Educational Studies, Youth and Adult Development Emphasis

Train and educate. Many not-for-profit institutions, governmental and non-governmental organizations that are outside the traditional structure of schools have staff members and clients who need training and education. Employment opportunities exist in organizations that work with after-school and youth programs, programs for special needs audiences and not-for-profit organizations that provide counseling and emergency services.

The Bachelor of Educational Studies, with an Emphasis in Youth & Adult Development

The BES, with an emphasis in Youth and Adult Development, prepares professionals to help agencies and organizations fulfill the educational aspects of their missions. Skills and insights gained can be applied to roles as innovative educators, program managers, activity directors, trainers and curriculum developers in these informal learning settings. This degree program does not lead to Missouri teacher certification.

This program is based on current best practices for effective teaching of youth and adults outside of a traditional classroom setting and addresses educational theories and practices, curriculum development in informal education, human development, diversity, advocacy and family partnerships.

Students have internship opportunities in the St. Louis region to apply their knowledge and skills in a variety of field and community based experiences with both suburban and urban populations. You can even tailor-make your culminating experience based on your professional goals and future career needs.

Upon completion of the program, graduates will be able to apply a unique understanding of social justice by addressing institutional and social barriers that limit access, equity, and achievement; conduct themselves in a respectful and professional manner that views failure as an opportunity to learn; apply reasoning and critical thinking while making connections among information, data and arguments to synthesize and interpret information; apply unique leadership, management and communication skills using oral, written, nonverbal and visual communication skills in a variety of formats and contexts; apply knowledge and skills to effectively manage programs; and demonstrate a unique application of best practices when teaching outside a traditional classroom setting.

University of Missouri–St. Louis
Fully accredited.

The Bachelor of Educational Studies at UMSL is earned through our fully accredited College of Education which provides Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education certifications. Additionally, our counseling programs are accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs and our school psychology program is accredited by the National Association for School Psychology.

Preparing for an ever-changing world.

The College of Education offers a variety of programs that lead to exciting and rewarding career opportunities. Our faculty, staff and community partners are committed to providing experiences to build the knowledge and skills needed for individuals to be successful in multiple educational settings and occupations. These careers include teachers, principals, and district superintendents; teachers and administrators for informal education organizations like museums, zoos and nature centers; counselors and mental health professionals for schools, hospitals, corporate employee assistance programs, clinics and private settings; and postsecondary leaders and instructors for community colleges, career technical schools, and four-year colleges and universities.

The college hosts many centers and initiatives that enhance student experiences in our programs and work with more than 36 different public, private and charter schools throughout the region. We also sponsor eight charter schools.

Serious education. Serious value.

The Bachelor of Educational Studies is designed to provide specialized knowledge, skills and training in a flexible format. You’ll learn from highly qualified educators and researchers who hold terminal degrees from some of the world’s most prestigious academic institutions.

The University of Missouri–St. Louis provides the knowledge, resources, tools, skills and support students need to be successful in our programs. Our comprehensive student support services include workshops, tutoring and career services to help you develop skills and strategies to be successful in the classroom and beyond. UMSL welcomes transfer students and our transfer specialists will assist you with getting the most transfer credits possible. We’re also committed to increasing access to higher education, and as such, UMSL is consistently ranked number one in affordability in the St. Louis region.

Learn more at coe.umsl.edu