We assist students in designing programs of study which allow them to study educational topics of particular concern in a wide variety of social and institutional contexts. Given the complexity of most educational issues, interdisciplinary inquiry is often appropriate and strongly encouraged.

The program maintains limited enrollment so as to support the development of individualized programs of study that are personally and professionally meaningful for all involved.

Students will increase their understanding of how the aims and social-cultural context of schooling impact educational practices and change over time.

The program supports the development of critical analytical skills with regard to the relationship between schooling and issues of human flourishing, social justice, and eco-cultural sustainability.

The program provides extensive opportunities to refine and develop fundamental academic skills and dispositions.
Socio-Cultural Studies of Education (M.A.)

Teaching, Research, and Program Focus Areas

The Socio-Cultural Studies of Education program centers on the study of contemporary issues and problems in education. The program aims to encourage and support the work of educators seeking to examine aspects of schooling by way of focused inquiry in the social-historical, cultural, and philosophical contexts of educational practice. This focus allows students considerable flexibility to explore educational topics in disciplined and far-reaching ways.

Admissions

Admission requirements include:

- A bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution
- An overall grade point average of at least 3.0 (on a 4-point scale) in the last two years of undergraduate work. Applicants with a GPA of less than 3.0 may be granted conditional admission. This will be converted to regular admission if students receive a B or better in the first two graduate courses (6 credits) taken.
- Experience working in a professional setting.

All application information and materials can be found on the program website: wmich.edu/teaching/socio-cultural/admission

Graduate Assistantships/Associateships

The department offers 2 full-time graduate assistantships per year.

Contacts

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269-387-3465

Western Michigan University

One of the top-100 public universities in the United States, Western Michigan University offers many nationally known graduate programs, including 29 doctoral and 64 master’s degrees. More than 20 percent of its 25,000 students are enrolled in graduate course work.

Kalamazoo

With a population of more than 325,000, Kalamazoo is the sixth largest metropolitan area in Michigan and among the 150 largest in the country. Kalamazoo is rated one of the 25 best cities in the country for young college graduates, and is located midway between Chicago and Detroit.