

Advice for Planning Your Educational Studies Major or Minor

The Department of Education emphasizes the study of education as a social institution and analysis of teaching and learning in interdisciplinary terms. The Educational Studies major is designed for students who wish to prepare for a career in education in elementary or secondary schools, or in the broader community. The curriculum introduces students to learning theory and the social foundations of education, and it allows for experiential learning in the field. This study fits well into a broader liberal arts education and allows time for students to complete a major in an additional field of study, for example, in an area of interest or the discipline one intends to teach. The Educational Studies major does not lead directly to licensure; however, faculty in the Department of Education assist students in creating individually designed plans for entering the teaching profession if that is the goal. Possible routes of entry are: teaching in private or independent schools (not requiring licensure), entering alternative certification programs, or obtaining licensure through a range of graduate programs.

Starting Out in the Major: First-year students who are planning to major in Educational Studies are encouraged to begin taking courses their first year at Denison. Students should not worry if they don't get into an Education class the first semester of their first year; it is still possible to fulfill major requirements if this happens. Although the order in which courses are taken may vary, below is a suggested plan:

- Year 1—PSYC 100, EDUC 213, and/or EDUC 249 (spring) or 250 (fall)
- Year 2—EDUC 290 or PSYC 200 and an EDUC elective
- Year 3—EDUC 390 and an EDUC elective
- Year 4—EDUC 312 (fall) and EDUC 421

Planning Your Studies and Brainstorming Career Ideas: Students planning to major or minor in Education Studies are encouraged to meet with a faculty member in the Department of Education sometime during their first year to discuss their interest in the field. The faculty member will support students in planning remaining coursework, off-campus study, internships, summer work experience, and post-Denison plans.

It is strongly recommended that those considering teaching middle or high school add a second major in a content area offered by a most high schools (e.g. biology, chemistry, physics, math, history, English, language, art, music, physical education, etc.).

Enhancing Your Studies: In addition to one's studies in the major or minor, students might consider additional opportunities to deepen their learning: Off-Campus Study, Organizational Studies Program, EDUC 280 Field Experience course, Summer Research, Independent or Directed Study, adding a credit to an Education course.

Students are especially encouraged to study off campus and may petition to apply one course taken off-campus toward the Educational Studies major or minor.

Education-Related Internship: All students are required to do a 100-hour internship before their senior year. Possible settings include a traditional classroom, summer camp, museum work, non-profit agency, summer bridging programs, AmeriCorps programs, to name only a few. There are several components to the internship requirement. Please visit the Department's MyDenison site for more information.

Department of Education Learning Goals:

- Students will develop competence in academic "tools of inquiry" to sustain their own intellectual and social growth (writing; oral communication; analysis, synthesis, critique).
- Students will learn theoretical foundations of teaching and learning and to apply them in relation to the processes and content of teaching.
- Students will learn theoretical and social foundations of education and to apply them to policy in a diverse, democratic society.
- Students will reflect upon their intellectual growth as liberally educated individuals throughout their years of study and experiences in the field of education.

Educational Studies Major (9 courses*)	Educational Studies Minor (6 courses*)
PSYC 100 Introduction to Psychology _____ Semester/Year	PSYC 100 Introduction to Psychology _____ Semester/Year
EDUC 213 The U.S. Education System (prereq for most 300-level Education courses) _____ Semester/Year	EDUC 213 The U.S. Education System (prereq for most 300-level Education courses) _____ Semester/Year
EDUC 249 The Learner and the Teacher: Childhood (includes CSL**) _____ OR Semester/Year EDUC 250 The Learner and the Teacher: Adolescence (CSL) _____ Semester/Year	EDUC 390 Critical Pedagogies (includes curricular service-learning; satisfies the 'I' requirement when cross-listed with BLST 390) _____ Semester/Year
EDUC 290 Qualitative Inquiry (W-overlay) _____ OR Semester/Year PSYC 200 Research Methods (satisfies the 'Q' requirement) _____ Semester/Year	EDUC Elective _____ Course Title Semester/Year
EDUC 312 Literacy and Learning (includes CSL) _____ Semester/Year	EDUC Elective _____ Course Title Semester/Year
EDUC 390 Critical Pedagogies (satisfies 'P' requirement; includes CSL; satisfies the 'I' requirement when cross-listed with BLST 390) _____ Semester/Year	EDUC Elective that is cross-listed with BLST, QS, or WGST (satisfies 'P' requirement; includes CSL; satisfies the 'I' requirement if registered under BLST, QS, or WGST) _____ Semester/Year Course Title
EDUC Elective _____ Course Title Semester/Year	*All Education courses are designated as a Social Science ('E') GE. Some courses have a Writing-overlay ('W'), fulfill the Interdivisional ('I') GE, or the Power and Justice ('P') GE. **CSL ~ Curricular service-learning is a high impact learning practice where students have the opportunity to work with cooperating educators and learners in various settings. *** Educational Studies majors are required to create a Professional ePortfolio in their senior year in EDUC 421, Senior Seminar, or EDUC 451/452 Senior Research. It is wise to store coursework that represents your learning and growth in a format you will still be able to access when you are a senior. Additional information on the senior ePortfolio can be found on the Department MyDenison site for Educational Studies majors and minors.
EDUC Elective that is cross-listed with BLST, QS, or WGST (satisfies the 'I' requirement if registered under BLST, QS, or WGST) _____ Semester/Year Course Title	
EDUC 421 *** Senior Seminar or two semesters of senior research (EDUC 451 & EDUC 452) in Education (W-overlay) _____ Semester/Year	
100-hour Internship (satisfying requirements of Knowlton Center and Dept. of Education). Transcript notation (0 credit). _____ Start date End date	