

SOCIOLOGY OF EDUCATION (PHD)

Department Website (<https://steinhardt.nyu.edu/ash/>)

NYSED: 08425 HEGIS: 2208.00 CIP: 45.1101

Program Description

This multidisciplinary PhD program in Sociology of Education prepares graduates to analyze educational problems and issues and social change using the theoretical tools and research methods of sociology. Students are expected to become thoroughly familiar with primary perspectives, theories, and questions of the discipline of sociology and the field of sociology of education. Candidacy, dissertation proposal, and dissertation are required. The Sociology of Education PhD program is 48 credits for students who matriculate with an MA and 65 credits for students who matriculate with a baccalaureate degree only.

The program prepares professors of educational sociology for schools and colleges of education or for universities with specializations in the area of sociology as it applies to education and researchers who can conduct basic and applied research in various public and private institutions in order to advance both the practice of education and the study of sociology.

Admissions

Admission to graduate programs in the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development requires the following minimum components:

- Résumé/CV
- Statement of Purpose
- Letters of Recommendation
- Transcripts
- Proficiency in English

See NYU Steinhardt's Graduate Admissions website (<https://steinhardt.nyu.edu/admissions/how-apply/graduate-students/>) for additional information on school-wide admission. Some programs may require additional components for admissions.

See How to Apply (<https://steinhardt.nyu.edu/degree/phd-sociology-education/how-apply/>) for admission requirements and instruction specific to this program.

Program Requirements

Upon acceptance to the Sociology of Education PhD program, you will be notified if you are expected to complete 48 or 65 credits.

48-Credit Program

Course	Title	Credits
ASH-GE 3011	Department Seminar I	3
Foundations Requirements in Sociology of Education		6
SOED-GE 2002	Sociology of Education	
SOED-GE 2325	Social and Cultural Studies in Education	
SOED-GE 3030	Classical Social Theory	
SOED-GE 2372	Critical Social Theory and Education	

Sociology of Education Electives		6
SOED-GE 2374 Race and Racism		
SOED-GE 2163 Soc of Higher Ed		
SOED-GE 2373 Gender and Inequality: The Role of Schools		
Research Methods Courses		18
APSTA-GE 2001	Statistics for the Social and Behavioral Sciences I	
APSTA-GE 2002	Statistics for Behav and Social Sciences II	
APSTA-GE 2139	Survey Research Methods	
INTE-GE 2007	Qualitative Methods in International Education	
INTE-GE 2008	Quantitative Methods in International Education	
PADM-GP 2902	Multiple Regression and Introduction to Econometrics	
RESCH-GE 2140	Approaches to Qualitative Inquiry	
RESCH-GE 2142	Interview & Observation	
RESCH-GE 2143	Participatory Action Research	
RESCH-GE 2147	Fieldwork Data Collection	
RESCH-GE 2148	Fldwrk: Data Analysis	
RESCH-GE 3040	The Listening Guide Method of Psychological Inquiry	
RESCH-GE 3045	Advanced Seminar on the Listening Guide	
Non-SOED Specialized Courses		12
Dissertation Proposal Seminar		3
Total Credits		48

65-Credit Program

Students who matriculate with a BA only, or an unrelated graduate degree, must follow the course list above, as well as take an additional 17 credits in consultation with an academic adviser.

Course	Title	Credits
ASH-GE 3011	Department Seminar I	3
Foundations Requirements in Sociology of Education		6
Sociology of Education Electives		6
Research Methods Courses		18
Non-SOED Specialized Courses		12
Dissertation Proposal Seminar		3
Other Elective Credits ¹		17
Total Credits		65

¹ Students who matriculate with a BA only, or an unrelated graduate degree, must take an additional 17 credits from foundations, electives, research methods, or non-SOED specialized courses in consultation with an academic adviser.

Additional Program Requirements

Comprehensive Examination

After completing most of their coursework, and generally by the fall of their third year for full-time students, students take an oral comprehensive examination. The oral examination focuses on two areas: a list of core books and articles that our program considers to be foundational to the field of Sociology of Education and a list of readings in the area of the student's specialization as they begin to work towards their dissertation project.

Dissertation Proposal

Once a student has passed the comprehensive exam, they advance to candidacy. At this point, they focus on preparing a dissertation proposal, which is approved by the student's dissertation committee and then by two outside readers during an oral dissertation proposal defense. Generally, the proposal is written and approved by the end of the third year of full-time doctoral study.

At this point, if the student has an approved dissertation proposal and has completed all coursework, they are eligible for MPhil degree conferral on the way to completing the PhD.

Dissertation and Final Oral Examination

During this stage the candidate will collect and analyze the data required for the dissertation, complete the writing of the dissertation, and pass a final oral examination. This stage typically takes one to two years when attendance is full-time.

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
ASH-GE 3011	Department Seminar I	3
SOED-GE 2002	Sociology of Education	3
SOED-GE 2325	Social and Cultural Studies in Education	3
Research Methods Course		3
Credits		12
2nd Semester/Term		
SOED-GE 2372	Critical Social Theory and Education	3
Sociology of Education Elective		3
Research Methods Course		3
Non-SOED Specialized Courses		3
Credits		12
3rd Semester/Term		
Research Methods Course		6
Sociology of Education Elective		6
Credits		12
4th Semester/Term		
Research Methods Course		3
Sociology of Education Elective		6
Non-SOED Specialization Courses		3
Credits		12
5th Semester/Term		
Research Methods Course		3
Non-SOED Specialization Courses		6
Dissertation Proposal Seminar		3
Credits		12

6th Semester/Term	
Research Methods or Sociology of Education Electives	5
Credits	5
Total Credits	65

Following completion of the required coursework for the PhD, students are expected to maintain active status at New York University by enrolling in a research/writing course or a Maintain Matriculation (MAINT-GE 4747) course. All non-course requirements must be fulfilled prior to degree conferral, although the specific timing of completion may vary from student-to-student.

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will:

1. Display an expertise in an area of specialization in the sociology of education through the production of a high-quality MA thesis.
2. Think critically, undertake systematic investigations and research, and communicate effectively orally and in writing to academic and non-academic audiences.
3. Ask research questions and formulate problems using a broad range of theoretical and methodological tools.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the larger social and cultural contexts that shape educational institutions and human learning.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

Steinhardt Academic Policies

Additional academic policies can be found the Steinhardt academic policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/culture-education-human-development/academic-policies/>).