Urban Education, M.Ed.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (http://education.temple.edu)

About the Program

The Urban Education master’s program serves school-based educators seeking to enhance their understanding of subjects such as the history of urban education, national education policy, social theory, and urban education reform. Courses generally familiarize students with research methodology and include opportunities to conduct research and do field-based study. The program also addresses the needs of professionals involved in adult literacy, afterschool programs, community development, community organizing, community-based education, and family centers.

Students choose from among four areas of specialization: Educational Policy Studies, Foundations in Urban Education, School-Community Partnerships, and Teaching in Urban Schools. Students also have the opportunity to design their program individually with their advisor.

Full-time program faculty specialize in class and race issues; historical, sociological, and anthropological foundations of urban education; quantitative research methods; risk and resilience; school-community collaboration; transition to college; urban educational policy and reform; and youth culture. Affiliated faculty specialize in areas such as African American families and youth, community mediation, community-based research, gender issues in administration, higher education, multicultural education, race relations, sociology of education, urban studies, and writing instruction. For students interested in other areas of specialization, the program develops special links with appropriate faculty across the university.

Time Limit for Degree Completion: 4 years

Campus Location: Main

Full-Time/Part-Time Status: Students complete the degree program through classes offered after 4:30 p.m. The degree program can be completed on a full- or part-time basis.

Interdisciplinary Study: The Urban Education program is both interdisciplinary and intercollegiate, taking advantage of the strengths of various schools/colleges and departments at Temple. Program faculty include those with full-time assignments in Urban Education, as well as affiliated faculty assigned to other departments, such as African American Studies, Anthropology, Communication Sciences, Educational Administration, Educational Psychology, English, Geography and Urban Studies, History, Political Science, Social Administration, Sociology, Teacher Education, TESOL (English as Second Language), and Women’s Studies.

Study Abroad: Students may participate in a summer abroad program sponsored by Urban Education faculty that involves a month-long stay in a non-tourist area of Jamaica. The major emphasis of this program, which carries 3 or 6 credits, is international service learning and community development.

Areas of Specialization: Four specializations, as well as the opportunity to design one’s own program individually with an advisor, are offered:

- Educational Policy Studies
- Foundations in Urban Education
- School-Community Partnerships
- Teaching in Urban Schools

Job Prospects: Graduates find jobs in school districts, advocacy agencies, and community-based organizations.

Non-Matriculated Student Policy: Students may take up to, but not more than, 9 credits of graduate study in the program before being admitted to the program. The credits transfer into the program, if the student is admitted. Students completing non-matriculated courses before being admitted to the program are NOT guaranteed admission.

Financing Opportunities: Financial support opportunities may include scholarships, tuition remission, and other financial aid such as grants, loans, and federal work study.

Admission Requirements and Deadlines

Application Deadline:

Fall: March 1
Spring: November 1

Applicants should submit all required admissions documents by the application deadline to receive priority consideration for admission and financial support.

APPLY ONLINE to this graduate program.

Letters of Reference:
Number Required: 2, with a third submitted at the applicant's discretion. Please submit the "Reference Report for Graduate Study," found at http://www.temple.edu/grad/admissions/documents/Web_GRAD_REFERENCE_REPORT.pdf.

From Whom: Letters of recommendation should be obtained from college/university faculty members and others who can provide insight into the applicant's academic competence.

Coursework Required for Admission Consideration: All applicants must present credentials that are the equivalent of the appropriate baccalaureate degree at Temple University.

Bachelor’s Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline: A bachelor's degree is required. Applicants who do not meet the 3.0 UGPA requirement may be considered for admission if they meet one of the following exceptions:

1. Standard exception: 3.5 UGPA during the last two years AND a minimum of 3.25 Graduate GPA for 9 credits (typically taken as a non-matriculated student in the program prior to application for admission).

2. Special exception: Applicants who do not meet regular admission criteria may be considered for a special exception if a compelling case can be made for admission on the basis of some additional source of data.

Statement of Goals: In 500 to 1,000 words, outline your interest in seeking a degree with a specific focus on the career to which you aspire, your interests, and your academic and job-related experiences that are relevant to the program.

Standardized Test Scores:

TOEFL score (international applicants only): 88 iBT or 575 PBT minimum. Applicants with scores between 88 and 100 iBT or between 575 and 600 PBT must take an English refresher course.

Resume: Current resume required.

Transfer Credit: Courses may be transferred from an accredited institution provided they were completed less than five years ago and are relevant to the program. The academic advisor makes the decision about the relevancy of the courses that the student desires to transfer. Grades must be "B" or better in order to transfer. Typically, no more than 6 transfer credits are accepted, although up to 9 may be transferred under special circumstances.

Program Requirements

General Program Requirements:
Number of Credits Required Beyond the Baccalaureate: 30

Required Courses:

Core Courses
Select three foundation courses from the following:

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDAD 5063</td>
<td>Educational Reform</td>
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<tr>
<td>URBE 5401</td>
<td>Policy and Practice in Urban Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>URBE 5501</td>
<td>Urban Schools</td>
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<tr>
<td>URBE 5565</td>
<td>The Origins of Urban Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URBE 8602</td>
<td>Theory Seminar in Urban Schools</td>
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Fourth course in Geography and Urban Studies selected in consultation with an advisor
Research methods course
Specialization Courses ¹
Capstone Project

Master's Project

Total Credit Hours

1 Courses taken must be relevant to the student’s choice of specialization: Educational Policy Studies, Foundations in Urban Education, School-Community Partnerships, and Teaching in Urban Schools.

Culminating Events:

Master's Project:
The master’s project is a 3-credit, field-based experience that allows students to apply their knowledge in a practical setting and produce a written document that summarizes and synthesizes their learning.
Contacts
Program Web Address:
http://education.temple.edu/urbaned/masters

Department Information:
Dept. of Policy, Organizational and Leadership Studies
College of Education
1301 Cecil B. Moore Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6091
educate@temple.edu
215-204-0999

Submission Address for Application Materials:
http://apply.temple.edu/coe

Department Contacts:
Admissions:
Office of Enrollment Management
educate@temple.edu
215-204-0999

Courses
URBE 5401. Policy and Practice in Urban Education. 3 Credit Hours.
This course introduces students to key issues in urban education. It helps students situate urban schools in their broader social, political, and economic contexts, providing a deeper understanding of the ways larger social processes shape cities and their schools. In addition, it provides students with multiple lenses to understand dynamics within urban schools and classrooms.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

URBE 5417. The Urban Environment. 3 Credit Hours.
"The Urban Environment" will provide students with an introduction to the historical, social, and political factors shaping cities. The course is primarily, but not exclusively, intended for education students and is designed to help students to develop a more sophisticated understanding of the contexts in which urban education occurs. More specifically, the course will focus on the history of cities, including 20th and 21st century urban transformation, the development and persistence of residential segregation, urban politics and poverty, and trends in theory and practice around urban redevelopment. Students will, of course, be encouraged to make connections between course material and other issues in urban education or their own areas of specialization.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

URBE 5501. Urban Schools. 3 Credit Hours.
This course is designed to help students understand the social, political, and economic factors that shape urban schools. The focus is on both perennial and emerging issues affecting the urban environment and schools and on major policies relating to those issues (e.g., equity, accountability, and school finance). The class requires several critiques of educational literature, as well as an extensive review of the literature on a substantive topic related to urban education. Offered every Fall term.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

URBE 5515. Service Learning and Community Development. 3 Credit Hours.
This course presents models for service learning with particular emphasis on those that contribute to urban community development and community building. Students conduct a participatory community study and design a service learning project that meets authentic community needs. Offered every Fall term.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
URBE 5516. School-Community Partnerships in Urban Settings. 3 Credit Hours.
This course introduces models, practices, and theories for developing partnerships between schools, universities, community-based groups/ agencies, and neighborhoods. Among the models studied are various types of partnerships, community organizations, family centers, and community schools. The course emphasizes the manifold issues that emerge when partnerships involve participants who cross the boundaries of class, race, gender, professions, culture, and language. Field visits and fieldwork are included. Offered Spring term.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

URBE 5565. The Origins of Urban Education. 3 Credit Hours.
This reading and discussion class is based on the most important secondary literature in urban history and the history of urban education. Philadelphia is used as a case study. Topics in urban history include the geography and functional differentiation of urban space; the political economy of cities; urban demographics with a special emphasis on racial and ethnic minorities; urban political and social institutions; and the site as educator, including regional and site planning and urban material culture. Topics in urban educational history include race and ethnicity in the history of urban education; the politics of urban education; the history of social class; and the opportunity structure in urban education.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

URBE 5611. Reforming City Schools. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will examine educational policy reform ideas and strategies. The course content will focus on understanding the impact of educational policymaking on big city school districts and their local school contexts. Special attention will be paid to the urban social and political environments in which policies are made and applied, along with the challenges of racial and social class inequalities. Students will consider different types of current and past reforms, utilizing published research literature, popular media, and Internet-based resources to increase the likelihood that current debates in the field are covered. The intended and unintended consequences of educational and social policy will be examined as well.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

URBE 5620. Special Topics in Urban Education. 2 to 6 Credit Hours.
Topics vary.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

URBE 5630. Special Seminar in Urban Education. 3 Credit Hours.
Topics vary.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

URBE 8602. Theory Seminar in Urban Schools. 3 Credit Hours.
This course introduces some important theoretical frameworks and theorists that inform research in urban education. Emphasis in on the contributions of the social sciences. Theories are discussed in the context of urban education and are applied to major issues of interest to the class. Each student selects an issue, which s/he may have begun to explore in URBAN ED 5501, around which written and oral presentations are based. Teams of students also lead class discussions on the work of selected theorists.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
URBE 8603. Urban Education Doctoral Capstone. 3 Credit Hours.
This is the first semester of a two-semester (Fall/Spring) course that is required for all urban Education doctoral students. It is designed to support students as they carry out their own independent research projects and to serve as a capstone to their doctoral education. Ideally, all students will work on developing projects related to their future dissertation research.

Department Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Departments: Education:Policy/Org/Lead Stud.
Field of Study Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Fields of study: Urban Education.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
College Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Colleges: Education.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

URBE 9982. Independent Research in Urban Education. 3 Credit Hours.
Because the Urban Education Program is interdisciplinary and draws on faculty from across the University, it is critical that students become acquainted with faculty whose research styles and interests will contribute to their course of study by, for example, serving on their dissertation committees. This course requires students to design and complete a project with a faculty member outside the program. In consultation with their advisors, students identify an affiliated member with whom to work and then create and complete an independent study. This research can take several forms, e.g., collecting and analyzing data, conducting an extensive literature review, or utilizing secondary data.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

URBE 9991. Research Practicum. 3 Credit Hours.
This doctoral-level course provides each student with the experience of completing an independent study research project. Students are required to formulate a research question; conduct a thorough review of the relevant literature on the topic; design a small study to be carried out throughout the year; and write up the results. While this project may be directly related to the student's dissertation research, it does not serve as a replacement of that research endeavor. Each student is expected to present her/his work in a public setting.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

URBE 9996. Masters Thesis. 3 Credit Hours.
Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

URBE 9999. Doctoral Dissertation. 1 to 6 Credit Hour.
Open only to doctoral candidates who have successfully completed the minimum hours of coursework required for the degree, passed the preliminary examination, and have an approved proposal on file with the Graduate School. Continuous registration during the Fall and Spring semesters is required until the dissertation is completed and accepted by the Graduate School.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.
Student Attribute Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Student Attributes: Dissertation Writing Student.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.