CONCENTRATION OVERVIEW

This concentration focuses on teaching and learning in colleges and universities as they are implemented in many institutional contexts, both inside and outside of traditional classroom settings. Students in this concentration will learn about academic programs and curriculum; student learning and development; student access, adjustment, and achievement in higher education; teaching and research processes; college and university faculty; and leadership in administrative units with teaching and learning responsibilities. Three major perspectives are used in this concentration to inform students' understanding of teaching and learning environments: individual learning and development, institutional factors that affect teaching and learning in postsecondary contexts, and societal conditions (social, cultural, and historical) that affect teaching and learning.

CAREER PREPARATION

Typically, students in this concentration are preparing for administrative careers in a postsecondary education setting. Administrative careers exist in a wide variety of areas within academic affairs, student affairs, and other administrative units in colleges and universities. This concentration is distinctive in several ways:

- Students focus their coursework explicitly on the dynamics of higher education related to student success.
- Students can delve deeply into issues such as college student development (cognitive, identity, and civic learning outcomes); curriculum and academic programs; faculty issues; and contexts for teaching and learning.
- In addition to coursework, students complete a program-approved internship where they will gain practical experience working on student access and/or success issues.

ACADEMIC FOCUS

Graduate study in this concentration considers the many issues underlying the academic, student, and faculty contexts of higher education. We seek to provide broad, evidence-based preparation for careers in academic and student affairs.

The selection of specific courses and complementary activities (including cognate courses and experiential activities) will be determined by the student and academic advisor, depending on the student’s selected area of focus.
MASTER’S CORE

Students are required to take:
EDUC 561 - Introduction to Higher Education

SAS students must elect nine (9) credits in CSHPE courses that address student access or success issues, and six (6) additional credits in CSHPE courses.

Courses previously offered that exemplify this focus include:
- EDUC 563 – The Community College
- EDUC 662 – Learning and Development in Higher Education
- EDUC 663 – Organizing for Learning
- EDUC 665 – Foundations for Student Affairs Educators
- EDUC 690 – Academic Affairs and Student Development in Postsecondary Education
- EDUC 760 – Access and Equity
- EDUC 762 – Curriculum in Postsecondary Education
- EDUC 864 – American College Student
- EDUC 870 – International and Comparative Higher Education
- EDUC 873 – Race, Ethnicity and Gender in Higher Education
- EDUC 874 – Law and Higher Education
- EDUC xxx – Other CSHPE courses as approved by the advisor

CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS

15 credits

Chosen in consultation with an advisor, students are required to enroll and complete six credits of cognate coursework.

COGNATES

6 credits

RESEARCH PREPARATION REQUIREMENT

3 credits

EDUC 695 – Research and Educational Practice, or
EDUC 793 – Introduction to Quantitative Methods in Educational Research (or equivalent)

EDUC 777 – Administrative Practicum

3 credits

Students can fulfill the experiential component of this concentration by completing an approved internship experience in a setting that focuses on student access and success issues. Requests to substitute other experiential learning opportunities that fall outside CSHPE internship settings may be made to the advisor. Approval for these internships and alternate experiences will be made by the MA Program Coordinator.

Examples of internships that address student access and success issues include:
- Arts at Michigan, Office of New Student Programs
- Center for Campus Involvement
- Office of Greek Life
- School of Kinesiology, Office of Student Services