

PHD *in* EDUCATION



KATHMANDU UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

 Hattiban, Lalitpur, Nepal

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SCAN ME



PhD in Education

The School of Education, located at Hattiban, Lalitpur, is one of the seven Schools of Kathmandu University. It was established in 1997 to contribute to enhancing the quality of education in the country. Its first academic programs were initiated in 1998 with MPhil and PhD programs in Educational Leadership. In the succeeding years, the School extended its academic activities by launching new inter/multidisciplinary programs. At present, the School runs Bachelor, Post-Graduate Diploma, Master, Graduate Diploma in Higher Education, Master of Philosophy, and Doctoral programs.

The PhD Programs of KUSOED are highly acclaimed for producing educational experts capable of creating discourses on evolving educational and development-related issues and imparting analytical and research skills to explore the deeper layers of meaning, thereby developing next-generation leaders for transforming educational systems and perspectives. The PhD graduates combine eastern and western epistemologies to critically engage in their research activities for knowledge contribution through their local cosmological research endeavours.

KUSOED at a Glance

4 | **27** | **4**
Departments | Programs | Centers

25 | **50+**
Full Time
Faculties | Visiting
Faculties

4 | **11**
Partner
Institutions | Teacher
Educators

800+ | **1900+**
Students | Total Graduates

Students Enrolled at KUSOED from 2018-2023

| | | |
|------|--|-----|
| 2018 | | 229 |
| 2019 | | 236 |
| 2020 | | 234 |
| 2021 | | 330 |
| 2022 | | 456 |
| 2023 | | 531 |

Vision and Mission

KUSOED has been an innovative educational institution since its inception. To lead the educational activities in the country and beyond, the School has established its vision as 'Transforming Society through Educational Excellence'.

Our mission is to "Preparing competent multidisciplinary education professionals and leaders through knowledge creation and innovative academic services".

KUSOED offers PhD in Education in the following thematic areas:



Duration

Full-time PhD students are expected to complete their research in 3 years. Part-time students can submit their research work after 4 years. The maximum duration for the completion of the requirements for the degree is 6 years for full time students, and 8 years for part-time students. Research publications in the relevant field of study is preferable.

Eligibility for Enrolment

| Programs | Qualification | Discipline | Discipline | Entrance |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Development Studies | Minimum 17 years of formal education with a Master or Mphil | Any Discipline | Minimum CGPA 3.0 out of 4 in the terminal degree for CGPA system and minimum first division in the yearly system | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written Test • Presentation of concept note • Interview |
| Educational Leadership | Minimum 17 years of formal education with a Master or Mphil | Any Discipline | Minimum CGPA 3.0 out of 4 in the terminal degree for CGPA system and minimum first division in the yearly system | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written Test • Presentation of concept note • Interview |
| English Language Education | Minimum 17 years of formal education with a Master or Mphil | A Master or MPhil in English Language Education/ Teaching, English Literature and English Linguistics | Minimum CGPA 3.0 out of 4 in the terminal degree for CGPA system and minimum first division in the yearly system | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written Test • Presentation of concept note • Interview |
| STEAM Education | Minimum 17 years of formal education with a Master or MPhil | Any Discipline | Minimum CGPA 3.0 out of 4 in the terminal degree for CGPA system and minimum first division in the yearly system | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written Test • Presentation of concept note • Interview |

Note: Research publications in the relevant field of study is preferable.

Program Outcomes

After successful completion of PhD in the School of Education, graduates are expected to:

- identify research issue(s) and to develop viable research design as per the ethos of paradigm(s), methodologies and methods employed in the research;
- develop sound understanding of the major areas, focus, and contours of local, regional, and international research in the respective research areas;
- enhance capacity for critical assessment of relevant scholarly literature in their field of study;
- design, implement and evaluate educational programs for the concerned community of practice;
- showcase well-developed, flexible problem-solving abilities (skills, knowledge, and attitudes) appropriate to the area of study;
- cultivate the ethos of life-long learning in their personal and professional contexts;
- accomplish independent research/inquiry in education-related issues in general and their specializations in particular.

Application Requirements

- Completion of the application form;
- Copies of credentials, a copy of the curriculum vitae, and reference letters;
- A fully developed research concept note of around 5000 words (written in English);
- The Research Committee evaluates the concept note and makes the final decision.
- The Research Committee considers the following for evaluation:
 - ◆ Writing ability [written test]
 - ◆ Interview
 - ◆ A sample research paper on a relevant subject (published or not published)
 - ◆ Research proposal
 - ◆ Past academic records
 - ◆ Relevant work experience (if any)

Note: The Research Committee of the School of Education reserves the right to select (or otherwise) scholars for PhD programs based on their scholarly merits. Applicants unable to demonstrate adequate knowledge and academic skills in the chosen areas will not be selected.



Pathway

The following pathway is suggested for the successful completion of the program in the case of full-time students:

- 1) Demonstration of knowledge and skills necessary to conceptualize a research project by completing the research methodology-related courses (semester one);
- 2) Demonstration of the ability to conceive and plan a closely defined research topic/agenda by presenting the research proposal to the Research Committee (between the first semester and the middle of the second semester);
- 3) Demonstration of adequate knowledge of research methodologies and relevant literature by satisfactorily completing the qualifying assessment with two papers, one on methods and another on thematic areas (by the end of semester three);
- 4) Research fieldwork (after the completion of two qualifying papers);
- 5) Publication of two articles in peer-reviewed journals and participation in two relevant conferences (during the time of the study);
- 6) Submission of the written thesis;
- 7) Internal and external reviews of the thesis;
- 8) Viva voce.

The pathway for part-time students will be according to the KU regulations.

Evaluation of the Thesis

The thesis evaluation criteria will be as specified in the Research Guidelines for PhD developed by/for Kathmandu University School of Education.



PhD in Development Studies

Department of Development Education encourages PhD scholars to link education and development as social processes. The Department welcomes candidates with rigorous and critical engagement in social and development theories and research methodologies (qualitative, quantitative, or mixed methods) on education and development, specifically under the themes of education for employment, adult and youth education, education for sustainable development, ethics and integrity, and gender and education.



Kathmandu University School of Education (KUSOED) PhD program is more than just a degree pursuit; it's an exciting journey of transformation. As you progress, you'll be immersed in a dynamic learning environment that makes every moment an engaging step towards excellence.

Amrita Sharma
PhD Graduate, Development Studies

Possible Courses

Candidates who require specific course work will be offered one or more out of the following list as recommended by the supervisor(s):

- EDRM 623 : Quantitative Research Methods (3)
- EDUC 600 : Educational Dimensions (3)
- EDDE 620 : Development Planning and Evaluation
- EDRM 624 : Qualitative Research Methods (3)
- EDDE 628 : Research Trends in Development Education (3)
- EDRM 652 : Fieldwork in Qualitative Research (3)
- EDRM 653 : Fieldwork in Quantitative Research (3)
- EDRM 654 : Fieldwork in Mixed Methods Research (3)
- EDRM 655 : Data Analysis and Interpretation in Quantitative Research (3)
- EDRM 656 : Data Analysis and Interpretation in Qualitative Research (3)
- EDRM 657 : Data Analysis and Interpretation in Mixed Methods Research (3) EDDE 600: Sociology of Development Education (3)
- EDDE 610 : Development Theory and Practice (3)
- EDRM 651 : Research Writing & Proposal Development (3)
- EDUC 640 : Writing for Publication (3)



I completed both my MPhil and PhD at KUSOED. The supportive environment, dedicated faculty, individualized attention, and regular counseling greatly contributed to my successful completion of these degrees.

Durga Baral
PhD Graduate,
Development Studies

Contact Person:

Suresh Gautam, PhD (Head of the Department)
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Contact: 9801370658

PhD in Educational Leadership

Department of Educational Leadership enrolls qualified candidates, preferably those with good track record of research experiences and publication portfolios in the field of educational leadership. The thematic concentration for the PhD project should be aligned with one or more of the following areas: educational entrepreneurship, instructional leadership, policy and governance, digital leadership, ECD leadership, progressive education, school effectiveness, organizational development, and project and program designing in schools.



KUSOED fosters collaborative learning and research skill development with supportive faculties. Its blended learning approach, flexible recorded sessions, and strict quality standards create a culture of excellence. Likewise, KUSOED offers various platforms for research and writing, making it an ideal place for learning, networking, and professional collaboration.

Shital Moktan Tamang
PhD Scholar, Educational Leadership

Possible Courses

Candidates who require specific course work will be offered one or more out of the following list as recommended by the supervisor(s):

- EDLE 621 : Theories and Practice in Educational Leadership (3)
- EDUC 600 : Educational Dimensions (3)
- EDLE 642 : Human Resource Development in Education (3)
- EDRM 623 : Quantitative Research Methods (3)
- EDRM 624 : Qualitative Research Methods (3)
- EDLE 625 : Research Trends in Educational Leadership (3)
- EDRM 652 : Fieldwork in Qualitative Research (3)
- EDRM 653 : Fieldwork in Quantitative Research (3)
- EDRM 654 : Fieldwork in Mixed Methods Research (3)
- EDRM 655 : Data Analysis and Interpretation in Quantitative Research (3)
- EDRM 656 : Data Analysis and Interpretation in Qualitative Research (3)
- EDRM 657 : Data Analysis and Interpretation in Mixed Methods Research (3)
- EDRM 651 : Research Writing & Proposal Development (3)
- EDLE 632 : Organizational Theories and Behaviours (3)
- EDLE 652 : Policy and Governance for Educational Leadership (3)

Contact Person:

Shesha Kanta Pageni, PhD (Head of the Department)
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Contact: 9801370656



My transformative PhD journey at KUSOED was marked by exceptional education, unwavering support, and a research-focused environment. The faculty's expertise, mentorship, and vibrant community fostered intellectual growth and broadened my horizons. This experience has equipped me with the necessary skills for my career, making me a proud alumna of this esteemed institution.

Bhawana Shrestha
PhD Graduate,
Educational Leadership

PhD in English Language Education

Department of Language Education enrolls scholars who have sound orientation in interpretive, critical, and postmodern research paradigms. We take applicants from both humanities and education streams, willing to contribute to trans/interdisciplinary scholarship embracing contemporary questions underlying and across the fields of cultural studies, applied linguistics, language education, teacher professional development, and multilingualism. Critical discourse analysis, rhetorical studies, currere, ethnographies, case studies, action research, and narrative inquiry are some of the methodological focuses of the Department.

Possible Courses

Candidates who require specific course work will be offered one or more out of the following list as recommended by the supervisor(s):

- EDEL 649 : Research Trends in English Language Education (3)
- EDUC 600 : Educational Dimensions (3)
- EDEL 612 : Trends in Applied Linguistics (3)
- EDRM 623 : Quantitative Research Methods (3)
- EDRM 624 : Qualitative Research Methods (3)
- EDEL 661 : Field Work in Language Education Research (3)
- EDEL 629 : Issues in English Language Education (3)
- EDEL 609 : Language Teacher Education and Development (3)
- EDEL 662 : Data Analysis in Language Education Research (3)
- EDRM 651 : Research Writing & Proposal Development (3)
- EDEL 614 : Contemporary Thoughts in English Language Education (3)



My journey began with a rigorous selection process for a PhD Fellowship in English Language Education. Since February 2022, I've completed six courses, learning the intricacies of writing review papers and conducting empirical research. My confidence has grown through public presentations and teacher-provided materials, aiding me in fulfilling requirements like writing qualifying papers, presenting at conferences, and publishing journal articles. The feedback from my mentors has been invaluable. I appreciate the organized and forward-thinking education system at KU. As Saint Augustine said, 'The world is a book...' - I'm now reading more pages.

Md. Ziaul Karim
PhD Scholar in ELE
(2022 February Cohort)

Contact Person:

Hem Raj Kafle, PhD (Head of the Department)

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Contact: 9801670057

PhD in STEAM Education

Guided by the overarching research question- whose interest is being served by existing educational processes and systems?, an applicant for a PhD in STEAM Education demonstrates a strong interest in research domains such as transformative learning, art integration into STEM areas, and school transformation by promoting epistemological pluralism through post-qualitative research spaces (such as but not limited to, autoethnography, participatory action research, ethnography, narrative inquiry). The prospective scholar engages in inquiry via sociocultural perspectives arising from Eastern and Western intellectual and wisdom traditions, and driven by the principles of STEAM education research as/for transformative professional development.



My Ph.D. journey in STEAM education at KUSOED has been transformative. This journey has fostered self-reflection and collaboration, leading to personal and professional growth. I am now dedicated to evolving the education system to be more inclusive and resource-efficient.

Dr. Shweta Baral
PhD Scholar, STEAM Education

Possible Courses

Candidates who require specific course work will be offered one or more out of the following list as recommended by the supervisor(s):

- EDST 600 : Lenses of STEAM Education (3)
- EDUC 600 : Educational Dimensions (3)
- EDST 630 : Teaching and Learning in STEAM Education (3)
- EDRM 623 : Quantitative Research Methods (3)
- EDRM 624 : Qualitative Research Methods (3)
- EDST 628 : Research Trends in STEAM Education (3)
- EDST 610 : Curricula in STEAM Education (3)
- EDRM 655 : Data Analysis and Interpretation in Quantitative Research (3)
- EDRM 656 : Data Analysis and Interpretation in Qualitative Research (3)
- EDRM 657 : Data Analysis and Interpretation in Mixed Methods Research (3)
- EDRM 651 : Research Writing & Proposal Development (3)
- EDRM 652 : Fieldwork in Quantitative Research (3)
- EDRM 653 : Fieldwork in Qualitative Research (3)
- EDRM 654 : Fieldwork in Mixed Methods Research (3)
- EDUC 640 : Writing for Publication (3)

Contact Person:

Binod Prasad Pant (Head of the Department)

Email: binod@kusoed.edu.np

Contact: 9801370657



As an M.Phil. graduate, I joined KUSOED in 2020 for my Ph.D. The university's mission to transform society through education resonates with me. I admire its dedication to social justice, inclusivity, and personal growth. KUSOED's innovative teaching methods inspire my professional development. Its focus on learning as personal growth is distinctive. The school provides a conducive environment for research and learning, offering a platform for academic discourse. My Ph.D. journey at KUSOED has significantly shaped my perspectives on education and life.

Basanta Raj Lamichhane
PhD Scholar,
STEAM Education

FACULTY AND STAFF

Professors

Bal Chandra Luitel, PhD (Dean)
Mahesh Nath Parajuli, PhD

Laxman Gnawali, PhD
Mana Prasad Wagley, PhD

Associate Professors

Dhanapati Subedi, PhD (Assoc. Dean)
Prakash Chandra Bhattarai, PhD (Assoc. Dean)
Hem Raj Kafle, PhD (HoD, Department of Language Education)
Tikaram Poudel, PhD (Coordinator SWC)

Assistant Professors

Binod Prasad Pant (Head, Department of STEAM Education)
Shesha Kanta Pangen, PhD (Head, Department of Educational Leadership)
Suresh Gautam, PhD (Head, Department of Development Education)
Parbat Dhungana, PhD
Lina Gurung, PhD
Roshani Rajbanshi, PhD
Indra Mani Shrestha
Rajiv Ranjit, PhD
Rebat Kumar Dhakal, PhD
Bharat Neupane, PhD
Bashu Prasad Subedi, PhD

Full Time Faculties

Parbati Dhungana, PhD
Siddhartha Dhungana, PhD
Shree Krishna Wagle, PhD

Lecturers

Netra Kumar Manandhar
Niroj Dahal

Teacher Educators

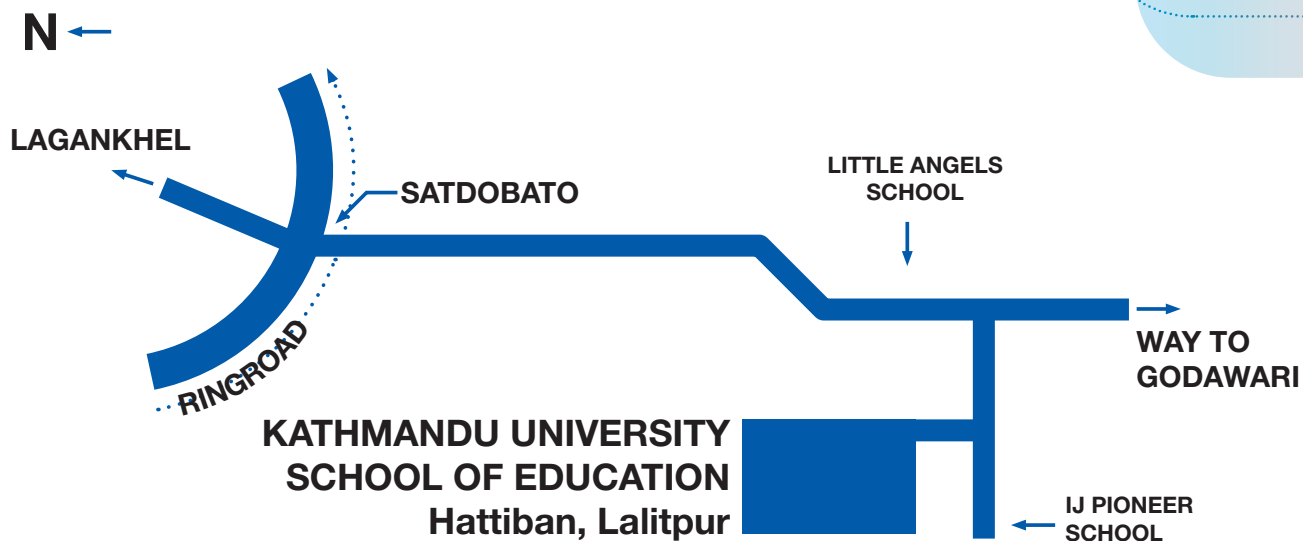
Surendra Prasad Bhatt
Prativa Rai
Menuka Sangroula
Sandip Dhungana
Rejina KC
Madan Rijal
Bikash Ghaju
Nimesh Shrestha
Kriti Shree Giri
Hiralal Kapar
Sarita Khadka

Administrative Staff

Shiva Nath Mainali (School Manager)
Prabina Kayastha (Librarian)
Bibek Bhandari (IT Support)
Anju Gautam (Support Staff)
Ganesh Khatriwada (Office Assistant)
Suman Acharya (Officer)
Mandira Dhungana (Account)
Raju Maharjan (Office Assistant)
Dil Bahadur Shrestha (Office Assistant)

Visiting Scholars

Prof. Jai Raj Awasthi, PhD
Prof. Peter Charles Taylor, PhD
Lava Deo Awasthi, PhD
Meenakshi Dahal, PhD
Prof. Bhim Prasad Subedi, PhD
Prof. Georgianna Duarte, PhD
Raj Kumar Dhungana, PhD
Lekha Nath Poudel, PhD



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