

# Curious about completing a dissertation online?

## BELOW IS A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

For many new online doctoral students, the dissertation process can be unsettling. Luckily, Drexel University's online EdD in Educational Leadership and Management ensures that students are supported every step of the way, from the beginning of their coursework through defending their dissertation.



### STEP 1 Choose your topic

Start thinking about your dissertation topic as soon as you enter the program. You begin tailoring your coursework to your dissertation topic early on, so the sooner you know the topic you are interested in, the sooner you can begin preparing.

### STEP 2 Utilize your research courses

Beginning your dissertation may seem overwhelming, but Drexel's EdD program eases you into the process. You will take numerous research courses over the length of the program, and your assignments in these classes support the development of your dissertation.



### STEP 3 Meet your supervising professor

Your supervising professor will be with you every step of the way. Call them, Skype them, email them, meet them in person – they will work with you to support your research and your development as a scholarly practitioner.

You will also be assigned a dissertation committee that will review your work. Each committee member brings a strong level of expertise to your topic.



### STEP 4 Defend your proposal

You will present your proposal to your committee online via a virtual meeting room. Your dissertation committee will review your work, offer feedback and accept your proposal. At this point, you will begin work on your dissertation.



### STEP 5 Conduct your research

After you receive Drexel's Institutional Review Board approval, you will begin collecting and analyzing your data. Based on the data that emerges and your findings, you will complete the dissertation process.



### STEP 6 Write your dissertation

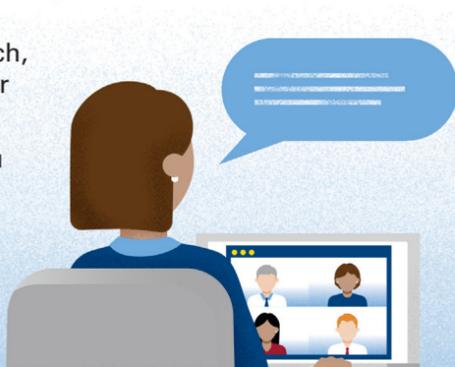
Your dissertation is broken down into five chapters: an introduction; a literature review; your methodology; what you learned from your data; and a conclusion.



### STEP 7 Defend your dissertation and celebrate your success!

You will defend your dissertation via a virtual meeting with your full committee. Once you have finished the presentation of your research, your committee will let you know what further changes are requested.

Your supervising professor will work with you to determine when you're ready to present your work. The goal is that you emerge ready to celebrate your success.



## Good luck!

To learn more about Drexel's online EdD program, visit:

[ONLINE.DREXEL.EDU/EDD](https://online.drexel.edu/edd)