Whether a student’s goal is to teach young minds, discover how humans learn, or better understand educational institutions and policies, the Department of Education at Washington University offers students a chance to explore their interests, develop their skills, and begin their journey to a rewarding career through undergraduate programs in Teacher Education and Educational Studies. Our academic programming views the learning pathway as part of a broader transdisciplinary framework of development and well-being. Conditions associated with education and youth development represent a problem space where persistent engagement and planning across political boundaries, health care providers, youth-serving organizations, and educational institutions are critical. We offer a vibrant student-centered community in which faculty and staff are invested in the mentoring and success of students. Many of our classes are smaller and thus allow for meaningful interactions with the education community.

The Department of Education offers undergraduate majors in Teacher Education with elementary, middle school, and secondary specializations. The elementary, middle school, and secondary teacher education programs are designed to produce teachers who take an inquiry-oriented approach to education. Based upon the belief that teaching is a complex normative and changing activity, teacher education is viewed as an on-going, problem-solving process as opposed to a search for the “one right” answer or “one best” way.

The Department of Education also offers an undergraduate major and minor in Educational Studies for persons interested in the study of educational processes and institutions. Students in the Educational Studies program apply the perspectives and methods of a number of disciplines to questions about educational institutions, educational processes, and the social and cultural factors that affect them.

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