

Child Policy Research Undergraduate Certificate Program

Research to Policy to Practice

The Center for Child and Family Policy offers a certificate in Child Policy Research that provides Duke undergraduate students with a unique opportunity to explore child and family policy issues through interdisciplinary study, while working closely with faculty members to conduct original research on real-world policy issues.

The goals of the certificate program are three-fold:

- 1) enable students to pursue a course of study in which they will use a multidisciplinary approach to analyze the issues facing children, families, and the society responsible for their development
- 2) provide students with a one-on-one, mentored research experience to study these issues
- 3) equip students with skills to engage in research that informs policy and practice

The certificate program draws on the expertise of Duke faculty to gain a deeper understanding of the issues facing today's children and families. Through this certificate, students could pursue such topics as social and economic inequalities in education; gang violence in communities; the economic costs of childhood obesity; maltreatment of young children; and adolescent substance abuse. By combining courses across disciplines such as psychology, public policy, sociology, economics, and education, students can create a program of study to prepare them for a diverse range of careers.

Certificate Curriculum

Students must complete 3 required courses, 1 methodology course, and 2 electives.

The 3 required courses are:

- Child Policy Research (cornerstone - ChildPol 250S/PubPol 242S)
- Research Independent Study or Honors Thesis (ChildPol 393)
- Multidisciplinary Approaches to Contemporary Children's Issues (capstone - ChildPol 495S)

The **methodology course** requirement may be fulfilled with a methods course in the department of the student's major, or with Research Methods for Education Policy (ChildPol 590S/PubPol 590S).

Elective courses may be selected from across academic departments and disciplines. A Sample List of Electives is on the following page.

Child Policy Research Certificate Program

Core Courses

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| ChildPol 250S/PubPol 242S | Cornerstone Course: Child Policy Research |
| ChildPol 495S/PubPol 420S | Capstone Course: Child Policy Certificate |
| ChildPol 590S/PubPol 590S | Research Methods for Education Policy |

Sample List of Electives

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| ChildPol 325S/PubPol 325S | Equity in Early Childhood Programs and Policies |
| ChildPol 532S/PubPol 532S | Community-Based Research on Early Childhood Policy and Practice |
| Educ 111FS/Rights 111FS | Pursuit of Equality: Rethinking Schools – Lens of Social Justice |
| Educ 234S/CulAnth 234S | Anthropology & Education |
| Educ 243S/PubPol 243S | Children, Schools, and Society |
| Educ 289S | Learning Outcomes Assessment: Understanding and Using Evidence to Guide Teaching, Learning, and Policy |
| Educ 290S | Topics in Equity and Access |
| Educ 303S | De/Re/Segregation in Education: A Case of Back to the Future? |
| Educ 307S | Issues of Education and Immigration |
| Educ 496S | Secondary School Issues: Pedagogy, Culture, & Methods |
| History 389S/PubPol 346S/ Rights 389S | Family Rights/Human Rights |
| Psy 103 | Developmental Psychology |
| Psy 236/Sociol 260 | Psychological Aspects of Human Development |
| Psy 240/Educ 240 | Educational Psychology |
| Psy 435S | The Role of Race and Culture on Development |
| Psy 437S | Language Development |
| Psy 438S | Children's Peer Relations |
| PubPol 290S | Race, Gender, and Education Policy |
| PubPol 395S | Children and the Experience of Illness |
| PubPol 151S/Educ 151S/ Sociol 151S | From Ethics to Education: Transforming the Future of STEM |
| Sociol 210 | Contemporary Social Problems |
| Sociol 224 | Human Development |
| Sociol 225 | Intimate Inequalities: The State of American Families |
| Sociol 490S | Inequality on Campus |