

Education

Studying Education can include anything from developing the skills that every successful classroom teacher needs to learning administration skills necessary for the day-to-day management of schools and educational programs. Education is a highly interdisciplinary field and includes many options for specialization and concentration.

Undergraduate: Students pursuing an undergraduate program in Education may receive a Bachelor's of Arts (BA) in Education or related disciplines such as Special Education, Bilingual Education, Early Childhood Education, Art Teacher Education and others. Education majors study how people learn and how to best teach them. Classes cover such topics as educational psychology, school health and safety issues, the planning of classroom activities, education in a multicultural society, instructional technology, philosophy of education, and teaching methods.

Graduate: Students pursuing a graduate program in education may earn a Master of Arts in Education (MA), Master of Education (Ed.M.), Doctor of Education (Ed.D.), or Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.). Degree titles vary by institution and academic program. Graduate students in education will choose among a variety of specialized subjects in the field of education such as Adult Education and Organizational Learning, Applied Linguistics, Comparative and International Education, Curriculum and Teaching, Early Childhood Education, Education Policy, Elementary Education, Gifted Education, Motor Learning, Music Education, Psychology in Education, Special Education, and Teaching English as a Second Language. Courses are specific to concentrations, but most degrees include a professional training period in the chosen topic.

Graduate Degree in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL): Students pursuing a degree in TESL may earn an MA, Ed.M, or Ed.D. This program is designed to give teachers the ability to develop strategies based on theory, research, and practice to teach English as a Second Language internationally. This degree also gives students the opportunity to do extensive research in the teaching and/or learning of English as a Second Language. A sample of courses in TESL may include teaching of language skills, ESL material development, second language teaching methodologies, second language assessment, language program evaluation, and typically include a period of supervised language teaching.

Occupations in Education:

With a degree in education consider your professional opportunities as a child care administrator, family service coordinator, center director, educational researcher, curriculum specialist, reading specialist, school counselor, school principal, school superintendent, educational writer, special education advocate, psychologist, or policy analyst.

Choosing an Education Program:

If you are considering continuing your education in this field, you should become familiar with academic trends and current development. Utilize current literature and consider the existing research of professors in matching your academic and career goals with the right institutions for you. EducationUSA Centers provide advising services and a diverse collection of materials to assist students searching for schools and financial aid program. To find the nearest EducationUSA Advising Center, visit www.educationusa.info/centers.php.





In addition to researching regionally accredited colleges and universities which offer study in education, prospective students, particularly for graduate-level study, can also identify academic programs with professional accreditation. The professional accrediting organization for the field of education is the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (www.ncate.org) or the Teacher Education Accrediting Council (www.teac.org).

Associations and Organizations Affiliated with the Study of Education:

- American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, www.aacte.org
- National Council of Teachers of English, www.ncte.org
- National Education Association, www.nea.org
- National Association for the Education of Young Children, www.naeyc.org
- National Association of Special Education Teaching, www.naset.org
- Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc., www.tesol.org

Scholarly Journals Related to the Study of Education: Journal of Teacher Education, Early Childhood Education Journal, International Education Journal, International Journal of Special Education, Teacher Education Special Education Journal, and Journal of Philosophy of Education.

Undergraduate Program Search Print and Online Resources:

- College Board, www.collegeboard.com
- Search for schools with the College Board’s online, “College Matchmaker.”
- Read about specific majors and careers using the “Major and Career Profiles” search
www.collegeboard.com/csearch/majors_careers/profiles/

Graduate Program Search Print and Online Resources:

- Peterson’s, www.petersons.com
- Petersons Graduate Programs in Business, Education, Health, Information Studies, Law & Social Work; Book # 6
- TESOL Directory of Degree & Certificate Programs, www.tesol.org

Find Scholarships to Study Education:

- EducationUSA Financial Aid links, www.educationusa.info/pages/students/finance.php
- Funding U.S. Study, www.fundingusstudy.org
- Peterson’s Scholarship Directory, www.petersons.com
- The Fulbright Program, <http://fulbright.state.gov>

If you are interested in pursuing higher education in the U.S. and would like further guidance please contact your local EducationUSA Advising Center