

Education and Youth Studies Major

The major embodies a scholar-practitioner model in the liberal arts tradition, with the purpose of providing students with a sequence of intellectual, ethical, and practical experiences that lead to a broad, integrated knowledge of youth and education. This knowledge is realized in the practical ability to work effectively with children, adolescents, and adults in schools and other social settings. Teacher education at Beloit is fully integrated into an academically rigorous major that stresses experiential and interdisciplinary learning, a respect for difference, and critical global perspectives on education and youth issues. The department's teacher licensing programs are fully accredited by Wisconsin's Department of Public Instruction. The major features three distinct tracks:

Children and Schools, which may lead to Wisconsin certification. (middle childhood – early adolescence)

Adolescents and Schools, which may lead to Wisconsin certification. (early adolescence – adolescence)

Youth and Society, which leads to post-graduate work in a variety of fields related to education and youth, and to graduate study. Recent graduates have gone on to graduate school to become licensed special education and regular teachers, lawyers, social workers, mental health workers, early childhood specialists, artists, physical education teachers and coaches, and to complete doctoral programs in education and related fields.

Students in each track take a common set of core courses and a different set of upper-level courses more specific to their interests. All students engage in extensive field experiences, including the equivalent of a full term of field work, either as student-teachers or as interns/researchers. Such opportunities are available locally, nationally, and internationally. Students electing to major in education and youth studies may select from the following three tracks:

Children and Schools

(10-11 units)

1. Education and Youth Studies 101 or 102, 151, 164, 252, 262, 272, 282, and 302 (3*) (for certification) or 306 (2) (without certification). Only students who have been admitted into the Teacher Certification Program may enroll in Education and Youth Studies 302/304.
2. Choose one 200- or 300-level education and youth studies course not required above or a preapproved upper-level course outside of second major.
3. Writing/Communication requirement: Communication is both the medium and the message in the department's program. Students read, write, listen, and speak as they bridge theory and practice. They compose education autobiographies and propose and articulate their developing philosophies of teaching and learning. Students are called upon to write formally and informally, individually and collaboratively, in nearly every course. From the beginning of their program until and throughout their capstone experiences, students construct comprehensive portfolios of their work, which are reviewed by department faculty.

**If a student is teaching abroad, these 3 units will be split between Education and Youth Studies 310 and 302.*

Adolescents and Schools

(10-11 units)

1. Education and Youth Studies 101 or 102, 151, 164, 267, 277, 304 (3*) (for certification) or 306 (2) (without certification). Only students who have been admitted into the Teacher Certification Program may enroll in Education and Youth Studies 302/304.
2. One course chosen from the following disciplinary perspectives: Education and Youth Studies 252, 262, 272, or 282.
3. Choose two 200- or 300-level education and youth studies courses not required above. One pre-approved disciplinary or interdisciplinary course may be taken in lieu of a departmental course.

4. Writing/Communication requirement: *See children and schools.*

**If a student is teaching abroad, these 3 units will be split between Education and Youth Studies 310 and 304.*

Youth and Society

(12 units)

1. Foundations (3): Education and Youth Studies 101 or 102, 151, 164.

2. Concentration (5):

a. At least three 200/300-level courses (not counting courses otherwise required in the department of education and youth studies, including at least 1 unit of Education and Youth Studies 276 (Advanced Topics) and no more than 1 unit of Education and Youth Studies 390 (Special Projects).

b. Up to 2 courses outside education and youth studies, including credit-bearing fieldwork, chosen in prior consultation with advisor.

c. At least 1 of these 5 units should have an international focus.

3. Inquiry (4); Education and Youth Studies 296, 306 (2), and 382. Students may enroll in Education and Youth Studies 306 for variable credit in different terms.

4. Writing/communication requirement: *See children and schools.*

Teacher Certification

For details about certification requirements for all programs, students should consult the department's handbook and the department website. Because of frequent changes in state rules and regulations relating to teacher licensure, teacher certification requirements are no longer published in the Beloit College catalog. In order to be certified for licensure as a teacher, students must complete a second academic major.

Only tracks one and two of the education and youth studies major may lead to certification for a Wisconsin initial educator license. Students hoping to student teach and certify must be accepted into the

Teacher Certification Program, no earlier than their fifth and no later than their seventh term at Beloit. Criteria for admission to the Teacher Certification Program can be found in the EDYS handbook.

The department of education and youth studies certifies students for Wisconsin initial educator licensure in the following areas:

o middle childhood/early adolescence (grades 1-8)

o early adolescence/adolescence (grades 6-12)

o art (grades 1-12)

o drama (grades 1-12)

o foreign language (grades 1-12)

Students interested in certification for licensure in drama, art, and foreign language normally complete the adolescents and schools track of the education and youth studies major, but they should consult with their disciplinary and education and youth studies advisors about possible modifications and special provisions that relate to their areas of interest.

The state of Wisconsin has several additional requirements for licensure, including additional general education courses and passing examinations of basic skills and content knowledge, a test of reading pedagogy for elementary certifiers, and a performance assessment during student teaching. The cost of these assessments is the responsibility of students.

Student teaching includes 18 weeks of full-time work in one or more classrooms at the appropriate level(s). Student teaching placements are generally within 20 miles of Beloit College, which include the School District of Beloit, Turner School District, South Beloit School District, Rockton School District, and Clinton Community School District. Placements made beyond the 20-mile limit require a proposal and approval by the department, and generally entail course fees to cover the costs of transportation and/or supervision. Students are encouraged to student teach or engage in field experience outside the United States. Those interested in pursuing either of these options must complete an application and approval process, through which they demonstrate that they will meet all departmental expectations in terms of advising, planning, course work, and other relevant experience.

In recent years, students have taught in South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, England, Germany, Norway, and Thailand.