EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

EDUCATION STUDIES MINOR

Students in the education studies minor study education as a multidimensional and interdisciplinary area of study. Across courses in the minor program, students have an opportunity to understand the social, political, historical and cultural contexts that have shaped schooling practices and educational experiences. Students explore the competing tensions and inherent challenges within educational environments and develop a clear analysis of the role of equity, diversity and access.

Requirements for the Education Studies Minor
The education studies minor consists of five courses across three dimensions:

1. Students will take at least two of the following education core courses: EDUC 214, EDUC 215/PEAC 215 or EDUC 216.
2. Students will choose three additional Education Research and Theory courses. Students may, in consultation with their advisor, select courses that reflect an area concentration.
3. Within the five-course minor program, students must take at least one 300-level education course from the Education Research and Theory course list.

Upon consultation with their advisor, students may substitute one of the required courses with a Curriculum and Teaching course or an Education Electives course. No more than one 100-level course may be included in the minor.

Note: Not all of these courses are offered every year; some may be limited to majors in these fields.

TEACHING AND LEARNING STUDIES MINOR

The teaching and learning studies minor centers on understanding students’ processes of learning and development and on exploring the work of teaching, including creating and enacting school curriculum. Its underlying values are: relating to students, their cultures, and their communities with appreciation and care, acting to promote democracy and justice, and interweaving academic teaching with the growth and development of young people.

Students may choose to prepare themselves for the teaching profession, one of the most rewarding and challenging of all professions, in collaboration with other talented, dedicated Wellesley students. Fieldwork, a part of most courses for the minor, will facilitate engagement with the many dimensions of teaching and work with students and will encourage learning through continual reflection and discussion.

Requirements for the Teaching and Learning Studies Minor
The requirements below allow students to chart a meaningful path. Faculty are available to support students through all stages of planning and decision-making.

The teaching and learning studies minor consists of five courses across two dimensions chosen from the following:

1. Students will take one to three of the following courses, which provide grounding for the study of education: WRIT 114, EDUC 110, EDUC 117, EDUC 200, EDUC 201, EDUC 212, EDUC 213, EDUC 214, EDUC 215, EDUC 216, EDUC 313, EDUC 334, EDUC 335, PSYC 248, PSYC 321, MIT 11.124, MIT 11.125 or other approved course;
2. Students will take two to four of the following courses in the critically-understood practice of teaching: EDUC 200, EDUC 201, EDUC 300, EDUC 339, EDUC 303, EDUC 304, EDUC 305, EDUC 310, EDUC 314, EDUC 322, EDUC 325, or PSYC 207 (or PSYC 208).
As part of the teaching and learning studies minor (or even separate from a declared minor), students may be able to participate in the Wellesley Teacher Scholars Program, a program to attain state teacher licensure. Wellesley Teacher Scholars are prepared to teach full-time upon graduation, and licensure through Wellesley is transferable to most other states. Faculty are available to discuss the many paths into teaching as well as strategies for incorporating the full student teaching program into a student’s existing program of study. Faculty are also available to discuss other options, such as enrolling in graduate teacher preparation programs or other alternative teacher certification programs. Wellesley Teacher Scholars gain internship experience (and possible licensure) at the high school (grades 8-12) and middle school (grades 5-8) levels. Our elementary school (grades 1-6) level program will be closed to new students as of August 2022. Please consult with Noah Rubin or Ken Hawes about middle and high school education to plan a program of study.

Course Requirements for teacher certification are:
To attain teacher licensure, students must complete:
1. at least one introductory course from those listed in the first requirement of teaching and studies minor above; and
2. arts and sciences coursework appropriate to the specific teaching field (please contact the department for details); and
3. for middle or high school certification, EDUC 325, EDUC 300, EDUC 303, and EDUC 339; OR for elementary certification, EDUC 310, EDUC 314, EDUC 303, EDUC 304, EDUC 305 and EDUC 339. We recommend that, if possible, all those doing elementary certification take EDUC 310 and EDUC 314 before their senior year. Except in special circumstances, EDUC 310 should be completed before entering a full time student teaching practicum in the spring semester. Please note that the elementary certification program will be closed to students who graduate after 2025.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION OPTION
Students also may gain internship experience (and a possible certificate) in early childhood education. Issued by the Department of Early Education and Care, the early childhood education Lead Teacher certificate qualifies students to teach in private preschools and childcare centers, but not in public kindergartens, and is not transferable directly to other states. For early childhood education, students take required courses and complete their student teaching at the Wellesley College Child Study Center or Wellesley Community Children’s Center. Please consult with Maureen Morgan about early childhood education and courses.