

# LEARNING SCIENCES (LS) CURRICULUM

The Learning Sciences (LS) concentration, new at Northwestern as of Fall 2016, equips students with the theoretical and practical knowledge to understand learning in a wide range of social contexts. LS is an applied design field as well, with practitioners drawing upon and testing new theories of learning through their designs. Design within LS applies to curriculum, social arrangements, and even the architectural organization of space. Learning has become a central concern for all organizations in our society, both formal and informal. Learning is a central concern for schools, certainly, and also for workplaces and informal education contexts across society, including museums and zoos. Students studying LS will become leaders in the analysis and design of learning environments.

## Curriculum

Students must complete the following LS concentration courses:

- LRN SCI 201            Cognition and Action
- LRN SCI 202            Culture, Language and Identity
- LRN SCI 301            Design of Learning Environments
  
- One (1) of the following three (3) cognitive science approved courses:
  - COG SCI 207            Intro to Cognitive Modeling
  - COG SCI 211            Learning, Representation and Reasoning
  - PSCYH 228            Cognitive Psychology
  
- One (1) of the following five (5) language in social context approved courses:
  - ANTHRO 215            The Study of Culture through Language
  - LING 220            Language and Society
  - LING 221            Language and Prejudice
  - LING 222            Language, Politics and Identity
  - LING 223            Language and Gender
  
- Choose one (1) of the following three (3) specializations, taking at least two (2) courses in that area, and at least one (1) in each of the other specialization areas:
  - **Specialization 1: Learning in Schools**
    - LRN SCI/TEACH ED 302            Social Contexts of Education
    - LRN SCI/TEACH ED 304            Intro to Schooling in Communities
    - LRN SCI/TEACH ED 338            Learning and Teaching with Technology
  - **Specialization 2: Out-of-School Learning**
    - LRN SCI/LOC 308            Cognition in Contexts
    - LRN SCI 306            Learning with New Media
    - LRN SCI/LOC 214            Culture and Cognition

- **Specialization 3: Design of Learning Environments**
  - LRN SCI 307                      Designing Interactive Media and Technology
  - SESP 303                         Designing for Social Change
  - EECS 395                         Tangible Interaction Design and Learning
  - LRN SCI/EECS 372             Designing & Constructing Models with Multiagent Languages
  
- Practicum

Your remaining 9 concentration courses are selected from the approved course list, in consultation with your academic advisor. A total of nine (9) total concentration courses must be at the 300 level (LRN SCI 301, ANTHRO 361, ANTHRO 365, LRN SCI 302, LRN SCI 304, LRN SCI 338, LRN SCI 308, LRN SCI 306, LRN SCI 307, EECS 395, LRN SCI/EECS 372 would all count toward this requirement).