

EDUCATIONAL POLICY STUDIES, BS

The Educational Policy Studies degree program, formerly the Education Studies program, addresses urgent questions related to domestic and global education policy and practice. Majors become thought leaders who engage critically and ethically in educational policy debates and practice. While pursuing Educational Policy Studies, students (<https://eps.education.wisc.edu/current-students/student-profiles/>):

- Analyze the relationships among education, inequality, and social justice
- Investigate local, national, and global connections between education and other policy areas, including housing, healthcare, migration, justice, political reform, economic development, and foreign policy
- Explore contemporary educational issues from early childhood through K-12, higher education, and the workforce
- Engage in community-based learning, study abroad and study away, career development, internships, and research experiences related to education
- Compete for grants (<https://eps.education.wisc.edu/about/student-awards/>) for research or applied work and awards (<https://eps.education.wisc.edu/about/student-awards/>) in writing, research, and community-engaged scholarship
- Acquire qualitative, quantitative, philosophical, and historical research skills to study current issues in education policy and apply knowledge to practice

Through coursework, projects, advising, and independent studies, the Educational Policy Studies major prepares students for work in educational settings such as:

- Governmental agencies
- Non-governmental organizations (both domestic and international)
- Think tanks and policy institutes
- Community organizations
- Corporate, community, and non-traditional educational spaces

Graduates might serve as education and policy analysts, education specialists, policy researchers, education advocates, program directors, community-based educators or youth workers, education trainers, or in other positions of institutional leadership. They will also be well prepared to work in government, education, and social justice-related organizations, or to pursue advanced studies in education or educational policy at the master's and doctoral level.

Graduates will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Educational Policy Studies from the School of Education. This program does not lead to teacher certification, but it can enhance and complement teacher preparation programs. Students interested in gaining teaching licenses after graduation should connect with the School of Education Student Services (<https://education.wisc.edu/academics/undergrad-majors/academic-advising/>) office or the School of Education Career Center (<https://careercenter.education.wisc.edu/>) office on campus to discuss their options.

Students interested in pursuing this major are encouraged to consult with advising staff at the School of Education Student Services office, Room 139 Education Building, 1000 Bascom Mall, 608-262-1651 or studentservices@education.wisc.edu. Current students can schedule an appointment online through the Starfish app (<https://oacs.wisc.edu/starfish/starfish-student-resources/>) in MyUW.

"There were two classes I took in the same semester that made me switch my major to Educational Policy Studies completely. They were ED POL 412: History of American Education and ED POL 300: School and Society. ED POL 412 was about how education came to be from the colonial time period in the United States through the present day. ED POL 300 is a class that makes us ask questions like, 'how does our society influence our schools?' and 'how do our schools influence our society?,' all within the context of the United States. Both courses were really interesting to me."

– Abby Stoa (read more (https://education.wisc.edu/news/abby-stoa-from-the-school-of-educations-educational-policy-studies-major/?utm_source=Early_AD&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EPS_majors&utm_id=st))