

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

School of Education & Social Policy



JOIN US IN CHANGING LIVES



"I chose SESP because I wanted a small school environment within the context of a larger student body. I wanted the chance to have real discussions in class, and I wanted to discuss social issues in a meaningful way."

- Halle Bauer

The Small School That Thinks BIG

If you want to create positive change and make a difference in people's lives, you'll be interested in the School of Education and Social Policy (SESP). We study learning and development over the life span to shape educational and social programs that meet people's needs.

We're much more than a typical school of education, where the focus is on classroom learning and teacher preparation. Training excellent teachers is part of our mission, but it doesn't tell our whole story. Here, you'll be able to choose from four interdisciplinary majors:

Human Development and Psychological Services

Learning and Organizational Change

Secondary Teaching

Social Policy

Cutting-edge technology, recent theory, and proven methods enhance our teaching and learning. We help you integrate and apply what you learn — whether you plan to work in schools, law, or policy, the nonprofit

sector or the corporate world. At the School of Education and Social Policy, we'll show you how to put your knowledge to work for the social good.



"What's great about SESP is that all theory is rooted in reality."

- Erin Bishop



Flexible, Custom-Designed Curriculum

At our School, you'll share with other students the common goal of wanting to make a difference, but you can pursue an individualized curriculum that is unique and tailored to your interests. A sequence of liberal arts courses forms an educational base, and core courses emphasize human development across the life span as well as research methods. Beyond that, the interdisciplinary nature of the majors allows you to take advantage of the many courses offered at Northwestern while still working toward your major requirements.

What Do Students Do after Graduation?

SESP graduates have gone on to become elected government officials, ambassadors, CEOs, non-profit leaders, psychologists, doctors, lawyers, arts administrators, and business consultants, as well as educators. As a springboard to such careers, new graduates often start out in Teach for America, fellowship opportunities, or consulting. Whatever path you choose, you'll find SESP prepares you to put your ideals into action.



SESP undergrads:

Nearly 40% of SESP students study abroad

Approximately 35% of SESP students graduate with a second major or minor

99% of graduating seniors said they would recommend SESP to an incoming student

SESP students have won these fellowships:

Fulbright Fellowship

Princeton in Asia Fellowship

Mitchell Fellowship

Coro Public Affairs Fellowship

Past leadership positions:

President of Associated Student Government

Co-chair of Dance Marathon

President of Hillel Leadership Council

Outreach chair, Northwestern Community Development Corps

Visit

www.sesp.northwestern.edu



"Someone once told me that SESP was a hidden gem at Northwestern."



“Beyond academic learning, the human skills I have learned at SESP are readily applicable in everyday life as well. I feel as though I have learned to communicate my ideas more effectively and to think outside the box.”

- Carryn Christianson

Human Development and Psychological Services

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND PSYCHOLOGICAL

SERVICES majors focus on the influences of family, school, community, and the workplace on human development. Graduates often work in applied psychology, counseling, and human resources or pursue graduate studies in psychology, human services, and medicine.



What do Human Development and Psychological Services graduates do?

Teacher, Teach for America

Milieu therapist, Children's Memorial Hospital

Master's in social work, University of Michigan

PhD in clinical psychology, University of Virginia

Visit

www.sesp.northwestern.edu/hdps



“You learn to think more about life, culture, relationships, and interactions.” - Kayley French



Learning and Organizational Change

LEARNING AND ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE majors explore the way individuals and organizations respond to and create change. Students are interested in providing leadership in knowledge-intensive organizations, such as corporations, consulting firms, schools, and nonprofits.

“The courses really do a great job of applying knowledge through group projects, real-world prompts, and presentations. I know that my SESP projects are relevant to the real world.” - Scott Topal



“Learning and Organizational Change is a major that has endless possibilities. It is the under-the-radar business major that no one really knows about.”

- Jessica Garcia

What do Learning and Organizational Change graduates do?

*Private equity analyst,
Goldman Sachs*

*Early career development
associate, Aon Consulting*

*AmeriCorps VISTA, Taproot
Foundation*

Associate, Google Adwords

*Human capital analyst,
Deloitte Consulting*

Visit

[www.sesp.northwestern.edu/
org](http://www.sesp.northwestern.edu/org)



▲
“I’m learning how to take my students’ backgrounds into account, how to engage students with different learning preferences, and how to use community resources as classroom enrichment. ... I was excited to learn how to be a teacher in an environment that promotes social justice.”

- Mollie Sorey

Secondary Teaching

SECONDARY TEACHING majors receive the tools they will need to excel as classroom teachers. The vision of the Secondary Teaching major is that learning and teaching are interdependent and ever changing. Graduates are routinely among the top candidates for teaching positions throughout the United States and abroad.

Where do Secondary Teaching graduates work?

- Chicago public schools
- Chicago suburban schools
- Out-of-state public schools
- Charter schools
- International schools
- Education-related industries

Visit

www.sesp.northwestern.edu/st



“From learning at SESP, I have been able to better understand connections that people make through interactions with different communities. ... A group that is successful, like SESP, has a strong community embracing it.”

◀ - Corey Winchester



Social Policy

SOCIAL POLICY majors focus on issues of poverty, education reform, community development, urban affairs, law, and health. Students who plan to pursue a graduate degree in law, public policy, sociology, or public management also find the Social Policy major excellent preparation.

“Social Policy fits in perfectly with my interests in examining American culture and politics from a more pragmatic viewpoint.”

- Shari Lewis



“Social Policy seemed like the best way for me to learn about the reality of what problems people face and how they can be effectively addressed.”

- Faith McAuliffe

What do Social Policy graduates do?

*Communications specialist,
Chicago Transit Authority*

*Program officer,
Circle of Service Foundation*

*Research assistant,
Institute for Policy Research*

*Impeachment task force staff,
U.S. House Committee on the
Judiciary*

Paralegal specialist, IRS

*Manager of new initiatives,
Urban Prep Charter Schools*

Visit

[www.sesp.northwestern.edu/
sp](http://www.sesp.northwestern.edu/sp)



Change Agents

“Many SESP students are dedicated to serving others and promoting change within our society.”

- Tarresha Poindexter

“I saw how education and people’s life chances were inequitable, and I wanted to do something about it.”

- Christa Keyes-Venson

“SESP promised an opportunity to learn how to be more effective at improving others’ lives, and that is why I decided to come.”

- Jacob Wertz

Some people sit back and watch the world change — others take action to make it better. SESP students are motivated change agents, focusing either on a personal, organizational, or societal level. Students with an entrepreneurial spirit find many like-minded individuals at the school.

Our School embraces the challenge of developing leaders at multiple levels to promote human development and learning and improve people’s lives. For example, the civic engagement certificate program gives students with interests in community service an academic framework for analyzing civic involvement. Through an understanding of both theory and practice, we prepare you to make change happen.





Hands-on Experience

Real-world learning is a pivotal part of your education at our School. We emphasize hands-on, experiential learning as well as new approaches to learning that respond to 21st-century challenges. As a SESP student you'll complete a one-quarter practicum that features an internship at a nonprofit or for-profit organization, combined with seminars and faculty guidance. The summer field studies option gives students valuable internship experiences in Chicago, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C. Likewise, Secondary Teaching majors have full-time student teaching experiences in the classroom. Through your custom-designed practicum, you'll learn how the subjects you study in class play out in the real world.



“Take a look at the practicum. It’s really brilliant that while many university juniors will be scrambling to find some sort of job for the summer, SESP practically guarantees placement in a useful experiential internship.”

- Allister Wenzel



Sample practicum sites:

- Children’s Memorial Hospital*
- Health and Medicine Policy Research Group*
- Northside College Preparatory School*
- Huron Consulting Group*
- Baxter Healthcare Corporation*
- Domestic Violence Legal Clinic*



“I enjoy the enthusiasm everyone within SESP — advisers, professors, students — shares about the collaborative learning environment that is uniquely SESP.”

- Quinton Sprull

Strong Community

A hallmark of our School is its close-knit sense of community. SESP is the smallest school within Northwestern University, with approximately 400 undergraduates and 23 faculty members. The small student/teacher ratio leads to a strong feeling of community and personal attention.

SESP features small classes and fosters personal interaction along with strong support. Advising is a major strength of our School. SESP students have professional advisers. In a recent survey, SESP students reported higher satisfaction with advising in their major than students in any other school. In addition, SESP sponsors a student service organization dedicated to the empowerment and support of minority students. SESP is committed to each individual student.



“Everything about SESP radiates a quality of warmth, and I really feel welcome and appreciated as a SESP student.”

- Allister Wenzel ▶





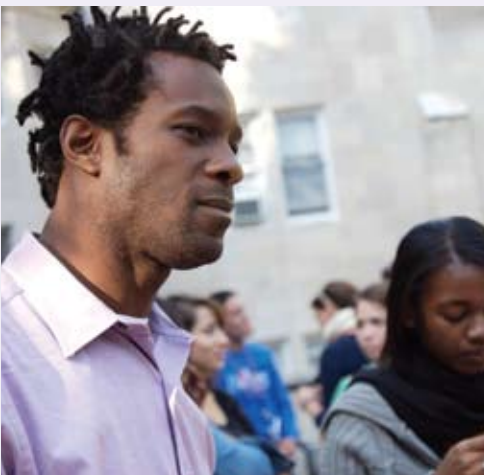
Excellent Faculty

Our nationally recognized faculty study new approaches to learning and development. They understand that they can make a difference in people’s lives, and they train students to do so as well. For example, students learn from professors who make breakthrough discoveries in learning, influence policy decisions on social issues, and introduce innovative curricula into classrooms around the country.

Research is supported by such agencies as the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the Spencer Foundation. As an undergraduate student at SESP, you will have the opportunity to become involved as a research apprentice. You can also broaden your horizons by participating in project-based courses with our faculty.

“I have definitely appreciated how much attention SESP students receive from their advisers.”

- Danielle Spencer



“The professors were all phenomenal” - Amy Foran



NORTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY

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