Master's students in the student affairs emphasis complete an internship related to their area of career focus. Internships are available on the University campus and in other local higher education institutions. Please visit this website for detailed information: <a href="http://elp.utah.edu/\_documents/programs/med/internship-manual.pdf">http://elp.utah.edu/\_documents/programs/med/internship-manual.pdf</a>

### **Application Procedures**

- 1. The application deadline is December 14, 2012, 5:00 pm.
- 2. The GRE is not required for any ELP Master's program.
- 3. Please visit this website for detailed instructions on how to apply: http://elp.utah.edu/programs/m-ed/student-affairs/admissions.php
- 4. Applicants who are recommended for admission will be invited to participate in a campus visit and interviews for Graduate Assistantships on February 14-15, 2013.

#### **Contact Information**

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