CONTEMPORARY LEARNING AND INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH (PH.D.)

45 credits
NYSED 35223

Through interdisciplinary teaching, learning, and research, the Ph.D. program in Contemporary Learning and Interdisciplinary Research (CLAIR) is committed to finding innovative solutions that address the multifaceted challenges of education in a technologically complex, globalized world. Guided by the belief that education should be transformative, this unique program fosters ethical, versatile, and collaborative scholars who embrace multiple paradigms of inquiry to understand and improve contemporary learning environments. The Ph.D. program in CLAIR follows Fordham University’s Jesuit tradition of rigorous academic endeavor, service to complex urban and metropolitan communities, and dedication to the intellectual, moral, and socioemotional development of the individual. CLAIR epitomizes the Graduate School of Education’s mission to create and nurture an inclusive, dynamic, intellectual, and reflective community that generates knowledge and promotes inquiry and excellence.

CLAIR includes a research core that engages students in authentic research. Through the perspective of multiple paradigms and the use of multiple methodologies, research teams of University faculty and CLAIR students generate new knowledge, test hypotheses, and solve problems related to contemporary learning.

Graduates of the program are prepared for a variety of roles, including instructional leader, teacher educator, program evaluator, educational researcher, academician, diversity trainer/multicultural educator, and industry professional designing educational materials, curriculum, and assessments.

Matriculation Requirements

Doctoral students are not fully matriculated until they have successfully completed the initial phase of the program. During the semester in which provisional doctoral students expect to complete their 12th to 15th credits of doctoral work, they must obtain permanent matriculation status. In CLAIR, the review is conducted after students have completed at least one course in the research core and at least 15 credits. CLAIR faculty evaluate each student’s portfolio to determine whether permanent matriculation will be granted. Candidates for matriculation must

- complete at least one course in the research core and 15 credits;
- hold a 3.5 or higher GPA in CLAIR coursework at the time of review;
- receive satisfactory evaluations from course instructors on a knowledge, skills, and dispositions assessment;
- demonstrate competence in APA style;
- submit an updated personal statement related to research in contemporary learning; and
- submit a course plan, a specialization focus, and a request for a research mentor.