

Educational Studies Minor

The Educational Studies minor explores the complex relationship between society, self, and education, recognizing that social problems cannot be sufficiently understood, let alone solved, in the school/classroom setting alone. The minor takes an interdisciplinary approach in addressing social and educational problems through social scientific and humanistic inquiry. Completion of one 5.0 course credit track selected from below is required:

(A) Sociocultural Perspectives on Education

EDST 100: Foundations of Education (Sp TT 9:30-10:45)
EDST 215: Human Diversity in Educational Communities (Fall TT 2:00-3:15)
EDST 250: Topical Foundations in Educational Studies
 History of Education (Fall TT 3:30-4:45)
 Literary and Philosophical Perspectives (Sp TT 12:30-1:45)
ANTH 368: Anthropology of Childhood (Sp TT 9:30-10:45)*
SOC 345: Social Inequality (Sp 11:00-12:15)*

(B) Psychological Perspectives on Education

EDST 100: Foundations of Education (Sp TT 9:30-10:45)
EDST 215: Human Diversity in Educational Communities (Fall TT 2:00-3:15)
PSYCH 100: Introduction to Psychology (Fall & Sp)
PSYCH 233: Social Psychology (SP MWF 1:00-1:50)
or
PSYCH 237: Industrial/Organizational Psych (Sp TT 12:30-1:45)
ANTH 368: Anthropology of Childhood (Sp TT 9:30-10:45)*
or
SOC 345: Social Inequality (Sp 11:00-12:15)*

(C) Sociocultural Perspectives, Food, and Education

EDST 100: Foundations of Education (Sp TT 9:30-10:45)
EDST 215: Human Diversity in Educational Communities (Fall TT 2:00-3:15)
EDST 260: Food, Ethics, and Education (not offered 2017-18; offered again Sp 2019)
ANTH 220: Anthropology of Food (not offered 2017-18; offered again 2018-19)
ANTH 368: Anthropology of Childhood (Sp TT 9:30-10:45)*
or
SOC 345: Social Inequality (Sp 11:00-12:15)*

** Both ANTH 368 and SOC 345 are offered in alternate years and, after the 2017-18 academic year, will not be offered again until 2019-20*

Course Descriptions

EDST 100: Foundations of Education (1.0 course credit)

As an exploratory course, students examine various sociological, historical, legal, and philosophical topics in education and schooling in the U.S. Through readings, small and large group discussion, and projects, this course provides theoretical understanding to students interested in education (broadly conceived) while providing a basis for further decisions about teaching in a diverse, pluralistic society. Offered Spring semester.

EDST 215: Human Diversity in Educational Communities (1.0 course credit)

This course is a survey of the various ways learners enact literacy and participate in learning in relationship to their positioning according to race, gender, social class, and region. Through reading and reflective activities, students analyze the processes by which we learn to enact literacy in diverse ways across cultural and institutional contexts, including the school. Students will consider educational literature that justifies and illustrates culturally-responsive pedagogy.

EDST 250: Topical Foundations in Educational Studies (1.0 course credit)

This foundational topics course intends to contextualize the development of K-12 education in the United States including education prior to the Revolution up through and into the 21st century. Students will investigate key educational movements and connect their outcomes (e.g. political, sociological, and philosophical implications) to the current state of public schools. Offered every semester

EDST 260: Food, Ethics, and Education (1.0 course credit)

This course is designed to expand student knowledge and understanding of the intersections of food and education. Examining various ethical, ecological, and socio-cultural issues of food through the lens of educational studies aims to enrich student understanding of the diverse ways that humans teach and learn with food. Readings, discussions, media analyses, field trips, and a service learning project will challenge students to think critically about their own experiences with food in the effort to develop citizens who possess the knowledge necessary to promote ecological responsibility and ethical food practices in an increasingly interconnected world. Offered Spring semester in alternate years.

PSYC 101: Introduction to Psychology (1.0 course credit)

An examination of the scientific study of psychology. Lectures emphasize current concepts in the biological roots of behavior, learning and memory, perception, social behavior, psychopathology, and applied psychology. Laboratories stress the application of quantitative interpretations of data and the scientific method to the study of human behavior. Not open to students who have completed PSYC 102. Offered every semester.

PSYC 233: Social Psychology (1.0 course credit)

A study of how other people influence the perceptions and behaviors of the individual. These influences are studied through all aspects of the human experience, including attitudes and attitude change, the formation of the self-concept, emotional experience, prejudice, group dynamics, and social norms and values. Prerequisite: PSYC 101 or 102. Offered in alternate years or more often.

PSYC 237: Industrial/Organizational Psychology (1.0 course credit)

An overview of the psychology of work and human organization. Topics include: learning, motivation, attitudes, group dynamics, and leadership as they apply to work in organizations. Prerequisite: PSYC 101 or 102. Offered in alternate years.

ANTH 220: Anthropology of Food (1.0 course credit)

This course examines food and food practices in their larger material and cultural contexts. The course engages such basic questions of who eats what and why, and how specific food and food consumption patterns define different cultures. The course takes a broad cultural, social and economic perspective on what people eat. The course includes a practical component where we will work with and prepare food.

ANTH 368: Childhood in Cross-Cultural Perspective (1.0 course credit).

This course explores the lives of children in different cultural contexts. We will examine how children are socialized in different cultures and how they learn specific cultural and social forms and practices. We will analyze how social factors and dynamics such as gender, class, race and religions shape childhood experiences. Offered in alternate years.

SOCI 345: Social Inequality (1.0 course credit).

An examination of social stratification, which concerns the unequal distribution of wealth, income, status, and power. Considers how life chances of individuals vary by social class, gender, race and ethnicity. Explores the relationship between globalization, global disparities in wealth, and inequality within the United States. Offered in alternate years.