Assessment Plan

Ed.D in Urban Leadership
Nathan Weiss Graduate College
Kean University

Mission:
The Ed.D in Urban Leadership seeks to prepare dedicated educational leaders who understand and appreciate the challenges of urban areas and to be able to make a positive difference in the state’s urban schools, educational agencies and communities. Students analyze the dynamics of the political process in urban educational communities as it applies to the development of policy; they apply the principles of assessment including the analysis of data to facilitate evidence-based educational decision-making; and acquire the skills for effective leadership that spans school, family, and communities served by urban educational centers.

Assessment Process:
Ed.D. students have 18 core courses to take as part of the requirements to earn a doctoral degree. These 18 core courses provide a sound backbone for study in urban leadership with regard to the research and theoretical aspects of being a change-agent in an educational urban center. Included in the core courses are two field studies and an action research dissertation project. Therefore, the faculty has agreed to center the assessment of candidates achieving program outcomes on evidence collected in the field studies and the action research dissertation. Cohort composite data from field study evaluation forms and from scored student assignments will be collected and analyzed to address areas of program and weaknesses and to inform decisions ultimately resulting in program improvements.

Each core course has assessment tools such as exams, research and reflective writing assignments, portfolio work, group work products, etc., as part of the evaluation process and the program has used results of assessment for making improvements to program practices aimed at increasing student learning. For example, the department recently re-aligned the order of the statistics courses placing them earlier in the program in order to facilitate student decisions regarding dissertation topics. Direct measures are identified in the following sections for each program SLO.

The culminating assignment done in the Capstone Course is the dissertation and is a direct measure for assessing attainment of our program Student Learning Outcomes. Student progress in the Capstone Course will provide the department with information regarding areas of program strengths and weaknesses and will inform our decisions ultimately in the development of program improvements. In addition, a systematic process for gathering data utilizing an indirect measure, the Graduating Student Survey, was established. Data from the student survey will also help inform our decisions regarding program improvement to increase student learning.
Students who earn a doctoral degree in Urban Leadership should be able to:

**SLO1:** Candidates who complete the program are educational leaders who have the knowledge and ability to promote the success of all students by facilitating the development, articulation, implementation, and stewardship of a school or district vision of learning supported by the school community.

**Direct Measure #1:** EDD6201/6202/6203 Field Studies: Observation Evaluation Forms and Portfolio Rubric

**Direct Measure #2:** Final Grade Analysis of Course # 6005

**Indirect Measure:** Faculty mentor meets with student multiple times over the course of the internship experience, reviews the student portfolio and the activities completed on the matrix.

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**SLO2:** Candidates who complete the program are educational leaders who have the knowledge and ability to promote the success of all students by promoting a positive school culture, providing an effective instructional program, applying best practice to student learning, and designing comprehensive professional growth plans for staff.

**Direct Measure #1:** EDD6201/6202/6203 Field Studies: Observation Evaluation Forms and Portfolio Rubric

**Direct Measure #2:** Data analysis project, course # 6103. Analysis of rubric scores. Rubric developed by the faculty to evaluate student understanding of assessment and evaluation.

**Indirect Measure:** Faculty mentor meets with student multiple times over the course of the internship experience, reviews the student portfolio and the activities completed on the matrix.

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**SLO3:** Candidates who complete the program are educational leaders who have the knowledge and ability to promote the success of all students by managing the organization, operations, and resources in a way that promotes a safe, efficient, and effective learning environment.

**Direct Measure #1:** EDD6201/6202/6203 Field Studies: Observation Evaluation Forms and Portfolio Rubric

**Direct Measure #2:** Final Grade Analysis of Course # 6102

**Indirect Measure:** Faculty mentor meets with student multiple times over the course of the internship experience, reviews the student portfolio and the activities completed on the matrix.

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**SLO4:** Candidates who complete the program are educational leaders who have the knowledge and ability to promote the success of all students by collaborating with families and other community members, responding to diverse community interests and needs, and mobilizing community resources.

**Direct Measure #1:** EDD6201/6202/6203 Field Studies: Observation Evaluation Forms and Portfolio Rubric
**Direct Measure # 2:** Creation of a journal, Course # 6004. Analysis of the Journal rubric scores. Rubric developed by faculty to evaluate student journal on multicultural issues and leadership

**Indirect Measure:** Faculty mentor meets with student multiple times over the course of the internship experience, reviews the student portfolio and the activities completed on the matrix.

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**SLO5:** Candidates who complete the program are educational leaders who have the knowledge and ability to promote the success of all students by acting with integrity, fairly, and in an ethical manner.

**Direct Measure # 1:** EDD6201/6202/6203 Field Studies: Observation Evaluation Forms and Portfolio Rubric

**Direct Measure # 2:** Individual and group presentation of legal case analyses, Course # 6002. Grade analysis of presentations

**Indirect Measure:** Faculty mentor meets with student multiple times over the course of the internship experience, reviews the student portfolio and the activities completed on the matrix.

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**SLO6:** Candidates who complete the program are educational leaders who have the knowledge and ability to promote the success of all students by understanding, responding to, and influencing the larger political, social, economic, legal, and cultural context (accomplished through an action research doctoral dissertation).

**Direct Measure # 1:** Completion of an Action Research Dissertation within seven years

**Direct Measure # 2:** Doctoral Program Completion. Graduation rates

**Indirect Measure:** Student Interviews and Doctoral Program Completion and Graduation rates.

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* **KU Student Outcomes:** *Kean University graduates should be able to:*
  1. Think critically, creatively and globally;
  2. Adapt to changing social, economic, and technological environments;
  3. Serve as active and contributing members of their communities; and
  4. Advance their knowledge in the traditional disciplines (GE) and enhance their skills in professional areas (Prof. programs)