

# **INTERNATIONAL PHD PROGRAM IN ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES FOR LEARNING**

*School of Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, Beijing Normal University*

## **WELCOME TO BEIJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY**

Founded in 1902, Beijing Normal University (BNU) has a distinguished history of scholarship, research and training in education. The university developed from the Faculty of Education of Capital Metropolitan University, which initiated the first modern teacher training program in China. Since its foundation, BNU has led change and innovation in Chinese education and continues to do so as it moves into the new age of rapid development. BNU is a leader not only in Chinese education but also on the world stage. BNU lays great emphasis on exchange and cooperation with educational institutions nationally and internationally and is building a first-class reputation for scholarship, research and training.

Established in 2009, the Faculty of Education (FOE) at Beijing Normal University is a renowned national leader in advancing knowledge and learning through teaching practices, research projects and public services in education and related fields. FOE is a premier education school to nurture future academic talents. She enjoys a strong and reputable team of faculty members. At present, FOE has 214 professorial and teaching staffs, 90% of whom are qualified at doctoral levels, including 83 full-rank professors and 77 associate professors. From its founding, FOE continues to play a dominant role in the field of education in China. With excellence in academia as its goal, FOE has actively served as a productive research center for China's educational studies. FOE consists of 14 academic institutions, including Institute of Education Theories, Institute of International and Comparative Education, Institute of Education History and Culture, School of Educational Technology, etc. FOE is a high-end hub for international academic exchange. Up to now, FOE has signed bilateral or multilateral agreements with over 30 renowned universities worldwide. It has established the International Network of Educational Institution (INEI) along with other 9 top education schools in the world as one of the organizers.

The School of Educational Technology (SET) is among the first institutions that conducted research on learning and technology in the late 1970s. For over 40 years, it has been continuously pursuing research on theories of learning and technology as well as methods to solving practical educational problems. Besides applying advanced learning technology to formal/informal learning, it offers students training courses, academic support programs and policy consultancy in the field of educational technology. School of Educational Technology has also been actively engaged in collaborative work with intuitions and organizations all over the world. The research carried out at the School covers a wide range of disciplines, e.g. education, philosophy,

cognitive psychology, computer science, linguistics, and mathematics and was rated first in the National Discipline Assessment 2010, 2011, and 2012. Among the 42 faculty members, 53% are professors and associate professors. Each year, about 50 students are enrolled in the undergraduate programs and more than 60 students in the graduate programs pursuing master's degrees and doctoral degrees.

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE PROGRAM**

The PhD Program in Advanced Technologies for Learning aims to train talented individuals able to carry out educational academic research and be committed to practice and innovation of education, and enhance educational and cultural exchange between China and other countries.

We sincerely welcome students from countries across the world to apply for this international program, co-creating multiple and proactive cultural atmosphere, and contributing our modest means to promote the development of educational technology.

## **THE AIM OF THE PROGRAM**

The PhD Program in Advanced Technologies for Learning for International Students aims to train talented individuals from all over the world so that they will develop a deep understanding of learning theories and acquire the skills of applying advanced technologies in learning. More specifically, PHD students need to acquire teaching and learning theories, apply advanced technologies for solving problems, design smart learning environment, and develop curriculum. The program aims to meet the demands of the international labor market by training individuals who have independent educational research capabilities, highly developed international communication and educational management and leadership skills, and will go on to work in international organizations, governmental authorities, research institutions, higher education institutions, and related areas.

## **DURATION, PROGRAM CURRICULUM AND REQUIREMENTS**

### **Duration**

The PhD Program in Advanced Technologies for Learning for International Students is a 3-year program, and students should complete their courses within 3 years. Graduation cannot be postponed or deferred and scholarships cannot be extended or increased. Suspension of study (and of the scholarship) will be offered according to relevant regulations only if a candidate has exceptional circumstances which prevent continuation of study, such as health problems. The suspension shall not be longer than 1 year.

### **Credits:**

PhD candidate course minimum total credits require 20 credits, including 11 core course credits, 3 elective course credits and 6 credits from the required Tasks. If the relevant elective courses have studied previously at the master level, students are expected to take other courses from other programs or departments in order to fulfill the credit requirement.

### **Program Curriculum**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Curriculum</b>		<b>Type</b>	<b>Minimum Credits</b>	<b>Semester</b>
1	<b>Chinese Culture and history (Chinese Education System, Policy and Management)</b>		Core (11 Credits)	2	I
2	<b>Chinese Language</b>			2	I
3	Research Methodology			3	I
4	Academic Writing and Publishing			2	II
5	Forefront Research of Education			2	II
6	Advanced Technologies for Learning		Elective (3 Credits)	2	I
7	Doctoral Research Seminar			2	I
8	The Theory of Informationization Teaching Innovation			2	II
9	Computer-Supported Collaborative Learning			2	II
10	Research and Practice Activities	Academic/Social Practice Activities	Required Tasks (6 credits)	2	II
		Instructional Practice			
11	Internationalization Experience			2	II
12	Mid-term Examination			2	III

### **Program Requirements**

#### **Mid-Course Examination:**

PhD degree candidates must first pass the mid-course examination by the end of the third semester, and may then proceed to the PhD dissertation-writing period. Candidates should complete the courses and credits required and submit a dissertation proposal to

be examined and approved by their supervisors. An examining group is responsible for the examination of the dissertation proposals. Those who fail to pass the examination will have the opportunity to apply for a second-round examination if they have the support of the examining group and their supervisors. If the proposal fails to pass the second-round examination, the candidate will not be permitted to continue the program.

### **PhD Dissertation:**

- The doctoral dissertation should be able to reflect the applicant's in-depth knowledge of the basic theory and system in the fields of advanced learning technologies, and should reflect the ability of the applicant to work independently in the creative research work and practical application of the subject. The paper should have some innovative or unique insights.
- The topic of the thesis should be basic, innovative or cutting-edge. The theoretical significance should be strong. The topic of the thesis should possess high practical value. The doctoral candidate need to have a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of the advanced learning technologies.
- The thesis can provide convincing evidence in order to clarify the author's position or discovery, the demonstration and calculation of it should be rigorous and accurate. Finally, the author should put forward reasonable, logical conclusion. The persuasive and explanatory power of the thesis should be strong.
- The article should be clearly-structured, well-organized, and coherent. The reasoning of it should be correct.
- The text should be fluent. The use of syntactic, grammatical and rhetoric structures should be rational. The typos or typographical and grammatical errors should not be included in the text.
- A final version of the PhD dissertation should be submitted for assessment and dissertation defense in March of the sixth semester. The final PhD dissertation should be written in English and the length of the dissertation should be 160-200 pages (Times New Roman 12 point font and 1.5 line spacing). A final dissertation defense is required.

### **Degree Award:**

Candidates who complete their studies within the set time by completing the required learning and research tasks, passing the required examinations and the dissertation (including defense) shall be allowed to graduate. The University's Degree Evaluation Committee will finally decide whether to bestow degrees upon the students.

## **TUITION AND FEES**

Tuition: RMB 98,000 for three years (please verify with Office of International Students & Scholars Affairs)

Living expenses in Beijing:

- On-campus lodging: RMB 1,800-2,700 per month

- Health Insurance: RMB 600 per year

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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For more information about the School of Educational Technology, Faculty of Education, Beijing Normal University, please visit: [set.bnu.edu.cn](http://set.bnu.edu.cn)