What will I study?

You will explore education’s role in a diverse society, both within and beyond the UK.

In year 1 you will study core modules around child and adolescent development and explore current provisions and policies around education in the English context.

In years 2 and 3 you will research topics that really interest you. You will be able to choose from a selection of exciting modules such as Educational Inequalities: Alternative Educational Provisions, Media Technology and Education, and Education in International Development.
Foundational disciplines

The course draws on four foundational disciplines to create a truly interdisciplinary degree

- Philosophy
- Psychology
- History
- Sociology
Philosophy

You will explore questions about the nature and aims of education, such as ‘Why do we educate?’ or ‘What needs to be known anyway?’. You will examine a range of contemporary, historical and international perspectives about education, and in doing so you’ll discover some of the most contested ideas that exist at the centre of this field.

“I’ve had great opportunities to dip in and out of different topics, issues and debates, acquiring a broad overview of the disciplines as well as the opportunity to explore areas in depth.”

JOSH HARSANT, EDUCATION STUDIES AND SOCIOLOGY GRADUATE
Psychology

Explore how people learn and why they often fail to learn from the perspectives of social, cognitive and developmental psychology. Examine learning across the life span and learn the difference between formal and informal learning contexts. You will also explore the individual factors that play a part in why some people ‘learn’ better than others.

“You can tailor the modules you study and the assignments towards your chosen career. I have been able to research language deprivation on the autism spectrum and learn how spirituality acts as a voice for those with autism and poor language skills.”

RYAN BEARD, EDUCATION STUDIES GRADUATE
History

Look at how childhood is perceived, in both historical and cross-cultural perspectives. Explore the place of education in international development programmes, and explore the impact of economic development, foreign aid and international relations on educational opportunities.

“Since beginning my degree I have learnt to question things in more detail rather than just accept the obvious. For example, when reading or listening to the news I now critically analyse what is said and evaluate what it actually means.”

DAWN YARDLEY, EDUCATION STUDIES GRADUATE
Sociology

You will examine the social world of childhood and adolescence, and explore the impact different models of socialisation and culture have on the development of identity.

“The most enjoyable aspect of my course was the freedom that we were given to explore educational issues that we were really passionate about. To a certain extent, that is the nature of final year study - being independent learners and being guided in our own research rather than explicitly taught.”

LAURA CROFTS, EDUCATION STUDIES GRADUATE
**Specialist pathway**

**Education Studies (SEN(D))**

Employers value graduates who have an in-depth knowledge of a particular area of education. We offer a specialist pathway in Special Educational Needs, Disabilities and Inclusion (SENDI), which is available to you at the end of your first year.

This pathway will allow you to specialise in the areas of emotional development and alternative educational provisions. You will also take a compulsory education placement module.
International visits

You can take part in a variety of international visits, to broaden your experience of education and development in other countries. We have good relationships with schools in The Gambia, and we also run an exchange scheme with Orebro University in Sweden and the University of Stavanger in Norway.

Please note that the costs of any optional field trips are not included in your course fee and a separate fee will apply.
Combinations

Combining Education Studies with another subject is a popular choice.

Possible combinations are:

- English Language and Communication
- Sociology
- English Literature
- Criminology
- History

Please note that Education Studies with the specialist SENDI pathway can only be studied as a single honours course.
“The Harcourt Hill Campus is fairly small so you get to know your surroundings early in your studies. Class sizes are manageable and getting to know your classmates is really easy. On my first day arriving at Brookes I was alone but, when I leave, I shall be leaving with some great friends who have been studying alongside me since day one. We have supported each other through group work, deadlines, and very late nights!”

JODIE BROWN, EDUCATION STUDIES AND EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES GRADUATE
Career prospects

A degree in Education Studies offers excellent preparation for careers in both the public and private sectors. Previous graduates have gone on to have successful careers in many different fields including:

- Health and social care
- Educational psychology
- Alternative educational settings
- Charitable/voluntary organisations
- Therapeutic work such as speech and language/art/play therapy
- Youth work
The Education Studies course can also lead into primary, secondary, special or residential teaching careers, and during the course you will be advised about possible teacher training routes.
Research and expertise

Our teaching team will support both your academic progress and offer strong pastoral support. These strengths have been consistently recognised in our regular surveys of student opinion and in comments from our external examiners.

83% of our research is internationally recognised
REF 2014
We run a specialist module on outdoor learning. You will explore how young children use play to learn, and how adults can provide education opportunities in the outdoors.

90% of students were satisfied by the overall quality of the course

2017 NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY
SOURCE: UNISTATS
School of Education

For more information about Education Studies:

www.brookes.ac.uk/edustudies

brookes.education

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