Ph.D. in Education
Graduate School of Education
How do children acquire problem-solving skills? What are the cultural underpinnings of literacy? How is educational inequality produced and contested in schools? In what ways do state accountability policies influence teachers’ practice?

At Rutgers Graduate School of Education (GSE), doctoral students join leading scholars in seeking answers to the questions facing today’s educators.

The Ph.D. program in education prepares the next generation of researchers to provide the insights, ideas, and innovations behind the work of teachers, policy makers, and leaders involved in educational decision making. Graduates of the program find faculty and research positions in academia, government, and the private sector.

As the only program of its kind in New Jersey, the Ph.D. in education at Rutgers is known for the strong reputation of its faculty and the accomplishments of its graduates. Rutgers initiatives and centers, like the Robert B. Davis Institute for Learning, and the National Institute for Early Education Research, provide forums for doctoral students to hone their skills and work on leading-edge projects.

For more info on this concentration, visit http://gse.rutgers.edu/phd
Learning, Cognition, Instruction, Development (L-CID)

Focusing on how people learn and develop in learning environments and how effective teachers organize instruction and teach, students in this concentration carry out research about learning and teaching in classrooms and other settings.

Students can specialize in areas of faculty expertise, with opportunities for research in other specialties and interdisciplinary studies:

**More specific areas of specialization include:**

- Early Childhood Education
- Educational Psychology
- Human Development
- Language Education
- Learning Sciences
- Literacy Education
- Math Education
- Science Education
- Social Studies Education
- Statistics & Measurement

Graduates of this concentration conduct research in universities, policy organizations, and governmental/non-governmental organizations concerned with education, broadly defined.

Our students focus on the broad role that education plays in relation to the economic, political, social and cultural realms of society. We prepare scholars who draw on organizational theory and policy research, as well as disciplinary knowledge in the social sciences and humanities, to understand and act upon complex and persistent educational problems, with the goal of informing policy makers, educators, and the public about the possibilities and challenges of building effective, equitable educational institutions. Students in the TOP concentration work with faculty members to investigate key educational questions in areas such as: teacher leadership; effective assessment; educational funding; citizenship education; immigrant education; race, class and gender inequality; early childhood education policy, and comparative education.

Students specialize in one area of study but learn about other areas, so they develop stronger educational analyses and research designs. Working closely with their academic advisor, students design their own course of study, taking courses offered at both GSE and across the University.

Theory, Organization, and Policy (TOP)

We help our students develop the broad base of knowledge and research skills needed to design and investigate methods of improving learning and teaching in real learning environments.
Students must complete at least 48 credits of coursework:

- **6 credits** in the education core (Proseminars I & II);
- **12 credits** in research methods, including courses in quantitative and qualitative methodologies;
- **6 credits** in pre-thesis research;
- **18 credits** in a concentration;
- **6 credits** in the appropriate cognate disciplines - that is, outside of the Graduate School of Education.

Each Ph.D. student is assigned a research adviser who helps to plan her or his program. They then take an additional 24 credits of dissertation research. Students may transfer up to 24 graduate credits from coursework taken elsewhere toward these requirements with permission of the faculty.

Students applying to this program will need:

- **Transcripts** from their undergraduate program and for any other degree they have received
- **Three letters** of recommendation
- **A personal statement** that describes applicant’s interest in studying education at Rutgers. We are especially interested in knowing research interests and with which faculty members the applicant would like to work
- **GRE scores** (from within the last five years) - verbal, quantitative, and analytic writing scores are necessary

Please refer to the GSE web site [http://gse.rutgers.edu/phd](http://gse.rutgers.edu/phd) for details about programs, faculty, admissions criteria, financial aid, and tuition. Questions about admissions procedures are answered by Graduate and Professional Admissions at the website listed above.

**Financial Aid**

Financial aid is available for qualified students at rates that are comparable to universities throughout the country. Depending on the situation, it may take the form of teaching assistantships, research assistantships, or fellowships.

**For Further Information Contact**

**Drew Gitomer**  
Ph.D. Director  
drew.gitomer@gse.rutgers.edu

**Ericka Diaz**  
Administrative Assistant  
ericka.diaz@gse.rutgers.edu

Visit [http://gradstudy.rutgers.edu](http://gradstudy.rutgers.edu) to apply. (Online applications are required.) Applications are due by December 1 for Fall admission.