The Educational Leadership and Policy Thread is designed to combine a core academic program for all students with the customization needed to support students’ specific career aspirations.

The core academic program is focused on the collaborative practice of systemic improvement. Consisting of both MA-wide and thread-specific classes, this is a five course sequence designed to take students deep into the contemporary educational reform agenda. One aim is for students to understand the complex dynamics driving the current press to improve student achievement. Another aim is to prepare students to work together on this agenda from a variety of roles, both in schools and beyond. This five course core sequence includes:

Core
- EDUC 649: Foundational Perspectives on Education Reform*
- EDUC 695: Research and Educational Practice*
- EDUC 551: School Organization and the Policy Environment*
- EDUC 552: Instructional Leadership in Schools*
- EDUC 638: Internship and Directed Field Experience*

Thread Electives
- EDUC 553: Administrative Leadership in Schools*
- EDUC 555: Financial and Legal Policies in Schools*
- EDUC 604: Curriculum Evaluation and Development
- EDUC 628: Democracy and Education (PUBPOL 628)
- EDUC 641: History of American Education

Cognates
Additionally students will take two courses of their choosing outside of the school of education.

*All of these courses are required for building level certification. Educational Leadership and Policy students will enroll in thread-specific sections of these courses offered at practitioner friendly time slots (weeknights 5-8).
A PROGRAM BUILT AROUND PRACTICE, FOCUSED ON IMPROVEMENT

The master’s level Educational Leadership and Policy program at the University of Michigan is centered on the collaborative practice of continuous improvement. It is anchored deeply in theory and research on school leadership, improvement, and turnaround.

**The Practice of Continuous Improvement**

- Design and Implement Systemic Improvement Initiatives
- Evaluate Instructional Practice and Outcomes
- Analyze Essential School Systems

**Our program prepares students to:**

- Analyze student outcomes, classroom instruction, the school organization, and external environments.
- Devise and implement strategic plans for systemic, instructionally-focused improvement.
- Enact key administrative responsibilities of building-level administrators.
- Demonstrate the identity, dispositions, and values instrumental to enacting collaborative school improvement.

BENEFITS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP

The desire of this program is to help schools develop strong leadership from within their ranks. Leaders that are focused on student outcomes through the work of collaborative continuous improvement. Program participants are required to take on active leadership roles addressing the current school needs, through the internship.

- Students receive a Partner School Fellowship ($4000 annually for in-state/ $8000 annually for out of state)
- Students receive work release time to fulfill the internship requirements
- Program staff/faculty, partner districts/schools, and students collaborate to design and implement evidence based improvement measures to address immediate challenges through the internship.
- Develops a strong community of improvement focused leaders within your organization.

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

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<tr>
<th>CATALOG NUMBER/COURSE TITLE</th>
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<tr>
<td>EDUC 649 Foundational Perspectives on Educational Reform</td>
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<td>EDUC 695 Research and Educational Practice</td>
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<td>*EDUC 553 Administrative Leadership in Schools or Elective</td>
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Interested in learning more?

Thomas M. Drake Jr.
Associate Director for Educational Leadership and Policy
Office: 734.763.8702
Fax: 734.936.1606
Email: tdrakejr@umich.edu