DOCTORATE IN VIRTUAL EDUCATION

BIU **University**

Modality	Language	Duration
Online	Spanish	33 months

Modules

- **VED711 Doctoral Program Orientation Seminar (no credit)** This introductory self-paced course serves as an introduction to the doctoral program. It will offer the students an opportunity to expand their knowledge of the academic process from a researcher's perspective using the scientific method. This course will allow the student to select his/her research track and understand the theoretical concepts of the dissertation process.

- **VED712 E-Literacy and E-Learning (3 Credits)** This course will discuss "media literacy," as an increasing source for information and values by critically evaluating aspects of film, television, the Internet, advertising, radio, and the print media. The methods are autobiographical, ideological, nonverbal, and mythic.

- **VED713 Sustainability and Assessment of Virtual Learning Resources (3 Credits)** Students discuss the fundamentals of effective online assessment utilizing multiple designs and implementing creative practices tied directly to course activities to measure student learning and sustainability. The course will use done with case studies, authentic assessments based on real-life application of concepts, and collaborative activities that assess the quality of student learning, rather than relying on the traditional methods of measuring the amount of information retained.

- **VED721 Research Methodology I (3 Credits)** This research course will provide students with core knowledge and skills for designing qualitative research at the doctoral level, including understanding data analysis. Students will explore the nature of qualitative inquiry, fieldwork strategies and the nature of observation, theoretical approaches to qualitative research, the importance of quality assurance, and the ethical, legal, and social change implications of conducting qualitative research and producing knowledge. Students will apply and synthesize their knowledge and skills by developing a qualitative research plan.

- **VED722 Teacher's Challenges and Trends: Teacher or Coach? (3 Credits)** There are so many challenges and trends for online teaching. Teachers need to integrate the latest research in cognitive processing and learning outcomes. The infusion of games, simulations, and virtual worlds into online learning can be a transforming experience for both the instructor and the student. This practical course shows students how to identify opportunities for building games, simulations, and virtual environments into the curriculum, how to successfully incorporate these interactive environments to enhance student learning, and how to measure the learning outcomes.

- **VED731 Research Methodology II (3 Credits)** This research course will provide students with core knowledge and skills for designing quantitative research at the doctoral level, including understanding data analysis and applying statistical concepts. Students will explore classical quantitative research designs and common statistical tests, the importance of quality assurance, and ethical and social change implications of conducting quantitative research and producing knowledge. This course approaches statistics from a problem-solving perspective with emphasis on selecting appropriate statistical tests for a research design.

- **VED732 Global Curriculum Design (3 Credits)** This course focuses on the initiatives that have been developed about global curriculum design in virtual education. Students will review and analyze the impact and continuity of programs. Special attention is given to the design of programs for special students. A model of global curriculum design will be made as a final project for this course.

- **VED741 Accessibility of Virtual Education (3 Credits)** The virtual school community has an obligation to ensure that their programs are accessible and the educational opportunities are equitable. Virtual education programs need to pay attention to these issues to ensure that they will have the greatest benefit to the largest number of students. This course is a review of the accessibility of virtual education.

- **VED742 Cloud Computing in Education (3 Credits)** Cloud computing is an emergent field that has attracted academia and industry over the last few years. Cloud-based distributed systems such as Facebook®, Gmail®, Amazon®, and others play an increasingly important role in society. Students need to understand the principles that underlie them, to build the Internet of tomorrow. Many schools and enterprises are doing computing in the clouds and a critical understanding of cloud computing organization is essential to leverage the opportunities and benefits that this new computing paradigm offers to education. This course provides a comprehensive overview of cloud computing concepts, technologies, models, strategies, and applications.

- **VED751 Doctoral Seminar I (6 Credits)** This course has two objectives: first, to provide students with a research foundation that have had a significant impact on scholarship; second, reading and discussing these texts will serve as a vehicle to spark ideas to help them produce a concept thesis draft of a dissertation. The selected texts serve as exemplars of scholarship and argumentation. It is expected that students will situate themselves within the broad intellectual context that the course provides. The final product of this seminar will be the dissertation proposal.

- **VED752 Copyrights and Ethics in Virtual Education (3 Credits)** Virtual education is a new form of educational system designed to overcome the problems associated with current education systems to meet the needs of society and individuals in the 21st century. There are many problems in developing a set of ethics of virtual education, but it is possible to adopt pragmatic solutions. One of the main concerns is the extent to which current ethical guidelines are appropriate for educational research conducted in virtual worlds.

- **VED761 Doctoral Seminar II (6 Credits)** This course helps the student to advance in research methodologies, quantitative and qualitative, as well as expand on the literature review. The final product of this seminar will be a first attempt at the research methodologies will be expanded in the final dissertation.

- **VED762 International Teams – Institutions Strategic Agreements (3 Credits)** There is a growing need for cooperation between educational institutions around the world. The World 2Wide Web has force institutions to develop a new international culture that has affected the way education is delivered and has created "International Teams". The purpose of this course is to analyze agreements between educational institutions around the world to identify what institutions are involved, the type of agreement they have, the common objective they have, the time they have been working together, and the results they already have or they want to have. Students can select any level of the education system.

- **VED771 Doctoral Seminar III (6 Credits)** This course deals with both the theoretical and practical aspects of designing dissertation research and successfully defending the design at a proposal hearing. The purpose of the course is to assist students through the dissertation process. The thesis dissertation is expected to be an original piece of research that demonstrates the student's ability to conceive, plan, and carry out independent research under the direction of his/her professor and the dissertation committee.

- **VED772 Evaluation in Virtual Education (3 Credits)** Virtual education is growing in an accelerated way. Every day, virtual technology is taking many steps forward and education cannot avoid any of the main issues that are involved in the whole process; one of them is evaluation. This course offers the opportunity to review literature and case studies related to state of the art evaluation in virtual education. Students will be involved in all levels and modalities of education to analyze how evaluation is being done in the virtual world. Students will evaluate learning strategies used in virtual education.

- **VED781 Perspectives in Instructional Technology and Distance Education (3 Credits)** This course highlights the shifting and emergent features that represent life online, specifically in and around the territory of e-learning. "Cyber cultures" are studied as complex conglomerations of ideas, philosophies, concepts, and theories, some of which can be fiercely contradictory. As a construct, students are going to see that "Cyber cultures" are a result of sustained attempts by diverse groups of people to make sense of multifarious activities, linguistic codes, and practices in complicated and ever-changing settings. It is made up of people, machines, and stories in everyday life.

- **VED782 Dissertation (6 Credits)** All doctoral students are required to complete the Thesis Dissertation. There are three benchmarks that are required: the concept document, the thesis proposal, and the final thesis document that will incorporate all the research and conclusions. Thus, allowing each student the opportunity to become an expert in a selected area/subject by making an original contribution to research.