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 educational policy debates and practices in Wisconsin, the U.S., and the world.

Education Studies students focus on the relationships among education, inequality, and social justice. They investigate work at the local, national, and global levels on the connections between education and other policy areas, including housing, healthcare, migration, justice, political reforms, economic development, and foreign policy. Students explore contemporary educational debates and have opportunities to engage in community-based learning, study abroad, internship, and research experiences related to education studies.

Our students have won grants for research or applied work and awards in writing, research, and community-engaged scholarship. They have participated in the Wisconsin in Washington courses and internship opportunities, as well as our signature study abroad program on Conflict, Human Rights, and Education in Colombia.

Through coursework, projects, advising, and independent studies, 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 project officers, policy directors, youth workers, or in other positions of institutional leadership and will be well prepared to work in education-related organizations or to pursue advanced studies in educational policy at the master’s and doctoral level.

Graduates will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Education Studies from the School of Education. (This program does not lead directly to teacher certification; students interested in gaining teaching licenses after graduation may be aided in that pursuit by staff in the School of Education Student Services office or other Career Services offices on campus.)

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. Current students can schedule an appointment online through the Starfish app in MyUW.