Education Minor (EDUC-MN)

The education minor is designed to provide foundational knowledge about education within the larger social context and to offer a cross-disciplinary examination of the intersections of education, culture, and society. Students choosing to minor in education may wish to explore education as a possible career choice or they may be interested in studying current issues in the field as well as learning more about schools and schooling in today's society.

Students intending to pursue the Master of Education (M.Ed.) teacher preparation program may use courses in the minor to fulfill prerequisites for the M.Ed. The career exploration courses in the minor provide valuable field experience designed to help exploring students decide if they want to teach and, if so, at what level—early childhood, middle childhood, high school, or in interventionist specialist programs involving children with disabilities. The educational technology, adult education, business and workforce development courses in the minor provide opportunities for students to apply technology in formal and informal learning environments, and to explore education and training practices in business and industry.

The education minor requires 23-25 credit hours. All students completing the minor must take one course from at least five of the seven categories listed. Courses in the minor represent conceptual areas or themes that are important aspects of the educational process: critical issues in education, career exploration in educational settings, educational technology, education and society, teaching and learning, human development in educational settings, and literacy curriculum. Courses in the minor are offered by each of the three schools in the College of Education: Educational Policy and Leadership (Edu P&L); Education: Physical Activity and Educational Services (Edu PAES); and Education: Teaching and Learning (Edu T&L).

Students who plan to complete the minor should meet with an academic advisor in the College of Education to fill out the Minor Program Form, then submit the approved form to their college of record. Any variation in the minor requires written approval from the coordinating advisor in the College of Education. For further information about the minor program, contact the College of Education.

Critical Issues in Education. Students examine legal, ethical, interpersonal, and community issues that impact education.

Select from the following courses:
- Edu P&L 413 – Legal Issues in Education
- Edu P&L 414 – Gender Education
- Edu P&L 415 – Sexuality and Education
- Edu P&L 609 – Teaching as a Profession

Career exploration in educational settings. Students observe the role and responsibilities of teachers and other educators and then try out various teaching duties (e.g., tutoring, instructing small groups, and preparing instructional materials). Working closely with a professional teacher/educator as well as reading about current issues in education provides students the opportunity to explore teaching as a career.

Select from the following courses:
- Edu PAES 271/289.01 – Intro Experience in a School
- Edu PAES 289.02 – Experience in a Community Agency
- Edu T&L 250 – Work Experience in Industry
- Edu T&L 589 – Lab Experiences in English Education

Educational technology. Students study the theories, function, impact, and use of technology in formal and informal learning and educational environments.

Select from the following courses:
- Edu P&L 370 – Computers in the Classroom
- Edu P&L 671 – Computer Applications in Educ & Trng
- Edu PAES 622 – Business Technology Education I
- Edu PAES 623 – Business Technology Education II
- Edu PAES 632 – Software Applications for Business and Industry Teachers
- Edu T&L 220 – Design of Constructed and Manufactured Goods
- Edu T&L 235 – Graphic Reproduction Practices
- Edu T&L 236 – Printing and Publishing Practices

Education and society. Students examine the relationships between education and the social, political, philosophical, and cultural contexts of the larger society.

Select from the following courses:
- Edu P&L 306 – School and Society
- Edu P&L 650.01 – Philosophy of Ed
- Edu P&L 650.02 – History of Education
- Edu P&L 650.03 – Applied Ethics for Teachers
- Edu PAES 624 – Foundations of Workforce Development and Education
- Edu PAES 672 – Adult Learning in Society
Teaching and Learning. Students examine theories of learning, motivation, and creation of learning environments.

Select from following courses:
- Edu P&L 309 – Psychological Perspectives on Educ
- Edu PAES 649 – General Methods in Adult Education
- Edu PAES 650 (or 251) – Intro to Exceptional Children (or Intro to Exceptional Learners)
- Edu PAES 669 – Teaching Students with Disabilities in Inclusive Settings
- 677 – Parent/Professional Partnership
- 633 – Teaching and Learning with Drama

Human development. Students study the hereditary and environmental factors that influence individuals' physical, cognitive, affective, social, and language development.

Select from the following courses:
- Edu PAES 542 – Lifespan Motor Development
- Edu PAES 742 – Applied Behavior Analysis for Tchrs
- Edu P&L 411 – Body and Mind Go to School
- Edu P&L 607 – Adolescent Learning and Development
- Edu T&L 460 – Elementary Education: Child Guidance
- Edu T&L 660 – Language Competence of Children and Youth with Disabilities

Literacy Curricula. Students study influences on the development of literacy curricula.

Select from the following courses:
- Edu T&L 467 – Children’s Literature
- Edu T&L 668 – Reading Foundations
- Edu T&L 656 – Adolescent Literature
- Edu T&L 642 – Reading Across Curriculum

Arts and Sciences minor program guidelines

The following guidelines govern minors.

Required for graduation  No

Credit hours required  A minimum of 20 (some minors require more)

Transfer credit hours allowed  A maximum of 10

Overlap with the GEC  Permitted, unless specifically disallowed by an individual minor program.

Overlap with the major  Not allowed and
  • The minor must be in a different subject than the major.
  • The same courses cannot count on the minor and on the major.

Overlap between minors  Each minor completed must contain 20 unique hours.

100-level course: For every five credit hours of 100-level course work on the minor, the minimum total required for the minor is increased by five.

Grades required
  • Minimum C- for a course to be listed on the minor.
  • Minimum 2.00 cumulative point-hour ratio required for the minor.
  • Course work graded Pass/Non-Pass cannot count on the minor.

Approval required  The minor program description sheet indicates if the minor course work must be approved by:
  • The academic unit offering the minor, or
  • A college/school counselor.

Filing the minor program form  The minor program form must be filed at least by the time the graduation application is submitted to a college/school counselor.

Changing the minor  Once the minor program is filed in the college office, any changes must be approved by:
  • The academic unit offering the minor, or
  • A college/school counselor (depending on the minor).