The Education Studies degree program addresses urgent questions related to domestic and global education policy and practice. Majors will become well-informed leaders who can engage critically, thoughtfully, and ethically in the educational policy debates in Wisconsin, the nation, and the world.

Undergraduates interested in issues of inequality and social justice will study these dimensions of educational reform. Courses explore the interconnections between education and other major social institutions, including the justice system, the healthcare system, family advocacy systems, economic development, and foreign affairs. Students study debates concerning education-related social disparities and the pursuit of equal educational opportunities for all.

The Education Studies major prepares students for work in educational and governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations (both domestic and international), think tanks, policy institutes, community organizations, and other out-of-school educational spaces. Graduates might serve as policy directors or in other positions of institutional leadership. Students will also be well prepared to work in education-related businesses or to pursue advanced studies in educational policy at the graduate level.

Graduates will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Education Studies from the School of Education. This program does not lead to teacher certification.

Program Structure, Admission and Advising

The Education Studies program has two primary components:

- Liberal studies and general education courses that expose students to a broad range of academic disciplines.
- Major course work in Education Studies, including core courses as well as depth and breadth requirements. Depth and breadth course work includes a U.S. or Global concentration.

Education Studies majors are encouraged to consider completing complementary course work in the College of Letters and Science, possibly including an additional major.

Students can be admitted directly to Education Studies upon admission to campus. Students choosing to transfer from another campus school/college must have at least a 2.5 cumulative campus grade-point average to be admitted. Admission to the major begins as of Fall Semester 2017.

Students are advised by staff from Education Academic Services (Room 139 Education Building) at SOAR and during the regular academic year. Staff from the Office of Undergraduate Recruitment and Retention (Room 139 Education) provide additional support and assistance to under-represented students in the School of Education.

Program Requirements

Liberal Studies and General Education

Students must complete the Liberal Studies and General Education requirements for the degree program. For details on these requirements, go to https://pubs.wisc.edu/ug/education_LibSts.htm.

Education Studies Major

Major coursework (30 credits) includes core courses (9 credits), depth requirements (minimum of 12 credits); and breadth requirements (minimum of 9 credits). Students choose one of two concentrations—U.S. Concentration and Global Concentration.

I. Core Courses (9 credits). All students who undertake the BS-Education Studies will be required to take:
• ED POL 300 School and Society. Designated sections of these courses will fulfill the UW-Madison “Communication Part B” requirement
• ED POL 340 Comparative Education
• ED POL/HISTORY 412 History of American Education

II. Depth Requirements (12 credits). Students will choose a minimum of four courses (12 credits) in one of two concentrations (U.S. or Global) to facilitate in-depth study of education policy and practice.

U.S. Concentration
• ED POL 140 Introduction to Education
• ED POL 150 Education and Public Policy
• ED POL 200 Race, Ethnicity and Inequality in American Education
• ED POL 210 Youth, Education, and Society
• ED POL 450 Rethinking After-School Education
• ED POL 460 Immigration, Education, and Equity
• ED POL 478 Comparative History of Childhood and Adolescence
• ED POL 500 Social Issues in Education
• ED POL 505 Issues in Urban Education
• ED POL 510 Urban School Policy
• ED POL 518 Introduction to Debates in Higher Education Policy
• ED POL 567 History of African-American Education
• ED POL 570 Anthropology and Education
• ED POL/GWS 560 Gender and Education
• ED POL/PHIL 545 Philosophical Conceptions of Teaching and Learning
• ED POL/PHIL 550 Philosophy of Moral Education
• ED POL/HIST 622 History of Radical/Experimental Education in US/UK
• ED POL/HIST 665 History of the Federal Role in US Education
• ED POL/SOC 648 Sociology of Education

Global Concentration
• ED POL 140 Introduction to Education
• ED POL 317 School and Society: Colonialism and Schools
• ED POL 335 Globalization and Education
• ED POL 460 Immigration, Education, and Equity
• ED POL 478 Comparative History of Childhood and Adolescence
• ED POL 591 Schooling and the Rights of Children
• ED POL 595 Language Politics, Ethnicity, and Education
• ED POL 675 Introduction to Comparative and International Education
• ED POL 677 Education, Health, and Sexuality
• ED POL/GWS 560 Gender and Education
• ED POL/HIST 622 History of Radical/Experimental Education in US/UK

III. Breadth Courses (a minimum of 9 credits, to include at least one course from the following three ED PSYCH courses:
• ED PSYCH 320 Human Development in Infancy and Early Childhood
• ED PSYCH 321 Human Development in Adolescence
• ED PSYCH 331 Human Development: Childhood through Adolescence

Additional breadth course options:
• CURRIC 240 Critical Aspects of Teaching, Schooling, and Education
• ED PSYCH 320 Human Development in Infancy and Early Childhood
• ED PSYCH 321 Human Development in Adolescence
• ED PSYCH 331 Human Development—Childhood through Adolescence
• ED PSYCH 326 Mind, Brain, and Education
• ED PSYCH 506 Contemporary Issues in Educational Psychology
• ED PSYCH 521 Adolescent Development in Educational Contexts
• ED PSYCH 541 Applied Behavior Analysis in Classrooms
• ELPA 640 Legal Rights and Responsibilities for Teachers