

Educational Studies isn't just about teaching and learning. It's exploratory and expansive.

We're interested in seeing what education can tell us about the social, political and economic forces of our times and what these forces mean in our everyday lives.

It's why our research delves into areas including culture and identity, gender, multilingualism, and youth cultures. And it's why we maintain a commitment to social justice and inclusion.

Why choose Educational Studies at Goldsmiths?

We're interactive. We never stop learning from each other. You'll inform our teaching and practice by drawing on your own experience and learn from many different perspectives in small class seminars and discussions.

We're inclusive. It's the diversity of our community that makes us distinctive. Whatever your background or educational experience we make sure you gain the support you need through an approachable team of expert staff.

We're engaged. You'll see how social, cultural and education policy and practice play out in different settings through our connections with schools and communities, locally and globally.

You'll have the opportunity to study abroad. A number of students on the BA Education, Culture and Society are offered the chance to travel for a term to China or Luxembourg. Those going to China are offered lessons in Mandarin.



BA (Hons) Education, Culture & Society

3 years full-time, or up to 6 years part-time
gold.ac.uk/ug/ba-education-culture-society

On this degree you'll enter into key debates about policy issues with a focus on social justice and equality. You'll develop your understanding of the education system in the UK and beyond, and understand education from a multidisciplinary perspective.

You'll explore the role of education in diverse societies and how the system continues to be shaped by social, political and economic factors.

You'll look at what counts as knowledge, and the interrelationship between education, the individual and society, and the tensions that can arise in a system that advocates education for all, but acts against the full participation of some groups. This emphasis on inclusion is a unique quality of the programme as well as sound preparation for employment in this area.

If you already work in an education or community setting, we'll work with you so that you can use this experience to inform your studies. Past students have interviewed young people they are supporting and have created resources for children with special educational needs from countries where they have connections, such as Ghana and Slovakia.

You can look forward to the strong strand of creativity that runs through the programme; one that reflects our expertise in visual and performing arts. If you are interested in working in the creative industries with a focus on education, this programme is the ideal choice.



Year 1

Compulsory modules:

Culture and Identity
Learning and Thinking
Creativity and Learning
The Curriculum: Historical and Philosophical Perspectives

Year 2

Compulsory module:

Introduction to Social and Cultural Research

Plus three Educational Studies options (see page 8)

Year 3

Dissertation

Plus three advanced Educational Studies options (see page 10)

Optional study abroad in China or Luxembourg

Please note that modules listed in this booklet were correct at the time of printing (June 2017) and may change year to year depending on staff research leave. You can find the most up-to-date information about our degree programme on our website.

Accredited placements

You'll be offered the chance to take accredited placements that could involve projects such as:

- supporting Year 3 students with special educational needs at a primary school
 - developing educational materials at a city farm
 - putting together an art exhibition at a pupil referral unit for excluded secondary school students
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Study abroad

A number of students on this degree will be offered the opportunity to study abroad for the autumn term at the Fujian Normal University, in China, or the University of Luxembourg. This is your opportunity to reflect on how the three major elements of the degree, 'education', 'culture', and 'society' can be interpreted when studying in a new cultural, educational and linguistic context. You will be offered introductory sessions in Mandarin Chinese should you choose to go to China.

Arts Practice in Education
and Community Settings

Body Gender Culture

Children's Cultures:
School and Community Contexts

Culture and the
Construction of Identity

Early Childhood in
a Diverse Society

Introduction to the Teaching and
Learning of a Foreign Language

Knowledge and Power

Language and Literacy
in the Early Years

New Media Technologies
and Learning

Studies in Inclusion and Exclusion

Knowledge and Power

You explore the 'knowledge and power' relationship within different societies and the philosophies that have been used to support and challenge the structures created from this interaction. The nature of knowledge itself is explored while the role of the 'gatekeeper' in determining both status and access to different forms of knowledge is examined. You'll also consider the role of organised and informal educational bodies in this process.

Language and Literacy in the Early Years

You consider how young children's language develops in a range of contexts, and examine literacy as a socially constructed phenomenon. You have the opportunity to consider how theoretical understandings of language and literacy development have influenced educational policy. This is achieved through an exploration of the nature of language, language diversity; children's literature, literacy and learning and educational policy developments. You will also have the opportunity to visit an early years setting to enable you to relate theory to practice.

Studies in Inclusion and Exclusion

You will consider case studies, narratives and life stories to illustrate the meaning behind the theory and policy of inclusion and exclusion. The module will focus on the experiences of young people in relation to issues such as refugees and asylum seekers, those concerned with issues of faith and religion, language and plurilingualism, gender and sexuality, and neurocognitive aspects such as Autism/Asperger's Syndrome and Tourette's syndrome, and anti-social behaviour policy and the youth justice system.

Children’s Literature
and Controversy

Comparative Education

Critical Arts Practice

Debates in Primary Education

Explorations in Gender,
Culture and Schooling

Language Creativity and
Communication

Learning in the Community

Policy and Practice in Early
Childhood Education

Race and Representation
in Popular Culture

Re-imagining Social Class
and Education

Theoretical and Practical
Aspects of SEN

Youth Cultures

Explorations in Gender, Culture and Schooling

You’ll examine the different ways in which gender is understood theoretically, and how these interpretations are reflected in how people live their lives. Specifically, you’ll consider how gender operates as a central aspect of identity, and look at masculinities and femininities in relation to this. You’ll also look at aspects of gender and schooling, including the gender-marking of school subjects, how boys and girls are seen by teachers, and gender issues in achievement. Finally, you’ll consider how gender is presented in the media, and how young men and women’s identities are constructed through new media such as Facebook.

Re-imagining Social Class and Education

Changes to Western society brought about by globalisation and post-industrialisation have, it is claimed, greatly increased the significance of identities organised around religion, ethnicity, sexuality, ability, and even leisure and consumption, at the expense of social class. But does arguing the continued importance of life chances linked to social location require a jettisoning of these other categories of social identity? This module therefore argues for a renewed attention to the significance of social class in education in our era.

Debates in Primary Education

You’ll be introduced to the main organisational elements of the primary school, how children’s learning is organised and assessed, the ways in which primary schools are managed and how children’s families and communities are involved in their learning. You’ll be encouraged to critically analyse some of the structures in place in primary schools and reflect upon whether schools are meeting the needs of the diverse range of pupils and families they serve. This module also involves visits to primary schools.

OUR STUDENTS



English as I also had a half-hearted desire to maybe take English and thereafter qualify as an English teacher at secondary school level. However, as I looked through what Goldsmiths had to offer in its Educational Studies Department, the Education Culture and Society degree caught my eye and immediately captured my imagination.



Deqa

“As I approached the end of my A-levels, I knew that I wanted to carry on without a break to higher education so to not be distracted from my vision of eventually becoming a teacher.

I scanned the prospectuses of a range of universities, looking through various courses to do with teaching as well as degrees involving

What I liked mainly about the course from reading its description was its unique touch of creativity and its multi-dimensional approach in analysing the role of education in diverse societies, one that is under inevitable change. The fact that I would be guaranteed an interview for the university’s renowned PGCE primary course after having completed the course also appealed to me.

Now approaching the end of my second year I can gladly say that I have made the right decision by choosing Education, Culture and Society at Goldsmiths as I have found the content stimulating, the staff very supportive and the university’s general atmosphere welcoming.”



Morgane

“As a mature student, returning to education after many years working in the childcare sector, I firstly completed an ‘Access to Education’ course in order to prepare myself for higher education. When reading about the Education, Culture and Society course, I remember being so enthusiastic as it seemed to be exactly what I had yearned to investigate when deciding to study education. Now in the last year of the course, I am convinced that I have made the right choice!

Being part of the degree has been an incredible experience and it has assisted me to grasp complex concepts and theories that I had frequently questioned in my work experience.

The course has been a great combination of personal development and academic challenges. All the modules have been thought provoking and have taught me to be more analytical and critical on various subjects related to society’s sensitive issues such as identity, ‘race’ and cultural diversity.

Goldsmiths is a vibrant, diverse and open-minded place to study. The lecturers are highly knowledgeable and are very approachable and supportive. Students are encouraged to think creatively and to develop individual originality, in order to become strong individuals able to take part positively in society’s education.”

Watch Goldsmiths graduates talk about how their experiences at university have given them a real advantage in their career: vimeo.com/channels/career



You'll be set up to succeed in a range of professions including:

- Primary school teaching
- Working in the creative industries
- Youth and community work
- Social work
- Educational administration
- Other areas that require a specialist knowledge of education, such as the museum, charity and heritage sectors

Successful completion of the BA Education, Culture and Society degree guarantees you an interview for Goldsmiths' highly regarded PGCE Primary programme, should you meet the regular government requirements.

FIND OUT MORE

Find out more about the department and degrees at: gold.ac.uk/educational-studies

Watch our departmental film at: vimeo.com/goldsmiths/education

Get in touch with our Enquiries team:
+44 (0)20 7078 5300
course-info@gold.ac.uk

The information in this booklet reflects the 2017-18 intake programme specifications, and was correct in June 2017. You can download programme specifications from our degree pages; you can access these from gold.ac.uk/course-finder. Our most up-to-date disclaimer is available at gold.ac.uk/disclaimer

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