GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

PSU Vision:
Our vision is to be an internationally recognized urban university known for excellence in student learning, innovative research, and community engagement that contributes to the economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and quality of life in the Portland region and beyond.

PSU Mission:
The mission of Portland State University is to enhance the intellectual, social, cultural and economic qualities of urban life by providing access throughout the life span to a quality liberal education for undergraduates and an appropriate array of professional and graduate programs especially relevant to metropolitan areas.

GSE Vision:
Preparing professionals to meet our diverse communities’ lifelong educational needs.

GSE Mission:
The GSE prepares reflective and collaborative professionals, who critique, develop and implement research-based practices and professional standards, work effectively with diverse populations and promote inclusive settings, and use evidence-informed decision making to influence the learning and development of all learners.

GSE Philosophy (GSE Guiding Principles):
- We create and sustain educational environments that serve all students and address diverse needs (Diversity & Inclusiveness).
- We encourage and model exemplary programs and practices across the life span (Quality).
- We build our programs on the human and cultural richness of the University’s urban setting (Urban Community).
- We challenge assumptions about our practice and accept the risks inherent in following our convictions (Ethical Convictions).
- We model professionalism and develop collaborative efforts that foster our mission (Collaboration & Professionalism).
- We develop our programs to promote social justice, especially for groups that have been historically disenfranchised (Democracy & Social Justice).
- We strive to understand the relationships among culture, curriculum, and practice and the long-term implications for ecological sustainability (Sustainability).
- We model thoughtful inquiry as a basis for sound decision-making (Inquiry).
GSE Goals and Purposes:

Prepare our candidates to provide leadership in;

**Diversity & Inclusiveness:**
- to work effectively with diverse populations
- to promote inclusive and therapeutic environments

**Research-Based Practices & Professional Standards**
- to critically analyze and implement research-based practices
- to demonstrate appropriate professional knowledge, skills, & dispositions

**Impacting Learning and Development**
- to ensure all learners and clients succeed
- to use technology to enhance learning and development
- to influence policy and provide leadership for organizations

**Evidence-Informed Decision Making**
- to use evidence to address problems of practice and make educational and therapeutic decisions