REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DOCTOR OF EDUCATION DEGREE

CREDITS
A minimum of fifty-nine credits earned in courses and in dissertation research, at least forty-four of which were completed at UVM following formal admission to the program. With the prior approval of their graduate studies committee or advisor and the Graduate College, doctoral students may apply up to six credits of 100-level, or 200-level courses (not listed in the Graduate Catalog as approved for graduate credit), towards their graduate program. A student’s advisor must submit this request to the Graduate College for approval before the student enrolls in the course. Under no circumstances will a course numbered below 100 be applicable to a doctoral program. Doctoral students must achieve a 3.00 grade point average.

A maximum of nine (9) semester hours may be accepted in transfer from an accredited graduate program, and an additional 6 credits may be applied for courses taken at The University of Vermont prior to admission. Transfer credit may be completed prior to admission to the Doctor of Education program provided that the credit is approved by the student’s graduate studies committee and that the credit conforms to all other Graduate College requirements.

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION
Consistent with Graduate College requirements, the Ed.D. program requires students to complete a comprehensive examination of core knowledge prior to the completion of the degree program. This examination occurs in the semester following the completion of the core course curriculum. The examination will test knowledge in areas of study germane to all Ed.D. students. Students may not sit for the comprehensive examination until they have successfully completed their core courses.

RESEARCH AND DISSERTATION
Each candidate, while in residence at the University of Vermont, must complete an acceptable original research project which contributes new knowledge or techniques in an academic field. Each candidate must enroll in a minimum of seventeen credits of dissertation research. Only a member of the graduate faculty may supervise dissertation research for the Ed.D.

DISSERTATION DEFENSE FORMS
Defense Committee Membership and Defense Notice forms must be submitted to the Graduate College by the designated deadlines. A Public Notice of the defense is required at least three weeks prior to the scheduled defense date in order for the student to defend. The Intent to Graduate form must be submitted to the candidate’s department before the List of Potential Graduates is due.

DISSERTATION FORMAT
Students are required by the Graduate College to use a computer software program appropriate to the discipline to create the Table of Contents and the Lists of Tables and Figures from the dissertation text headings.

A dissertation must be prepared and submitted in compliance with the "Guidelines for Writing a Thesis or Dissertation" available from the Graduate College office and the program. A formatted copy of the dissertation must be submitted to the Graduate College for a Format/Record Check at least three weeks prior to the scheduled oral defense. Each student must also provide defendable copies of the dissertation to members of the dissertation defense examination committee at least two weeks before the scheduled examination. A student’s Graduate Studies Committee may require earlier deadlines.

The oral defense of a dissertation can be scheduled only after successful completion of the comprehensive examination and the submission of an original copy of the dissertation to the Graduate College for a Format/Record Check.

DISSERTATION DEFENSE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE
The dissertation defense examination committee consists of a minimum of four University of Vermont faculty members, all regular members of the graduate faculty. At least two graduate faculty members must be from inside the department or program. The chair must be both a member of the graduate faculty and from outside the candidate’s department and program. The definition of outside faculty means the faculty member has no appointment of any kind in the department or program. For University-wide interdisciplinary programs, the chair must be outside the department of the candidate’s advisor. The chair will be designated by the Graduate College dean upon nomination by the dissertation advisor. Individual programs may require more than four committee members or have other specific membership requirements. The dissertation defense examination committee must be approved by the Graduate College prior to the defense. The dissertation defense examination committee and the graduate studies committee do not have to be the same.

The chair of the dissertation defense examination committee has the responsibility for ensuring proper conduct of the examination, appropriate documentation of the results, and that the signatures of endorsement are added to the acceptance page of the dissertation following a successful defense.

The acceptability of the dissertation is determined by the dissertation defense examination committee. The chair of the dissertation defense examination committee notifies the Graduate College of the outcome. The result of the defense and the date defended will be recorded as a notation on the academic transcript. If a student’s defense examination performance is not satisfactory, then one reexamination, and one only, is permitted.

After a successful dissertation defense, candidates must electronically upload the corrected dissertation to http://www.etdadmin.com/uvm for approval by the Graduate College within the time period
specified by the dissertation defense examination committee, and/or the Graduate College.