

Mission Statement

The Ph.D. Program in Learning, Literacies and Technologies (LLT) is designed to prepare scholars who will address socially significant educational challenges and transform P-20 educational programs through rigorous research and educational interventions. Graduates rely on interdisciplinary theoretical and methodological perspectives to engage, influence, and transform educational institutions and their practices.

The program graduates educational researchers who serve as scholars, leaders, and teacher educators engaged in the design, development, and/or use of literacies and technologies that promote learning. Graduates are stewards of their educational field, working across disciplinary boundaries to address the learning challenges of the new millennium.

Program Overview

Students will begin researching in their first semester, and continue throughout the four-year program. An interdisciplinary team of scholars led by distinguished faculty members will collaborate with doctoral students, individually and in teams, to design powerful studies, implement them in authentic settings, collect and analyze data, write research reports, and present and publish the results.

Academic study and research in the LLT program focuses on the nature of human learning and literacies across diverse learners and contexts, the use of technologies to support learning, the design of learning environments, and the conditions under which learning occurs.

As a future scholar, teacher educator, and researcher, you will develop areas of emphasis with your faculty advisor and doctoral committee members to work at the cutting edge of educational science, leading the way to innovation and exploration of new technologies and literacies for learning.

Career Possibilities

Graduates of the LLT program will be prepared to develop interdisciplinary approaches to complex problems and issues. Graduates will become scholars, researchers, teacher educators and leaders in education who will address socially significant educational problems and transform P-20 educational programs through rigorous research and educational interventions. After graduating, our students will be prepared for tenure-track faculty positions in colleges and universities.

Funding and Benefits

Graduate Assistantships in the Ph.D. Program in Learning, Literacies & Technologies come with a competitive stipend, tuition remission, student health insurance, and support for participation in professional conferences. A few additional awards will be available for outstanding candidates. Assistantships may be renewed each year, assuming satisfactory progress and availability of funds, for up to four years.

Admission Information

Required Qualifications

- Earned Master's degree from an accredited institution;
- Evidence of commitment to begin an innovative, interdisciplinary program of research that fits within the broad areas of scholarly inquiry in learning, literacies, and technologies; and
- Demonstrated ability to teach effectively, face-to-face and/or online.

Desired Qualifications

- Experience as a researcher in education or a related field, and/or experience working in interdisciplinary projects or programs linked to learning, literacies, and/or technologies;
- An emerging record of scholarly work (e.g., conference presentations, publications); and
- Evidence of strong ability to write in English for an academic audience.

Materials Required

- An official ASU Graduate Admissions Services Application with paid application fee (<http://www.asu.edu/gradapp>)
- Official transcript(s)
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test scores (verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing)
- The names and email addresses of three faculty or work supervisors who have agreed to recommend you to the program. Recommendations are completed electronically through Graduate Admissions Services Application and should provide an assessment of your research, analytical, and leadership skills
- A letter of application (1000 words) in which you describe your fit to the program relative to the qualifications listed in this notice (application will provide more detailed information).
- A writing sample written for an academic audience, including a reference section (e.g., reprints of articles, papers written for a class).
- A curriculum vitae or resume

Application Deadline

The deadline to apply for admission to the fall 2018 cohort is December 1, 2017. We do not admit students for a spring or summer start, nor do we review applications immediately upon receipt. Faculty review of complete, timely applications begins in mid-December and continues through the end of January. Applications for admission are processed jointly by the college and by ASU Graduate Admission (<https://students.asu.edu/graduate/apply>). All applications must include: a) GRE general test scores taken within 4 years of applying to the LLT program b) a personal statement; c) a writing sample; d) a curriculum vitae or resume; and e) three (3) names and email addresses of faculty or supervisors who recommend you to the program. [TOEFL or IELTS](#) scores may be required of international students, as determined by ASU Graduate Admission. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed by the admissions committee.

About the College and the University

Teachers College offers rigorous undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Our College is dedicated to supporting our faculty members and graduate students so that they can provide excellent instruction and pursue bold scholarship and research that changes the face of education. Our award-winning faculty members are recognized by the university, community organizations, national and international organizations for their outstanding research and master teaching.

Arizona State University, a respected research institution in the Pac-12 Conference, is developing a new model of an American research university, one that measures its academic quality by the education its graduates receive; one at which researchers, while pursuing their scholarly interests, also consider the public good; and one whose faculty expands the concept of community service by accepting major responsibility for the health, economic and social development of its community.

College Rankings

US News World Report

- Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College
 - 11th among all public and private graduate programs in the field
- Arizona State University
 - Graduate programs rank among the best schools in the nation
 - For the complete list of ASU rankings and honors, please visit <http://yourfuture.asu.edu/rankings>

Frequently asked questions

What does the Admissions Committee look for in applicants?

The committee is seeking applicants who will become the next-generation of interdisciplinary scholars and researchers in addressing complex problems facing education in the 21st Century. We are seeking individuals from a wide array of backgrounds and with various professional and life experiences who are interested in innovative inquiry and scholarly research in education. Successful applicants will be able to demonstrate how their prior experiences, educational preparation, and research interests align with the interdisciplinary mission of the LLT program.

I want to study a specific discipline/population. Is this program for me?

Yes, your research interests can be in any discipline as long as it relates to learning, literacies, and technologies. They can be discipline/population specific including, but not limited to the following examples: special education, early childhood/elementary/secondary education, teacher preparation, multiple literacies (e.g., science education, physical education), gaming and technology in the classroom, English learners, and culturally diverse populations. The LLT program will equip students to develop interdisciplinary approaches to solve complex problems and issues.

What positions will the Ph.D. program prepare me for?

The Learning, Literacies and Technologies (LLT) is designed to prepare scholars, researchers, teacher educators and leaders in education who will address socially significant educational problems and transform P-20 educational programs through rigorous research and educational interventions. After graduating, our students will be prepared for tenure-track faculty positions in colleges and universities, positions in governmental agencies, think tanks, or other organizations that investigate educational challenges.

Do I have to take the GRE?

All applicants are required to submit GRE scores via an official ETS score report. Students who have taken the GRE within the past four years can request that ETS send an official score report to Graduate Admission Services. If you do not have current GRE scores on file with ASU Graduate Admission Services, you need to make arrangements to take the GRE so that your scores are available to the admission committee by the December 1st application deadline. Use institutional code 4007, and departmental code 00.

Is there a minimum GRE score for admission?

We do not have minimum GRE scores for admission into the PhD program. Your GRE scores are evaluated as one piece of evidence in the context of the other elements of the application. Score ranges for the two most recently admitted cohorts: Quantitative, 139-164; Verbal, 144-166; Analytical Writing, 3.0-5.0.

Do I need to have a Master's degree before applying for the PhD program?

You may be in the process of obtaining your Master's degree at the time you apply to the LLT program but you are required have the degree completed before beginning the program of study in fall semester.

I'm an international student. Are there special requirements for me to apply?

You may be required to take the [TOEFL or IELTS](#). You should carefully read the information applicable to international students on the ASU Graduate College website, including visa requirements. Visit the website at: <https://students.asu.edu/graduate/international>

Does the LLT PhD program accommodate distance learning or part time students?

The LLT PhD program does not have accommodations for distance learning or part time study. Full-time study immerses the student in the academic and research culture of the program and the college. Full-time study and participation are essential for successful academic preparation and mentoring by LLT PhD faculty. For these reasons, the LLT PhD *requires all candidates to enroll as full-time on-campus students each semester for the four years of the program.*

Can I work full-time and participate in the PhD program?

The value of this program is the immersion of the student in the academic environment: learning by doing and participating as fully as possible with mentor faculty. Students are expected to be available for classes, meetings, and academic work. Typically students work as research assistants 20 hours per week with tenure-track faculty. The program seeks to graduate fully prepared students at the end of four years.

Can I take classes outside of the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College (MLFTC)?

LLT PhD students have the option of taking classes offered across ASU's campuses and colleges. Once admitted, students work with the assigned faculty advisor who helps them devise a program of study related to their research and career goals, which can and should include courses offered in other ASU academic units.

Can I take courses before I am admitted to the PhD program?

The goal of graduate study is to help you develop the habits of mind and analytical skills that are the tools of a researcher and scholar. Although coursework is required for the LLT PhD program, it is not the core focus. The LLT PhD program is a set of experiences that you develop with a faculty advisor that provides opportunities to learn. Taking classes before you apply for admission at ASU or another university can help you develop your knowledge and skills and is never discouraged. However, taking doctoral courses in the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College as a non-degree student prior to applying does not guarantee that you will be offered admission to the LLT PhD program. If you are admitted to the program, your previous coursework may be credited toward the LLT degree at the discretion of the Program Committee and your faculty advisor.

How much does the PhD program cost?

Information on tuition and fees, including tuition schedules for each academic year is available here: <https://students.asu.edu/tuitionandfees>. Graduate Assistants (RA/TA) must enroll for 6 or more graduate-level credits each semester to qualify for the assistantship.

Is there funding available for graduate students?

The Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College (MLFTC) offers competitive funding packages to graduate students. Most students are supported through Research Assistantships (RA), Teaching Assistantships (TA), and Fellowships. A 20-hour per week appointment as an RA provides tuition remission, student health insurance, and a stipend of \$20,000 per academic year for up to four years, assuming funding is available and assuming the student makes continued satisfactory program progress. A few additional awards are available for outstanding candidates. Successful applicants are offered admission and funding packages at the same time. We do not award funding packages to prospective students prior to admission.

Can I request feedback on my application if I am not offered admission?

Due to the large number of applicants we are unable to provide feedback on individual admissions decisions.

If I have additional questions, whom should I contact?

For specific questions about application procedures and processing, program requirements, and program admission, please email phdeducation@asu.edu, or call 480-965-6034 to speak with Tara Burke, PhD Programs Academic Success Specialist.

Learning, Literacies, and Technologies PhD Program Flow

Updated fall 2017

YEAR 1					
FALL SEMESTER			SPRING SEMESTER		
Experience	Description	Credits	Experience	Description	Credits
Core Course <i>required</i>	Transdisciplinary Seminar I	3	Core Course <i>required</i>	Transdisciplinary Seminar II	3
Inquiry Course <i>required</i>	Introduction to Qualitative Research	3	SPS Course <i>required</i>	Academic Writing	3
Inquiry Course <i>required</i>	Introduction to Quantitative Research Design and Method	3	Inquiry Course <i>required</i>	An advanced research methods course	3
Specialization Strand ¹ <i>recommended</i>	Didactic course, seminar, internship, independent study, or research	3	Inquiry Course or Specialization <i>choose one</i> ^{1,2}	An advanced research methods course or specialization experience	3
Scholarship	Research Assistantship and/or Fellowship	n/a	Scholarship	Research Assistantship and/or Fellowship	n/a
<i>Minimum required credits in fall year 1 (12 recommended)</i>		9	<i>Minimum required credits in spring year 1</i>		12
YEAR 2					
FALL SEMESTER			SPRING SEMESTER		
Experience	Description	Credits	Experience	Description	Credits
SPS Course <i>required</i>	Proposal Writing	2	SPS Course <i>required</i>	University Teaching Seminar	2
Specialization Strand ¹	Didactic course, seminar, internship, independent study, or research	6-9	Specialization Strand ¹	Didactic course, seminar, internship, independent study, or research	3-6
Inquiry Course <i>recommended</i> ²	An advanced research methods course	3	Inquiry Course <i>recommended</i> ²	An advanced research methods course	3
Scholarship	Research Assistantship (20 hrs)	n/a	Scholarship	Research Assistantship (20 hrs)	n/a
			<i>Complete the Interactive Program of Study (iPOS) via MyASU, select a Dissertation Committee, Second Year Review</i>		n/a
<i>Minimum required credits in fall year 2</i>		11	<i>Minimum required credits in spring year 2</i>		8

¹Minimum of 15 specialization credits required; students are not limited to didactic coursework, but rather are encouraged to seek out alternative experiences (study abroad, independent study, research, etc.). ² Minimum of 12 research inquiry credits required.

Key:

- Required core content coursework (6 credits total)
- Scholarly Practices Seminars (SPS) (8 credits total)
- Required inquiry coursework (12 credits total)
- Helps satisfy specialization requirement (15 credits total)
- Dissertation preparation component (14 credits total)
- Helps satisfy supervised research requirement (2000 clock hours in program)

Learning, Literacies, and Technologies PhD Program Flow

Updated fall 2017

YEAR 3					
FALL SEMESTER			SPRING SEMESTER		
Experience	Description	Credits	Experience	Description	Credits
SPS Course <i>required</i>	DCI 791 College Teaching Internship	1	Research <i>required</i>	DCI 792 Research	2
Specialization Strand ¹ <i>as needed</i>	Didactic course, seminar, internship, independent study, or research	3-6	Specialization Strand ¹ <i>as needed</i>	Didactic course, seminar, internship, independent study, or research	0-3
Elective <i>optional</i>	Optional elective, independent study, or research hours as needed to fulfil Graduate Assistantship (TA/RA) requirement of 6 credits	2-5	Elective <i>optional</i>	Optional elective, independent study, or research hours as needed to fulfil Graduate Assistantship (TA/RA) requirement of 6 credits	4
Scholarship and Practice ³	Teaching Assistantship/ Research Assistantship (20 hrs total)	n/a	Scholarship and Practice ³	Teaching Assistantship/ Research Assistantship (20 hrs total)	n/a
Comprehensive Examinations	Oral and written components are to be completed by end of fall semester	n/a	Dissertation Proposal	Dissertation Proposal is to be defended successfully by end of spring semester	n/a
<i>Minimum required credits in fall year 3 (note that 6 credits are required to maintain an assistantship per ASU Graduate College)</i>		1	<i>Minimum required credits in spring year 3 (note that 6 credits are required to maintain an assistantship per ASU Graduate College)</i>		2
YEAR 4					
Experience	Description	Credits	Experience	Description	Credits
Dissertation	DCI 799 Dissertation	6	Dissertation	DCI 799 Dissertation	6
Scholarship	Research Assistantship (20 hrs)	n/a	Scholarship	Research Assistantship (20 hrs)	n/a
Job Search Activities	Workshops, brown bags, interviews, etc.	n/a	Job Search Activities	Workshops, brown bags, interviews, etc.	n/a
			Culminating Experience	Dissertation Defense	n/a
<i>Minimum required credits in fall year 4</i>		6	<i>Minimum required credits in spring year 4</i>		6
Total required program credits (9+12+11+8+1+2+6+6)					55

¹Minimum of 15 specialization credits required. ³Students serve as a teaching assistant for 10 hours (.25 FTE) during one semester. The remaining 10 hours of the graduate assistantship (.5 FTE total) during the semester are spent in a research assistantship (.25 FTE). **Graduate assistants are required to carry a minimum of 6 credits per semester.**

Key:

- Required core content coursework (6 credits total)
- Scholarly Practices Seminars (SPS) (8 credits total)
- Required inquiry coursework (12 credits total)
- Helps satisfy specialization requirement (15 credits total)
- Dissertation preparation component (14 credits total)
- Helps satisfy supervised research requirement (2000 clock hours in program)