

**Student Learning Objectives (SLO) for the Doctoral Degree (Ed.D.)
in Adult and Continuing Education
Revised September 2013**

The Ed.D. program in Adult and Continuing Education is designed to provide students with advanced preparation in and understanding of the field with special emphasis upon the development of knowledge, skills and attitudes which are related to excellence in research.

COE Graduate Ed.D. Student Learning Outcomes for EDACE

- I. Educational Foundations of Adult Education
 - A. SLO1: Students will acquire a breadth and depth of knowledge concerning the historical, philosophical, sociocultural, and psychological bases for the profession and practice of adult education.
 - B. SLO2: Students will demonstrate the effective use of a variety of communication skills and modalities.
 - C. SLO3: Students will demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate and synthesize information pertinent to adult education.

- II. Research
 - A. SLO4: Students will demonstrate knowledge of various research methodologies and analyze their appropriateness for specific research problems.
 - B. SLO5: Students will demonstrate proficiency in developing a research proposal and applying correct method(s) of inquiry to a specific adult education.
 - C. SLO6: Students will demonstrate the ability to present and defend research.

- III. Academic and Professional Integrity

SLO7: Students will articulate an ethical position that recognizes the social context in which adult education is practiced and recognition of their need to be lifelong learners and to promote continued learning in the profession.

Assessments of the SLOs:

- I. **Educational Foundations of Adult Education**

All students enrolled in the Ed.D. Program in Adult Education will be assessed in the following ways concerning foundational elements of the field:

 - A. The faculty are investigating how to assess this SLO1 because the fulfillment of prelim exams was changed in December 2013.

 - B. SLO2: All students' writing abilities will be assessed using two direct measures. Direct measures include the writing of the dissertation proposal and the final dissertation. Rubrics for the dissertation proposal will be completed by each reader. Rubrics for the final dissertation will be completed by each committee member at the dissertation defense. All students oral communication skills will be assessed using the same two direct measures and the rubrics for the dissertation proposal defense and the dissertation defense.

- C. SLO3: All students will be assessed as to their ability to critically evaluate and synthesize information pertinent to adult education through direct measures, which include the rubrics for the dissertation proposal and defense will be completed by each faculty member.

II. **Research**

- A. SLO4: All students enrolled in the Ed.D. Program in Adult Education will be assessed as to their knowledge of various research methodologies and analyze their appropriateness for specific research problems. Direct measures will include dissertation proposal and defense rubrics ratings completed by the doctoral committee members prior to signing the ballot.
- B. SLO5: All students will be assessed as to their proficiency in developing a research proposal and applying correct method(s) of inquiry to a specific adult education practice at the proposal meeting. Direct measures will include a rubric completed by each committee member at the time of the dissertation proposal.
- C. SLO6: All students will demonstrate the ability to present and defend research work in oral, written, and graphic forms, which will be assessed at the dissertation defense. The direct measure will be evaluated by each committee member via the dissertation defense rubric prior to signing the ballot.

III. **Academic and professional integrity**

- SLO7: All students in the Ed.D. Program in Adult Education will be assessed as to their ethical position that recognizes the social context in which adult education is practiced and recognition of their need to be lifelong learners and to promote continued learning in the profession at the dissertation defense. The direct measure will be the dissertation defense, which will require each committee to evaluate using the dissertation defense rubric.

All SLOs are indirectly measured by student self-assessment. This is a survey that the students will complete at the end of the semester in which they graduate.