

EDUCATIONAL POLICY STUDIES, PHD

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum degree requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#requirements>) and policies (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policies>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW-Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW-Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement Detail	
Minimum Credit Requirement	51 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	32 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	30 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.00 GPA required. Refer to the Graduate School: Grade Point Average (GPA) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1203/).

Other Grade Requirements n/a

Assessments and Examinations All students will receive an annual written assessment on their progress to degree.

All students are required to complete a pilot project. Students will work with their advisor to decide on the scope and content of the pilot project which should include empirical work. In all research involving human subjects, IRB approval must be granted before initiation of research.

Doctoral students are required to take a comprehensive preliminary/oral examination after they have cleared their record of all Incomplete and Progress grades (other than research and thesis) and have completed a minimum of 45 credits. Once they have passed preliminary exams, doctoral students must submit and defend a dissertation proposal at an oral examination. Doctoral students must also successfully defend the dissertation at an oral examination. Deposit of the doctoral dissertation in the Graduate School is required.

Language Requirements Advisors are responsible for determining whether students need to develop and demonstrate skill in one or more foreign languages for the program they plan. Dissertation work involving study of a setting where another language is spoken ordinarily requires such skill. The specific language required, if any, and the level of competence to be attained shall be determined by the student's advisor.

Language requirements, if specified, must be met before the Preliminary Examination is completed.

Graduate School Breadth Requirement All doctoral students are required to complete a doctoral minor or graduate/professional certificate. Refer to the Graduate School: Breadth Requirement in Doctoral Training policy: <https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200> (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200/>).

REQUIRED COURSES

In addition to the entering colloquium, ED POL 701 Introduction to Educational Policy Studies, the plan of study must include a concentration as well as appropriate breadth.

Concentrations

All Educational Policy Studies doctoral students, in consultation with their advisor and their advising committee, must develop a concentration which will consist of a minimum of **18 credits**, of which a minimum of **12 credits** must be taken within Educational Policy Studies (ED POL (https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/ed_pol/)). No more than 3 independent study credits can be applied toward the overall 18 credit minimum requirement. Independent study credits cannot replace and cannot be counted toward fulfilling the minimum 12 Educational Policy Studies (ED POL (https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/ed_pol/)) course credits. The required ED POL 701 course cannot be counted toward the concentration.

We anticipate that students will often take courses outside of the department, in part, to fulfill, their concentration requirements. In all cases, actual course-taking specifics, and decisions with regard to fulfilling concentration requirements will be made in consultation between the student and the advisor. Courses cannot be counted twice. See below

for examples of courses in Educational Policy Studies in three of the concentrations.

Breadth Requirement

All doctoral students, in consultation with their advisor and their advising committee, will develop a breadth requirement which will consist of a minimum of **9 Educational Policy Studies (ED POL (https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/ed_pol/)) credits**. These credits must be taken in domains other than the one in which the concentration is primarily identified. Credits used to fulfill this breadth requirement cannot also be used to fulfill concentration requirements. Neither independent study credits nor the required ED POL 701 course may be applied toward the breadth requirement.

Theory & Methods

All doctoral students must take a minimum of **3 Educational Policy Studies (ED POL (https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/ed_pol/)) credits** in the areas of theory or research methods in consultation with their advisor and advising committee.

All candidates for the PhD, including those who began as MA candidates in the department, must take a **minimum of 27 credits** in the Department of Educational Policy Studies, including the required ED POL 701, and including no more than 3 credits of ED POL 999 Independent Reading OR no more than 3 credits of ED POL 990 Research or Thesis credits may be used to fulfill this requirement.

Example Concentration Coursework

Code	Title	Credits
Courses in History and Humanities		
ED POL/ HISTORY 412	History of American Education	3
ED POL/ HISTORY 478	Comparative History of Childhood and Adolescence	3
ED POL/CURRIC/ RELIG ST 516	Religion and Public Education	3
ED POL/ PHILOS 545	Philosophical Conceptions of Teaching and Learning	3
ED POL/ PHILOS 550	Philosophy of Moral Education	3
ED POL/ AFROAMER 567	History of African American Education	3
ED POL/ HISTORY 665	History of the Federal Role in American Education	3
ED POL/ HISTORY 622	History of Radical and Experimental Education in the US and UK	3
ED POL/ HISTORY 713	History of Higher Education in Europe and America	3
ED POL 870	Theories of Social and Educational Change	3
ED POL/ HISTORY 903	History of Education of Multicultural America	3
ED POL/ HISTORY 906	Proseminar on the History of Education	3
ED POL/ HISTORY 907	Seminar-History of Education	1-3
Courses in Social Sciences and Education		
ED POL 460	Immigration, Education, and Equity	3
ED POL 500	Topics on Social Issues and Education	3

ED POL 505	Issues in Urban Education in the U.S.	3
ED POL 518	Introduction to Debates in Higher Education Policy	3
ED POL/ GEN&WS 560	Gender and Education	3
ED POL/ ANTHRO 570	Anthropology and Education	3
ED POL/SOC 648	Sociology of Education	3
ED POL/C&E SOC/ SOC 755	Methods of Qualitative Research	3
ED POL/ELPA/ PUB AFFR 765	Issues in Educational Policy Analysis	3
ED POL/GEN&WS/ PUB AFFR 805	Gender Issues in International Educational Policy	3
ED POL 860	Proseminar: Theory and Method in Comparative Education	3
ED POL 870	Theories of Social and Educational Change	3
ED POL/SOC 908	Seminar-Sociology of Education	3
ED POL/SOC 955	Seminar-Qualitative Methodology	3
ED POL/ ANTHRO 970	Seminar in Anthropology and Education	3

Courses in Comparative, International, and Global Studies in Education

ED POL/ INTL ST 335	Globalization and Education	3
ED POL 600	Problems in Educational Policy	3
ED POL 605	Using Secondary Data: Applied Quantitative Analysis	3
ED POL 675	Introduction to Comparative and International Education	3
ED POL 750		
ED POL 760	Critical Development Studies and Education	3
ED POL 860	Proseminar: Theory and Method in Comparative Education	3
ED POL 962	Seminar in Cross National Studies of Educational Problems	3