

August 2026 Doctoral & Masters

Doctor of Education

Vickie Renee Clark

Department of Instruction and Curriculum Leadership

Dissertation: Barriers Experienced by Committee Members Planning a Center for Teaching and Learning: A Case Study

Major Professor: Dr. Craig Sheppard

Tori Martin Cliff

Department of Higher and Adult Education

Dissertation: Social Equity in Education: Digital Divide and Students' Perceived Stress

Major Professor: Dr. Wendy Griswold & Dr. Stephen Zanskas

Jennifer R. Cordero

Department of Instruction and Curriculum Leadership

Dissertation: Controversial Issues in Elementary and Middle School Social Studies Education: A Twenty-Five-Year Content Analysis (2000-2025).

Major Professor: Dr. Jeffrey Byford

Tracy LaSonia Gillespie

Department of Higher and Adult Education

Dissertation: Are Peer Mentors Really Peers Themselves?

Major Professor: Dr. Charisse Gulosino

Rachel Gray

Department of Higher and Adult Education

Dissertation: Black American Returning Citizens and their perspectives on Citizenship Rights and Restoration

Major Professor: Dr. Edith Gnanadass

Patrick J. Krolik

Department of Higher and Adult Education

Dissertation: From Campus to Career: Program Evaluation of a College Transition Program: Attributes, Conditions, and Predictors of Employment Outcomes for Neurodiverse Students

Major Professor: Dr. Daniel Collier & Dr. Steve Zanskas

Erika Sugarmon

Department of Leadership and Policy Studies

Dissertation: Exploring Culturally Relevant Children's Literature in Classrooms: A Multi-Theoretical Perspective

Major Professor: Dr. Charisse Gulosino & Nikki L. Wright

Lakesha Wilson

Department of Instruction and Curriculum Leadership

Dissertation: Examining the Role of Federal Programs, Interventions and Collaborative Relationships in a School-to-Work Transition: A Narrative Inquiry

Major Professor: Dr. Chrisann Schiro-Geist

Briana S. Wynn

Department of Instruction and Curriculum Leadership

Dissertation: A Qualitative Investigation into Current Practices in Applied Behavior Analysis: Exploring BCBAs' Perceptions of Soft Skills as Essential for the Field

Major Professor: Dr. Laura Casey

Doctor of Liberal Studies

Anthony W. Baker

Department of Liberal Studies

Dissertation: Jiriki and Tariki: Zen and Jodo Shinshu Through Hakuin and Rennyo

Major Professor: Dr. Kevin Taylor

Michael Edward Carter

Department of Liberal Studies

Dissertation: Providence Rebranded: Progress, Neoliberalism, and the Teleology of Late Modernity

Major Professor: Dr. Jeremy Killian

Carla Garcia Mercer

Department of Liberal Studies

Dissertation: A Text Message Health Intervention for Cervical Cancer and HPV Education and Behavioral Intentions Related to Screening and Vaccination

Major Professor: Dr. Marie van der Merwe

Doctor of Musical Arts

Christian Phillip Davis

Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music

Dissertation:

Major Professor: William Shaltis

Paul Andrew Hayes

Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music

Dissertation: Poe: A Clarinet and Percussion Album

Major Professor: Dr. William Shaltis

Joshua Tyler Matthews

Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music

Dissertation: Bridging the Romantic Repertoire Gap: Transcribing Nineteenth-Century Opera Arie for Oboe and String Quintet

Major Professor: Dr. Michelle Vigneau

Jorge Andres Ossa Gonzalez

Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music

Dissertation: Piano Music by Latin American Composers

Major Professor: Dr. Jonathan Tsay

Terry L. Walker, Jr.

Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music

Dissertation: The Path to Performance: A Conductor's Performance Guide for Richard Burchard's Seven Last Words of Christ

Major Professor: Dr. Francis Cathlina

Mary M. Wilson

Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music

Dissertation: Singer's Guide to Oratorio Repertoire

Major Professor: Dr. Marcin Arendt

Doctor of Philosophy

Zohreh Abbasi Hafshejani

Department of Earth Sciences

Dissertation: Spatial Variation of Site Response across the Mississippi Embayment using Multiple Spectral Ratio Methods

Major Professor: Dr. Chris H. Cramer

Adedamola David Aladese

Department of Applied Physics

Dissertation: The Effect of Doping on Ferroelectric Hafnium Oxide

Major Professor: Dr. Xiao Shen

Ruqiah Ahmed Alzahrani

Department of English

Dissertation: Cancel Culture in Twitter Discourse: A Case Study Of J.K. Rowling

Major Professor: Dr. Sage Lambert Graham

Dana Ann Barchak

Department of Educational Psychology and Research

Dissertation: Examining the House System as a Whole School Approach to Increasing Elementary School Students' Sense of School Belonging and Subjective Well-Being in School

Major Professor: Dr. Eli Andrew Jones

Logan Michael Brewer

Department of Psychology

Dissertation: Influence of Externalizing and ADHD-Related Phenotypes on Emotion Dysregulation in Adults: An Event-Related Potential Study of Cognitive Preappraisal and Motivated Attention

Major Professor: Dr. Frank Andrasik

Alex Bryan

Department of Biomedical Engineering

Dissertation: In vitro evaluation of novel trifluoroacetic acid-free electrospun chitosan membranes for wound healing applications

Major Professor: Dr. Joel D. Bumgardner

Lisa Bryant

Loewenberg College of Nursing

Dissertation: Transitioning from an Acute Illness to a Life-Long End-Stage Disease: The Lived Experience.

Major Professor: Dr. Genae Strong

Shao Liam Chew

Department of Business Administration

Dissertation: Synthetic Minds, Fractured Trust: Three Essays on Deepfakes and Human Judgment

Major Professor: Dr. Huigang Liang

Adora Elise Choquette

Department of Psychology

Dissertation: Person-Centered Profiles of Body Image (Dis)satisfaction Among Adolescents and Young Adults with Type 1 Diabetes

Major Professor: Dr. Kristoffer S. Berlin

Karla Cisneros Vargas

Department of Chemistry

Dissertation:

Major Professor: Dr. Tomoko Fujiwara

Heather R. Clendenin

Department of Biology

Dissertation: Disentangling Evolutionary and Contemporary Genomic Signals to Diagnose and Address Conservation Need in Bears

Major Professor: Dr. Emily Puckett

Jordan Darling

Department of Applied Physics

Dissertation: Lipid Membranes-Mediated Self-Assembly of Janus Polymer-Grafted Nanoparticles

Major Professor: Dr. Mohamed Laradji

Apratim Dasgupta

Department of Mechanical Engineering

Dissertation: Multi-scale analysis, coherent structures, and modeling of diverse turbulent flow applications

Major Professor: Dr. Daniel Foti

Jason Anthony De Freitas

Department of Business Administration

Dissertation: Essays in Empirical Finance: Risk, Frictions, and Market Outcomes

Major Professor: Dr. Velma Zahirovic-Herbert

Jonathan C. Faulkner

Herff College of Engineering

Dissertation: Acoustic Microbubbles for Cell Manipulation

Major Professor:

Breanna Lynn Free

Department of Psychology

Dissertation: Confirming the Factor Structure of The Pmwi-Sf: A Cfa and Subsequent Evaluation of Psychometric Properties

Major Professor: Dr. Gayle Beck

Hannah Corinne Gilliam

Department of Psychology

Dissertation: Interrupting intergenerational cycles of violence among women in Mexico experiencing intimate partner violence: Parenting as a target for intervention

Major Professor: Dr. Alexandria Golden & Dr. Kathryn Howell

Olivia Grace Glasgow

Department of Psychology

Dissertation: Behavioral Health Referral Patterns of Medical Providers

Major Professor: Dr. Jeffrey Berman

Josias Omar Gomez

Department of Mathematical Sciences

Dissertation: On intersecting families of spanning trees

Major Professor: Dr. Dheer Noal Desai & Dr. Alexander Gavrilyuk

Anna Marie Gretz

Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Dissertation: Hierarchical mixed models for environmental exposure and surveillance data to strengthen epidemiologic inference

Major Professor: Dr. Fanta Gutema & Dr. Abu Mohammed Naser Titu

Halle Elizabeth Griggs

Department of English

Dissertation: The Empathetic-Perverse: A Contemporary Exploration of the Grotesque in Southern Gothic Literature

Major Professor: Dr. Jeffrey Scraba

Samantha Michelle Guajardo

Department of Communication

Dissertation: Disrupting Crisis Narratives at the Border: Latina Rhetorical Agency in the Rio Grande Valley

Major Professor: Dr. Antonio de Velasco

Alamgir Hosain

Department of Earth Sciences

Dissertation: Dynamic Earthquake Triggering in Intraplate Regions: Insing from Nevada and Texas

Major Professor: Dr. Chris H. Cramer

Liyan Jacob

Department of Applied Physics

Dissertation: Probing Topological Spin Textures in Ferrimagnetic Alloys

Major Professor: Dr. Shawn Pollard

Nischal Kafle

Herff College of Engineering

Dissertation: Rain-Gauge Network Effects on The Uncertainty of and Trends in Short-Duration Extreme Precipitation

Major Professor: Dr. Claudio Ivan Meier

Fatemeh Kamkar

Department of Business Administration

Dissertation: Essays on Liquidity, Economic Shocks, and the Dynamics of Price Adjustment Across Markets

Major Professor: Dr. Mark Sunderman

Elisha David Lawrence

Department of Educational Psychology and Research

Dissertation: Purpose in a Digital World: Social Media Use, Psychological Well-Being, and Academic Engagement in Emerging Adults

Major Professor: Dr. Christian Mueller

Marcos Esteban Lerma

Department of Psychology

Dissertation: A Longitudinal Analysis of Gambling-Related Content on X

Major Professor: Dr. James P. Whelan

Janel Kathleen Long

Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music

Dissertation: An Investigation of the Relationships Between Visual Perceptual Expertise for Music Notation, Dyslexia-Risk, and Musical Experience

Major Professor: Dr. Josef Hanson

Evan N. Main

Department of Biomedical Engineering

Dissertation: Engineering a Next Generation of Immunomodulatory Small-Diameter Vascular Grafts via Manuka Honey-Incorporated Touch Spun Biomaterials

Major Professor: Dr. Gary Bowlin

Abby McPhail

Department of Psychology

Dissertation: Gambling Under the Influence of Cannabis: The Impact of Simultaneous Engagement Within Individuals Who Gamble Frequently

Major Professor: Dr. James Whelan

Jeffrey Michael Miller

Department of Communication

Dissertation: Constructing Heroes in the Classroom: A Rhetorical Analysis of Abeka's K-12 Curriculum

Major Professor: Dr. Andre Johnson

Kazi Ashraf Moinuddin

Herff College of Engineering

Dissertation: Human-Centric AI for Lumbar Spine Pathology

Major Professor: Dr. Mohammed Yeasin

Paul Henry Mowry

Department of Counseling Psychology

Dissertation: The Invisible Disease Made Visible: A Qualitative Inquiry into the Lived Experience of Cold Agglutinin Disease Patients

Major Professor:

Nathan Alexander Mullins

Department of Biology

Dissertation: Molecular Mechanisms by Which MAP3K4 Controls Fetal and Placental Growth

Major Professor: Dr. Amy Abell

Valerie Nering

Department of History

Dissertation:

Major Professor: Dr. Beverly G. Bond

Favour oluwabukola Olarewaju

Department of Business Administration

Dissertation: Essays on Health, Public Policy, and Labor Economics

Major Professor:

Swathi Prabhu

Department of Counseling Psychology

Dissertation: Self-Compassion and Meaningful Work: Examining the Role of Personal Resources in Veterinary Medicine Student Burnout Through a JD-R Framework

Major Professor: Dr. Suzanne Lease

Katherine Wright Rote

Department of Educational Psychology and Research

Dissertation: Exploring college students' noncognitive profiles and the malleability of noncognitive factors

Major Professor:

Mithun Saha

Department of Computer Science

Dissertation: Wearable Physiological AI: Turning Real-World Noise into Robustness in the Age of General-Purpose Foundation Models

Major Professor:

Diarra Jana'e Smith

Department of Counseling Psychology

Dissertation: His Brother's Keeper: Examining the Relationship Between Social Support Within the Black Barbershop and Help-Seeking Behaviors Among African American Men

Major Professor: Dr. Santosh Kumar

Navin Thapa

Department of Earth Sciences

Dissertation: Seismicity Statistics, Pore Pressure, and Fault Heterogeneity: Insights from Laboratory Stick-Slip and Friction Experiments

Major Professor: Dr. Thomas H. W. Goebel

Kari Nicole Thomsen

Department of Psychology

Dissertation: Understanding Manifested and Generative Resilience in Bereaved Youth: A Scoping Review and Path Analysis

Major Professor: Dr. Katie Howell & Dr. Joah Williams

Kailey Brooke Thornton

Department of Psychology

Dissertation: Understanding Affective Job Satisfaction Among K–12 General Education Teachers: The Roles of Personality and Job Characteristics

Major Professor: Dr. Emily Srisarajivakul

Tapesh Yadav

Department of Mathematical Sciences

Dissertation: Self-Weighted Input-Guided (SWING) Kernel for Machine Learning Classification

Major Professor: Dr. Bentuo Zheng

Brittany Marie Young

Department of Counseling Psychology

Dissertation:

Major Professor:

Doctor of Social Work**Christy Renee Hickman**

Department of Social Work

Dissertation: Exploring Tennessee Social Work Faculty Perspectives on Transgender Inclusive Education

Major Professor: Dr. Robin Lennon-Dearing

College of Arts & Sciences

Master of Arts

Ricky Dale Butler

Trinity Joy-Nicole Chism

Ikbal Sena Nur Demir

Alisun Fiona Hughes

Barnabas Jetra

Lorri Foncetta Neal

Janet Okailey Okine

Kennedy Berlin Tatro

Dylan Wayne Vaughan

Dayle Elizabeth Zimmerman

Master of Science

Macy Jordan Baer

James Ryan Barnes

Pranay Sai Beemanapalli

Srinivasa Reddy Donthireddy

Brianna Deshay Duhart

Jaslyn Ilene Herold

Md Sahidul Islam

Sharoderick Catrees Lowe

Nikken Elzear Malboeuf

Victoria Kathleen Matthews

Lazo Jazaa Mohammed

Katherine Elizabeth Parsons

Jayashree Ramesh Reddy

Randall Stewart Smith

Syeda Mashnia Tasnim

Edgar Alejandro Villarreal

Master of Social Work

Anijah Itiel Moore

Seth D. Morgan

Codi C. Thomas

Mari Katherine Webb

College of Communication and Fine Arts

Master of Arts

Alexis Marie Coleman

Anna Mischelle Dean

Rebecca Elizabeth Law

Sydney Alexandria Pickens

Debra Pierre

Taylor Nicole Powell

Trent Shadid

Master of Music

Nicole Katelyn Huff

College of Education

Master of Science

Whitney Dale Buckelew

Alicia Hernandez Sosa

David Maxwell Lankford

Alysha Dory Jayne Lilly

Lisa Bess Mintz

Amille Josephine Perry

Madelein Yohana Quevedo Sarmiento

Renika Denise Rodgers-Crawford

Stanley W. Ross, Jr.

Sofia Lurita White

Pietra Gois Camargo Webb

Bria Lachae' Wilson Jackson

College of Health Sciences

Master of Science

Jacquelynn Fujiko Cloutier

Nicholas Alan Johnson

Caelin Mark Lee

Tyler Coleman Ross

Jacqueline Paige Yeaton

College of Professional & Liberal Studies

Master of Professional Studies

Reginald Louis Brown, Jr.

Wesley Denard Cox

Garyondris Robinson

Fogelman College of Business & Economics

Master of Business Administration

Matthew Steven Antwine

Gwendolyn Davis

Nathan Kenneth Handley

Peter Faebian Hunter III

Sudhir Kurup

Grace Mairead McCreave

Emma Maeve McCreave

Tamera Nicole Parnell

Babatunde Adebisi Raji

Leandro Romeo Zraggen

Master of SCIENCE

Kavya Kallala

Jingjing Li

Vijay Teja Narra

Keona Nesh'el Nichols

Herff College of Engineering

Master of Science

Catherine Rose Baum

Elijah A. Durkee
Jennifer Elizabeth Farler
Angelin Regina Maria Villanueva Favorito
Yamini Gaddam
Saiqua Islam
Sai Sumith Manda
Ayesha Syed
Ashely Janae Woodall

Kemmons Wilson School of Hospitality and Resort Management

Master of Science

Loewenberg College of Nursing

Master of Science in Nursing

Julie Marie Bridges
Wytisha Marie Buckles
Reginique Quarles Henderson
Samantha Lynn Hood
Allison Nicole Jackson
Miranda Raye Jordan
Anna Claire McClain
Lakendra Shanae Orr
Inaara Panjwani
Markie Alexandra Roser
Jessica Leigh Ryals

School of Communication Sciences and Disorders

Master of Arts

Claralisse Aida Bednarek

Sophie Elizabeth Blatt
Sophie Borhi
Alexa Gabriela Cortez
Allison Rae Donahue
Hannah Michelle Dugan
Miranda Jean Fritz
Lacey Nikol Halley
Heather Nicole Henley
Eve Julia Knight
Jameson Miller
Ambria Marie Murphy
Lillian Rose Neal
Adriana Michelle Parrado
Madalyn Elise Piefer
Rachel Lillian Schwantes-Barreto
Megan Nicole Wood

School of Public Health

Master of Public Health

Lora Leigh Adams
Rebecca Taiwo Aderaju
Rajesvi Deora
Matthew E. Khalil
Savannah Candace Kilgore
Valerie Cagle Makin
Giselle Scipione
Jaymie Sidaway