The Educational Policy Studies Certificate was designed specifically for undergraduate students from across the campus. The certificate features multidisciplinary courses in the history, sociology, anthropology, and philosophy of education, comparative and international education, and educational equity. Courses in policy analysis emphasize the socio-economic context and implications of policy decisions on equity, justice, and well-being. The completion of the EPS certificate formalizes a student’s interest in the multiple dimensions of this field.

Students interested in pursuing this certificate are encouraged to consult with advising staff in the School of Education Student Services office, Room 139 Education Building, 1000 Bascom Mall. Current students can schedule an appointment online through the Starfish app (https://advising.wisc.edu/facstaff/starfish/starfish-student-resources/) in MyUW. Appointments can also be made through email, soeacademicservices@education.wisc.edu, by calling 608-262-1651, or in person.

The EPS certificate is also available to individuals who have already completed a bachelor’s degree; see the Nondegree/Visiting Student Guide (https://guide.wisc.edu/nondegree/).

HOW TO GET IN

DECLARATION PROCESS

Students must complete at least one Educational Policy Studies (ED POL) (http://guide.wisc.edu/courses/ed_pol/) course with a grade of B or better prior to declaring the certificate program. Students intending to complete the Educational Policy Studies Certificate should visit the School of Education’s Certificate Programs (https://education.wisc.edu/academics/certificates/) page to complete the declaration form.

Students pursuing the Education Studies major are not eligible to complete the Educational Policy Studies certificate.

REQUIREMENTS

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

• Complete a minimum of five Educational Policy Studies courses (https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/ed_pol/) (15 credits).
• At least two courses must be numbered 300 or above.
• Students must earn a grade of at least a B in each educational policy studies course in order to count toward the certificate requirements.
• No more than 3 credits of independent study may count toward the 15 credits.

UNDERGRADUATE/SPECIAL STUDENT CERTIFICATES

This certificate may be completed within the context of an undergraduate degree or as a Special student after an undergraduate degree has been awarded from any institution. The certificate may be completed in its entirety while enrolled as a Special student. Candidates are encouraged to contact the certificate coordinator to discuss course enrollment and the sequencing of certificate requirements.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the social, cultural, and/or historical contexts of education policy.
2. Examine education policy from multiple theoretical perspectives (e.g., ethical/philosophical, economic/political, etc.).
3. Analyze education policy issues from diverse perspectives related to race, class, and/or gender, and other forms of social difference.

PEOPLE

Information about faculty, staff, and other contributors to the Department of Educational Policy Studies can be found on the department’s website. (http://eps.education.wisc.edu/)