

EDUCATION

The Department of Education offers courses that support two functions – allowing students to explore issues of education within the context of their liberal arts studies, and preparing students for teaching licensure in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Courses in the department focus on the process of education from a number of different levels, from the individual (for example, the characteristics of learners and effective teachers) to the social and cultural (for example, education as social institution). A particular emphasis of the department curriculum is on issues that pertain to urban education.

Advanced Placement Credit

Holy Cross awards credit for Advanced Placement exams taken through the College Board Advanced Placement Program and the International Baccalaureate Program and will accept some Advanced Level General Certificate of Education (A-Level) exams. One unit of credit is awarded for an Advanced Placement score of 4 or 5 in any discipline recognized by the College. One unit of credit is awarded for a score of 6 or 7 on a Higher Level International Baccalaureate Examination in a liberal arts subject. One unit of credit is awarded for a score of A/A* or B on an A Level exam in a liberal arts subject. The College does not award credit for the IB Standard Exam or the A-Level Exam. AP, IB, and A-Level credit may be used to satisfy deficiencies and common area requirements. Each academic department has its own policy regarding the use of AP or IB credit for placement in courses and progress in the major. The Department Chair must also review the A-Level score to determine placement in courses and progress in the major. See departmental descriptions for further information.

Lauren B. Capotosto, Ed.D., *Associate Professor, Chair*

Ericka J. Fisher, Ed.D., *Associate Professor*

Jeremy Murphy, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor*

Kellie A. Becker, M.A., *Visiting Lecturer*

Karyn Ferdella, Ed.D, *Visiting Lecturer*

Ashley Isgro, M.A., *Visiting Lecturer*

Tracy Novick, M.A., *Visiting Lecturer*

Jennifer St. John, M.A., *Visiting Lecturer*

Academic Plans within Education

- Education Minor (<https://catalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/education/education-minor/>)
- Teacher Education Program (<https://catalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/education/teacher-education-program/>)

Other Academic Plans Accepting/Requiring Education Coursework

- Africana Studies Concentration (<https://catalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/center-interdisciplinary-studies/africana-studies-concentration/>)
- Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies Concentration (<https://catalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/center-interdisciplinary-studies/gender-sexuality-womens-studies-concentration/>)

- Latin American, Latinx, and Caribbean Studies Concentration (<https://catalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/center-interdisciplinary-studies/latin-american-latinx-caribbean-studies-concentration/>)
- Peace and Conflict Studies Concentration (<https://catalog.holycross.edu/academic-plans/center-interdisciplinary-studies/peace-conflict-studies-concentration/#text>)

EDUC 167 – Educational Psychology Course count: 1

This course examines the strengths and critiques of various learning theories. Specifically, we focus on a variety of individual and sociocultural factors that impact cognitive, socioemotional, identity, and moral development of learners.

Enrollment limited to 1st and 2nd year students only

GPA units: 1

Common Area: Social Science

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

EDUC 167C – Educational Psychology CBL Course count: 0

GPA units: 0

EDUC 169 – Our Public Schools Course count: 1

This interactive, interdisciplinary course introduces students to key debates in K-12 schooling. Students will consider what schools are for, why we have them, and whether our school system lives up to its stated ideals. Students will scrutinize taken-for-granted practices and rituals that make up school life and ponder alternatives for how we do school. As they trace the evolution of our public schools, students will critically examine their own schooling histories.

Enrollment is limited to 1st and 2nd year students only.

GPA units: 1

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

EDUC 220 – Guidance and the Law Course count: 1

This course will introduce students to a comprehensive developmental counseling and guidance program in schools. It will examine the ethical and legal practices, as well as, the current framework that is used to address challenges that students and staff face in today's schools. Students will develop the skills necessary to respond to these challenges in a way that will support academic/social growth, relationship building, and college/career readiness while promoting a positive school environment.

Prerequisite: One previous Education course.

GPA units: 1

Typically Offered: Annually Fall

EDUC 231 – Adolescent Literacy Course count: 1

This course will examine the literacy development of middle and high school students. Students will explore a range of factors that influence the acquisition of literacy skills. Topics such as reading motivation, disciplinary literacy, diversity in student reading profiles, and equitable and inclusive literacy instruction will be explored.

Prerequisite: EDUC 167 or EDUC 169 or PSYC 100. Enrollment limited to 2nd, 3rd and 4th year students.

GPA units: 1

Typically Offered: Annually

EDUC 234 – Family, Students, & Schools Course count: 1

This course examines the complexities and promises of fostering home-school partnerships. We will begin by examining who is considered a "good parent" and interrogate the universality of various ideals. We will problematize the kinds of parental involvement that schools reward and those that often go unnoticed, particularly within the context of race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. We will unpack a wide range of current topics regarding the distribution of power between families and educators in schools.

Prerequisite: One previous Education course.

GPA units: 1

Typically Offered: Annually

EDUC 245 – Dis/Ability Theory & Practice Course count: 1

This course will examine the literature and law as it relates to special education and inclusion grades 5-12. This course focuses on best practices for teaching and learning in inclusive settings.

Prerequisite: EDUC 167 or EDUC 169 or PSYC 100.

GPA units: 1

EDUC 273 – Complexities of Urban Schools Course count: 1

This interactive, interdisciplinary course introduces students to urban schools distinctive complexities, challenges, and possibilities. Students will develop nuanced understandings of the urban context and what this context means for students, teachers, families, and schools. Bringing this investigation to life, students will visit a range of urban school models in Worcester. Finally, students will explore existing urban school reforms and design improvement plans of their own.

Prerequisite: One previous education course. Enrollment limited to 2nd, 3rd and 4th year students.

GPA units: 1

Common Area: Social Science

Typically Offered: Annually

EDUC 299-F02 – Schools: Media vs. Reality Course count: 1

This course will utilize readings, as well as film and television portrayals in order to examine and explore schooling in the United States. Some of the questions that will be addressed are: How does the media portray schools and those that learn and live within them? Whose stories are being told? What are educational best practices and how do they intersect with media portrayals? What are the impacts of tv and film school portraits on individuals, schools, communities?

Prerequisite: One Previous Education Course

GPA units: 1

EDUC 299-F03 – Critical Race Theory and Education Course count: 1

Critical Race Theory (CRT) emerged through critical legal studies as a way of explaining racial disparities and systemic inequities. This course explores how Critical Race Theory informs our understanding of systemic inequities in American educational history and institutions. How do educators, institutional stakeholders, and communities advance anti-racist policies and practices? Students will address histories of colonialism, racism, power, privilege, and oppression while engaging counter narratives, lived experience, and spaces of resistance. Through critical dialogue and reflection this course examines complex values, systems, and inequities impacting American educational systems.

Prerequisite: Two previous Education courses.

GPA units: 1

EDUC 301 – Methods Of Teaching Course count: 1

Students examine and demonstrate various teaching methods. Students will pursue questions concerning the middle and secondary school curriculum, discipline and motivation, and instructional materials. Secondary and middle school goals and principles are also examined. Methodological and curricular questions specific to the discipline will be illustrated and discussed. Includes a field-based experience.

Prerequisite: Two previous Education courses.

GPA units: 1

Typically Offered: Annually

EDUC 301C – Methods of Teaching CBL Course count: 0

GPA units: 0

EDUC 310 – Pre-Practicum - Teaching Course count: 0

A 30-hour, on-site period of observation and work in the public schools along with a weekly, one hour meeting with the Pre-Practicum instructor to debrief observations and prepare for full-time student teaching.

GPA units: 0

Typically Offered: Annually

EDUC 315 – English Learners Course count: 1

This course focuses on current theories and their applications related to the teaching and learning of English Learners (ELs). It will expand students' knowledge of how language functions within academic content teaching and learning, and how children and adolescents acquire a second language. Throughout the course, effective research-based strategies for teaching English Learners will be modeled. Teacher Education Program (TEP) students who complete this course will qualify for a Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) Endorsement.

Prerequisite: EDUC 167 or EDUC 169.

GPA units: 1

Typically Offered: Annually

EDUC 315C – English Learners CBL Course count: 0

GPA units: 0

EDUC 320 – Practicum: Middle and Sec School Teaching Course count: 3

A full-time practicum experience of supervised teaching in the high school, middle school, or upper elementary school. Open only to TEP students. This course fulfills the capstone requirement for the Education minor.

Registration required for EDUC 330. Enrollment is limited to students in the Teacher Education Program.

GPA units: 3

Typically Offered: Annually

EDUC 330 – Seminar in Teaching Course count: 1

A seminar to accompany the Education 320 Practicum. Addresses issues arising in the practicum experience, as well as current topics in education in order to meet the professional standards for teachers. Open only to TEP students.

Enrollment limited to students in the Teacher Education Program.

GPA units: 1

Typically Offered: Annually

EDUC 340 – Multicultural Education Course count: 1

This course examines the political, philosophical, and pedagogical foundations of multicultural education. Through the analysis of sociocultural and sociopolitical variables such as race, ethnicity, language, gender and social class the course addresses issues of inequality in structures, policies, and practices in schools.

Prerequisite: EDUC 167 or EDUC 169. Enrollment is limited to 3rd and 4th year students.

GPA units: 1

Common Area: Cross-Cultural Studies

Typically Offered: Annually

EDUC 360 – Research Methods in Education Course count: 1

This interactive, workshop-style seminar introduces students to uses, possibilities, and dilemmas of qualitative research methods in education. Carrying out self-designed, semester-long research projects of college life with Holy Cross as their research site, students will gain practice conducting interviews, observations, and document analyses as well as analyzing, writing up, and presenting their findings. In the process, students will become critical consumers of qualitative research and careful researchers of college life. Topic varies per year.

Prerequisite: Two previous Education Courses. Enrollment is limited to 3rd and 4th year students.

GPA units: 1

Typically Offered: Annually

EDUC 380 – Capstone Seminar Course count: 1

This capstone seminar is designed for education minors at the end of their minor. Students apply and integrate their knowledge from previous coursework. The seminar will be organized through an essential question and topic. Previous topics have included: educational policy, adjusting to COVID, and student mental health and socioemotional learning. This course fulfills the capstone requirement for the Education minor.

Prerequisite: Two previous Education courses. Enrollment is limited to 3rd and 4th year students.

GPA units: 1

Typically Offered: Annually

EDUC 380C – Capstone Seminar CBL Course count: 1

GPA units: 0

EDUC 390 – Tutorial Course count: 1

Tutorial projects designed by students and faculty members. Admission determined by evaluation proposal.

GPA units: 1

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

EDUC 394 – Directed Research Course count: 1

Students may undertake an independent research project under the direction of a faculty member. Permission required.

GPA units: 1

Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

EDUC 399-S01 – Whose Schools?: The Ethics and Politics of School Governance in the 21st Century Course count: 1

How authority over the school system is and should be shared via a system of school governance is a vital question in a democracy. Importantly, this isn't just a question about bureaucratic efficiency or test score trends. Rather, questions of school governance are at their heart questions about whose claims deserve being heard and how power is shared. In the words of political scientist Joseph Viteritti, school governance appropriates power, authority, and access, and it apportions these precious political commodities among those who govern and those who are governed. Answering these questions well requires both careful research on how different policies shape educational outcomes as well as ethical reflection and discussion among citizens about what we value. Notably, there have been significant shifts in the policies regulating school governance in the US over the past few decades. From increased federal and state oversight of schools to the adoption of mayoral control over local school boards, authority has over schooling has been significantly redistributed among key education stakeholders. In this module, we will focus our attention on the shifting landscape of educational governance in the US and work to understand the key values and principles at stake in these policy debates. Through readings in philosophy and political science, case study discussions, and simulations, students will: (1) learn the shifting landscape of school governance in the US; (2) come to understand a set of philosophical concepts and frameworks for evaluating normative questions in education policy; and (3) develop in their ability to engage in the ethical analysis of education policy. The work we do together in this course will be guided by three essential questions: (1) What are the relationships between different education stakeholders now? And how have those relationships evolved over time? (2) How do we balance the value of democratic control of schools with other key values realized through schooling? (3) How should authority over schools be shared?

Prerequisite: Two previous Education courses.

GPA units: 1

Typically Offered: Every Third Year