**PLEASE TYPE (for students admitted after 3/1/15)**

**Ph.D. in Education Program of Study**

**Program plan for Jason Sutton**

1. **Core Course**

EDUC 800 (3) Ways of Knowing

**2. Research Methods (18)**

EDRS 810 (3) Problems and Methods in Education Research

EDRS 811 (3) Quantitative Methods in Educational Research

EDRS 812 (3) Qualitative Methods in Educational Research

**Two of the following: EDRS 820, EDRS 821, EDRS 822, EDRS 823, EDRS 824**

**EDRS 825, EDRS 826, EDRS 827, EDRS 828, EDRS 831**

EDRS 820 (3) Evaluation Methods for Educational Programs and Curricula

EDRS 823 (3) Advanced Research Methods in Single Subject & Single Case Design

**3. Professional Specialization (27): Special Education Leadership**

**Major Area**

1. EDSE 743 (3) Leadership Special Education Administration
2. EDSE 841 (3) Intervention Research in Spec Education
3. EDSE 701 (3) Legal Issues and Special Population
4. EDSE 703 (3) Creating Collaborative Culture
5. EDSE 744 (3) Current Issues in Special Education
6. EDSE 844 (3) Current Issues in Special Education
7. EDSE 897 (3) Independent Study PhD in Education
8. EDSE 994 (3) Advanced Internship Education
9. EDUC 890 (3) Prog Eval SpED Reading Init

*\*Professional specialization may include (as one of the 8 courses):*

**4. Secondary Emphasis (12): Educational Leadership**

**Minor Area(s)**

1. EDLE 770 (3) Introduction to Education Leadership\_\_\_\_\_

2. EDLE 801 (3) Contemporary Organization Theory

3. EDLE 895 (3) Emerging Issues Administration and Supervision

4. EDUC 874 (3) The Achievement Gap

**5. Dissertation (12)**

**EDUC 998 (3) Doctoral Dissertation Proposal**

**EDUC 999 (9) Doctoral Dissertation Research**

**PROPOSED DATE FOR COMPREHENSIVE PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT:**

**PROGRAM RATIONALE (please review the Program Guidelines for directions):**

I chose to seek a Ph.D. in Special Education Leadership with a secondary emphasis in Educational Leadership to gain new skills in order to make a greater impact on children’s lives. This program will give me several opportunities to purse after graduation that I didn’t have previously. For example, it will allow me to teach at the university level working with special education teachers, aspiring administrators, and as a researcher in the world of academia, including authoring scholarly journals and books. With my professional background in public education and the military, this program can give me the opportunity to pursue a career in the Department of Education at the state or federal level. The courses in Special Education Leadership will allow me to develop a deeper knowledge of the field while learning valuable leadership skills that will allow me to share my research with practitioners and researchers in the around the world.   
  
 I am transferring 12 credit hours from a Post-Master’s certificate in Special Education Leadership received at George Mason University prior to acceptance in the Ph.D. program. I believe that this action will not have an impact on my experience in the Ph.D. program. My previous experience, 12 years in a public education setting including as a special education teacher and an administrator has allowed me develop the practical application strategies. I believe that the remaining courses I enroll in within the Ph.D. program will provide the research behind the practice that I have implemented in public education. I will also be given the opportunity to develop a strong theoretical background around the current issues, research, interventions, and practices in the field of special education and leadership. This will allow me to connect my practical experiences with my newly developed theoretical knowledge.

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**Chair, Date Student Signature Date**

**Doctoral Advising Committee**

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**Member, Date Margret Hjalmarson, Director Date**

**Doctoral Advising Committee Ph.D.in Education Program**

**(secondary specialization)**

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**Member, Date**

**Doctoral Advising Committee**