

SOCIAL JUSTICE IN EDUCATION, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

The Social Justice in Education minor cultivates awareness, engagement, and reflection of critical pedagogies, values, and ethics in relation to educational diversity (in its many forms), equity, and social justice in traditional and non-traditional educational settings. The minor will employ interdisciplinary, experiential, and community-based coursework to examine principles of social justice in education and create a space for students from across the University to engage in out-of-class academic experiences that construct critical and thoughtful understanding of injustice. The minor provides a transformative educational experience that allows students to demonstrate commitment to educational and social equity through leadership and action.

The minor includes three phases: foundational coursework, community/field/experiential-based courses, and a capstone project. Students who complete the minor will develop the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to promote educational equity through sustained intellectual and practical engagement with evidence-based instructional practices that encourage socially just outcomes. Students will develop the capacity to transform visions into action and to support innovative community-centered solutions to complex social issues. Students will learn to design and implement curriculum centered on issues of social justice in schools, community-based educational programs, and other non-traditional educational settings. Additionally, students will bridge theory and practice through educational experiences that engage students in scholarship, critical service-learning, field experiences, and a culminating capstone project. Students will engage in inquiry that connects experiential learning, interactions in the field and conceptual understanding through guided reflective practices.

What is Social Justice in Education?

The Social Justice in Education Minor is an opportunity for interested students from across the University to develop critical engagement skills through social justice work. The minor facilitates the expansion of equity-orientated understandings of both traditional and non-traditional educational settings. Education is considered beyond the classroom to include policy and community-based sectors of education as well. As a part of this minor, you will learn skills to help interrogate societal inequities and to strategize and implement action-based solutions to these problems as well.

You Might Like This Program If...

You'd like to build a foundation of equity into the vision you have for your future career. By helping you to develop a deepened understanding of the various injustices that organize society's current inequitable structures through study and experience, this minor is an opportunity to develop your own unique social justice lens for viewing the world and your contributions to it.

Program Requirements

Requirement	Credits
Requirements for the Minor	18-21

Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10>). In addition, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the prescribed courses required by a student's major(s).

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
CI 185	Principles of Social Justice in Education	3
CI 285	Active Engagement for Social Justice in Education	3
CI 485	Social Justice in Education Capstone Course	3
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
AEE 100	Agricultural Education Orientation	
AFAM 103	Racism and Sexism	
AFAM 431	Black Liberation and American Foreign Policy	
AFAM 492	Identities, Power and Perceptual Pedagogies in Teaching and Learning	
BBH 446	Human Sexuality as a Health Concern	
CED 375	Community, Local Knowledge, and Democracy	
CED 440	Labor in the Global Economy	
CMLIT 100	Reading Across Cultures	
CRIMJ 230	Corrections in America	
CRIM 453	Women and the Criminal Justice System	
EDTHP 200	Educational Reform and Public Policy	
EDTHP 420	Education and Public Policy	
EDTHP 430	History of Education in the United States	
EDTHP 440	Introduction to Philosophy of Education	
ENGL 245	Introduction to LGBTQ Studies	
GLIS 101N	Globalization	
GLIS 102N	Global Pathways	
HDFS 410	Communities and Families	
PHIL 437	World Philosophies	
PLSC 210N	Rights in America	
PLSC 428	Gender and Politics	
PLSC 451	The Politics of Human Rights	
RHS 428	Rehabilitation in the Justice System	
SOC 103	Racism and Sexism	
SOC 422	World Population Diversity	
SOC 424	Social Change	
SOC 447	Ethnic Minorities and Schools in the United States	
WMNST 103	Racism and Sexism	
WMNST 205	Gender, Diversity and the Media	
WMNST 453	Women and the Criminal Justice System	

Select 6-9 credits from the following: 6-9

CI 280	Introduction to Teaching English Language Learners ¹
CI 295	Introductory Field Experience for Teacher Preparation
CI 385	DC Social Justice in Education: Empowering Communities through Transformative Teaching
CI 395	Internship
CIVCM 211N	Foundations: Civic and Community Engagement
EDTHP 395	
HDFS 301	Values and Ethics in Health and Human Development Professions
LHR 475H	Labor in the Global Economy
RHS 420	Culture & Disability: Study Abroad in Ireland
SCIED 140	Outdoor School Field Experience
SOC 5	Social Problems
WFED 413	Vocational Education for Special-Needs Learners
WLED 444	Language, Culture and the Classroom: Issues for Practitioners

¹ For CI 280, only sections with a virtual tutoring component will be eligible.

- State and Federal Agencies connected to Education, Health, and Justice.

Contact

University Park

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Academic Advising

The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (<https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/>)

University Park

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Career Paths

- Education Field: Teacher, Counselor, Administration, Policy;
- Non-profit Education-Adjacent Organizations;
- Education Non-Profit Organizations;
- School District Offices of Curriculum Development;