

Process for Students Re-Entering an EFLT Doctoral Program

Background

From time to time former students contact the Department of Educational Foundations, Leadership, and Technology (EFLT) office regarding their desire to return and resume their doctoral study. Frequently, these individuals left the Auburn campus with all coursework completed and lacking only their dissertation. Not infrequently, however, these individuals have been away from their doctoral study for ten to twenty years. These requests, however, create a dilemma for the EFLT department in several respects. In response to this situation, and in consultation with the Graduate School, the policy of the EFLT Department regarding returning students who have interrupted their doctoral study for 5 years or more will be as outlined below.

Re-Entry Process and Procedure

1. The student desiring to return must come to campus and meet the current faculty. The student will be considered for readmission only if one of the faculty agrees to serve as the returning student's chair.
2. The student must commit to taking a minimum of 4 additional courses: 2 in their area of professional knowledge and 2 in research or research methods. In addition, any classes in the student's transcript that are 7 years old or older must be retaken. These are department minimums. Individual programs may have more stringent requirements.
3. The student must demonstrate currency by passing the qualifying exams, even if they had previously passed them. If they had previously passed the exam but their time limit has expired, they must retake the General Oral examination at a minimum.
4. The student must file a new Plan of Study.
5. Students meeting the above requirements will be granted an additional 2 years in which to complete the dissertation. If the student does not complete the dissertation within this time limit, she/he will be dropped permanently from the doctoral program.
6. Students desiring to switch programs after reentry must reapply through the regular admissions process.