

## **M Phil in Educational Leadership**

### **Rationale**

Education is the foundation for change and transformation of the society. In the context of growing aspirations of the people and need for socioeconomic transformation, the role of higher education institutions become crucial to respond and orient to these changes and needs towards right direction. The educational programs we design and offer should contribute to fulfill the individual's learning needs and at the mean time the needs of the society. The present world context presents both challenges and opportunities to the educational institution like ours. It is the need of present world and at the same time, our national and local needs that we become actively responsive to those challenges and opportunities to harness the achievements in educational practice. Kathmandu University, School of Education is thus fully engaged to capture those relevant and persuasive needs in the field of education in process of gaining national as well as international recognition.

As part of this effort and by realizing the importance of educational leaders to direct educational institutions as per changing market and environmental situations, we started this program in 1998 with an aim to develop educational or learning leaders who could lead and manage education institutions/programs. Currently, we are in the educational arena with our transformative mission to produce visionary educational leaders who can promote research based decision making in order to bring tangible change in local, national and global environment. Therefore, this program attempts to produce leaders who understand the intrinsic complexities of educational system, recognize and analyze critical problems of practice, and develop and apply relevant research based and scholarly responses appropriate to specific contexts.

### **Structure of the program**

As per the present design of KUSOED MPhil, each student must take a minimum of 12 credit hours of courses as core courses and 15 credit hours of courses as concentration courses. All students must also write a research dissertation on agreed topic which is equivalent to 6 credit hours. In case of those students who come from non-educational background, they need to

take an extra course of foundation of education of 3 credit hours. The description of each course is presented below:

### **Core Courses**

#### **Course Title: Research Methods in Education and Social Science (3 credit)**

Course Code: EDUC 521

Nature of the Course: Theory

This course aims at offering an introduction to research methods in education. Participants will learn about basics of research methods, the philosophical and theoretical underpinnings of qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods research. In particular, this course will help the participants to understand and practice identifying and stating the research problem, formulation of research purpose and questions, design the research, data collection, and analysis process of quantitative and qualitative data. At the end of the course, the participants will have a sufficient understanding of the major paradigms of research in order to locate their research within these paradigms, and to provide a basis for further examination of their preferred method. Likewise, by the end of the course, the students will develop necessary knowledge and skills to design, plan and implement a research project following either of the approach.

#### **Course Title: Statistical Methods in Education and Social Science Research (3 credit)**

Course Code: EDUC 522

Nature of the Course: Theory

This is the course designed for post-graduate student researchers on statistical methods and research. The course covers fundamentals of descriptive and inferential statistical techniques. The aim of the course is to develop competency and ability to use these techniques in educational and social science research. The emphasis of the course is more on interpretation of results and understanding their strengths and limitations of different statistical measures. These days use of computer in statistical analyses has become indispensable and different software are available for this purpose. This course also emphasizes use of these different software in carrying out statistical analyses. At the end of the course, students will have thorough understandings of statistical methods and their use in education and social research using computer and will be able to carryout these activities independently.

**Course Title: Advanced Qualitative Research Methods (3 credit)**

Course Code: EDUC 621

Nature of the Course: Theory

This course aims to take the students at higher level of understanding and practicing research focusing on qualitative or non-positivist research methods in education and social science. Students in this course will participate in learning, debating, designing and practicing research with different approaches under the broader paradigm of non-positivism along with their philosophical and theoretical underpinnings. At the end of the course, students will have the capability in designing, implementing, and evaluating the research works based on qualitative methods. The course emphasizes that students build on critical analytical perspectives on different philosophies, paradigms and approaches to carrying out research, particularly the qualitative research. The course will also focus on discussing Mixed Methods Research, its philosophical and theoretical bases as well as procedural aspects with the purpose of making students capable for selecting the right approach for a given research and carrying out the research accordingly.

**Course Title: Advanced Quantitative Research Methods (3 credit)**

Course Code: EDUC 622

Nature of the Course: Theory

This is an advanced level course designed for post-graduate student researchers with a prior background in basic statistics. The course introduces fundamentals of advanced statistical tools and techniques used in research. The aim of the course is to develop capability in students to use computer based advanced statistical techniques and models in educational and social science research and be able to interpret results in an independent manner. As the course is heavily based upon statistical software, prior experience/skills in using these software is essential.

**Course Title: Writing for Professionals (1 credit)**

Course Code: EDUC 514

Nature of the Course: Theory

Professionals in education are required to communicate through many different kinds of media. One of them, writing, is an especially important means to sharing ideas, influencing others, and providing leadership in the society. As the English language is the second language for Nepali students, this course is designed to offer the chance to gain experience in organizing ideas and to improve communication through writing in English. As a result of active participation in this course, students will develop skills essential for writing tasks including research reports, thesis or dissertation, letters, and other communications required for education professionals as well as for evaluating writing done by others.

**Course Title: Seminar: Issues in Education (1+1 credit)**

Course Code: EDUC 513

Nature of the Course: Practical

This course is designed to enhance the graduates' skills in order to logically and practically project and discuss educational issues over all aspects of educational trends and development. In this course students prepare and present a seminar paper. As this course will not have 'lecture sessions' students will know learning by working independently and will build confidence for their future professional life. By participating in this course, students will be aware on approaches, methods and specific techniques on project/program evaluation. They will also be able to identify the key educational issues, analyze those issues from different perspectives and present a view point on addressing those issues. As students would also have to critique on seminar papers prepared and presented by their classmates, they will also have sound understanding on academic review process.

**Concentration Courses**

**Course Title: Organizational Behavior (3 credit)**

Course Code: HRD 520

Nature of the Course: Theory

This course is designed for post graduate students in order to enhance their knowledge and skills on the behavior of individuals and groups within diverse organizations and their structures and processes. The course aims to develop knowledge and skills in students to understand and

explain human behavior within an educational organizational setting. As the key outcome of this course, students will be able to analyze complex organizational situations, diagnose problems and identify critical success factors, evaluate alternative solutions and develop appropriate course of action and apply critical, creative and innovative thinking skills within today's demanding business and service organizations with special emphasis on application of concepts in educational institutions/organizations.

**Course Title: Principles of Educational Leadership (3 credit)**

Course Code: EDUC 531

Nature of the Course: Theory

This course has been designed to impart the depth understanding of the subject matter of philosophy of educational leadership. The course specifically deals with different leadership styles and their relationship in enhancing the performance of the educational institutions/ programs. At the end of the course, students will find themselves on a deeper level of philosophical and practical insights of educational leadership. The course intends to adopt a bottom up approach to analyze the problems and prospects of educational leadership in the context of Nepal. This course also provides students with a platform to discourse on their perceptions, feelings, attitude, learning and motivation on the prevailing practices of educational leadership practices in the nation.

**Course Title: Management of Education (3 credit)**

Course Code: EDUC 532

Nature of the Course: Theory

Deriving from the principles from the management for better performance and outcome of any organization/activity, this course specifically deals with education management. The course intends to enhance the skills and knowledge of students in critically examining existing educational management system and practices based on different management related theories and ideas. As the key outcomes of this course students will be able to understand the basic functions of management, examine and analyze various management theories important to understanding educational management practices, analyze organizational management practices

and relate those with management theories, and identify management related educational problems and their solutions.

**Course Title: Financing of Education (3 credit)**

Course Code: EDUC 533

Nature of the Course: Theory

This course has been designed to help students understand the basic concepts, practices and problems related to the financing of education. The course will also help students be familiar with different modalities of educational financing prevalent in different countries in order to develop competency to critically analyze the current educational financing system in Nepal. As the key outcome of this course, students will be able to understand the basic concepts and terminologies of educational financing, identify the major modalities of education financing, explain the important trends of educational financing in developing countries and critically analyze the current educational financing system of Nepal.

**Course Title: Human Resource Management (3 credit)**

Course Code: HRD 542

Nature of the Course: Theory

This course is designed to equip students with theoretical concept and management skills to critically examine existing human resource management and development system and practices. This course will support students to pursue their career as human resource manager or educational administrator or training and development manager by increasing their competency in latest theories, models, techniques, and practices in the field. This course deals with aspects like human performance, employees' motivation, capacity development organizational change and performance/ productivity improvement. The course will enhance opportunities and capabilities in students to serve as a successful human resource manager and trainer.

**Foundation Course**

**Course Title: Foundation of Education (3 credit)**

Course Code: EDUC 515

### Nature of the Course: Theory

This course is designed to develop basic knowledge of historical, philosophical, social and behavioral foundation of education and is designed for those who come from non-education background. This course intends to make them understand how different philosophical, social, cultural and behavioral perspectives, principles and thoughts have contributed to the development of modern education. During the course of the study, students are expected to relate these perspectives, principles and thoughts in the development of Education, particularly education in Nepal. The course is designed with a problem-centered discourse building on the topic of interest. Hence, the class sessions are focused on understanding philosophical, social, political and historical concepts of educational thought that have shaped the development of the learning experience and modern education through reading, writing and discussion. The main aim of the course is to widen the horizon of the knowledge and ideas of students so that they could be able to identify day to day educational problems and issues associated with certain theories, principles and philosophies of broad spectrum of educational landscape.

### **Dissertation**

#### **Course Title: Dissertation (6 credit)**

Course Code: EDUC 505

#### Nature of the Course: Practical

Under this course students prepare a dissertation of good academic standard on the approved topic related to her/his stream of study. This prepares students to work independently on identified 'problem' issues, develop a research proposal, defend the proposal, and carryout the research once the proposal is formally approved. While working on the thesis, students will work under the close supervision of Supervisor assigned by the School. As MPhil is a very high level of academic study, the School motivates the students to become creative and innovative in designing and carrying out the research and contribute to knowledge building. The School also promotes the multi-disciplinary approach in dissertation work. Once the student prepares her/his dissertation, it will go through a rigorous evaluation process by the Research Committee of the School and by an External Evaluator. The student needs to defend her/his dissertation in front of the Research Committee where the External Evaluator would also be present.