



THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

MA Certificate in Education and Society

The Education and Society certificate is an opportunity to pursue a one-year interdisciplinary Master’s certificate focused on questions of fundamental significance to education using the tools of the social science disciplines. The Education and Society certificate prepares students for further graduate study in the social sciences or for professional positions at education-focused nonprofit organizations and government agencies. Join the University of Chicago’s vibrant interdisciplinary community and work with distinguished Committee on Education faculty to conduct MA thesis research in your area of interest.

“Although one year may seem like a short time, my MAPSS year has been a transformative one as I immersed myself in the study of education and quantitative methods. The courses I took on education economics, policy, and sociology have widened and deepened my perspectives while the quantitative methods courses on statistics and program evaluation have equipped me with the tools I need to empirically analyze education issues.



The University of Chicago’s disciplinary experts and interdisciplinary workshops added to this transformative experience. During my time there, I learned from different professors’ research projects, did my own research through the MAPSS thesis, and felt involved in a community purposefully working towards education solutions.

After the program, I went on to do education research in my home university and have published my studies in at least seven international journals. I have also just been accepted to the Comparative Human Development PhD program at the University of Chicago, and I owe so much of my intellectual and personal growth to that one year at MAPSS.”

— **Eos Trinidad**, MA’18 and 2018 Johnson Prize recipient for his MA thesis “Structural Limitations and Functional Alternatives Reducing Suspensions and Preserving Racial Suspension Gaps.”

STRUCTURE OF THE CERTIFICATE

The interdisciplinary curriculum allows students to specialize in one of three areas:



Individual Development and Learning explores how students learn, which pedagogies are most effective, and how schools are best organized.



Schooling and Society examines how schools are shaped by cultural, familial, and neighborhood contexts, what role schools play in their wider communities, and what impact schools have on social inequality.



Educational Policy and Evaluation investigates what principles of research design, statistical analysis, and program evaluation are most effective for assessing educational interventions, and what the best evidence implies for key educational policies.

JOIN A LIVELY INTERDISCIPLINARY COMMUNITY

Participate in the Committee on Education's weekly Workshop on Education, in which leading researchers from both the University of Chicago and other institutions present cutting-edge research and discuss methodological advances for understanding the interplay of human development and the social institution of schooling.

APPLYING TO THE MA CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION AND SOCIETY

To qualify for the certificate, students must first apply and be accepted into a terminal Master's program at the University of Chicago. Once accepted into such a program, students can declare their intention to complete a certificate in Education and Society. The recommended course of study for this certificate program is the Master of Arts Program in the Social Sciences (MAPSS), but students in other terminal Master's programs are also welcome to apply if the requirements of the Certificate can be completed within the parameters of their given program.

MA CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION AND SOCIETY REQUIREMENTS

Schooling and Social Inequality

This course introduces students to foundational concepts and empirical studies that probe the relationships between schooling, social organization, and social inequality.

A minimum of three additional education-related courses

Students will select a minimum of four additional courses from a list of approved courses on the Committee on Education website. Among these five total education-related courses, at least three must be in their chosen area of specialization.

Weekly Education Workshop

Students must attend at least two quarters of the Committee on Education's Weekly Workshop. The COE Education Workshop is a combination of detailed presentations, discussions, and critical evaluations of new findings. Presentations are given by UChicago faculty and students, as well as experts from other universities.

Education Research Symposium

All EDSO MA students will present their research at an Education and Society symposium to be held in the spring quarter.

The Master's Thesis

Students will write their MA thesis with a member of the faculty whose research examines education using the tools of social science.

FIELD EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES

The Education and Society Certificate offers students opportunities for field experience alongside professionals in educational practice, policy, or research and to develop their MA thesis based on this experience. Field experience will involve working in one of several education-related laboratories, research projects, or organizations at the University, based on student interest and skill.

MORE INFORMATION

- For more information about the Certificate in Education in Society, head to <https://voices.uchicago.edu/coed/>
- Other queries can be sent to Associate Director, Committee on Education, Lisa Rosen, rosen@uchicago.edu.

FACULTY AFFILIATED WITH THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

[Elaine Allensworth](#), Consortium for Chicago School Research

[Anjali Adukia](#), Harris School of Public Policy

[Lin Bian](#), Psychology

[Michael Dinerstein](#), Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics

[Eve Ewing](#), Department of Race, Diaspora, and Indigeneity

[Susan Goldin-Meadow](#), Comparative Human Development and Psychology

[Deborah Gorman-Smith](#), School of Social Service Administration

[Guanglei Hong](#), Comparative Human Development

[Tanika Island Childress](#), University of Chicago Charter School

[Ariel Kalil](#), Harris School of Public Policy

[Katherine Kinzler](#), Psychology

[Micere Keels](#), Comparative Human Development

[Susan Levine](#), Comparative Human Development and Psychology

[John List](#), Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics

[Magne Mogstad](#), Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics

[Stephen Raudenbush](#), Sociology and Harris School of Public Policy

[Shantá Robinson](#), School of Social Service Administration

[Melissa Roderick](#), School of Social Service Administration

[Lisa Rosen](#), Committee on Education

[Dana Suskind](#), Surgery and Pediatrics

[Amanda Woodward](#), Psychology