Learn to Change the World

HARVARD
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Master's Programs
A master’s degree from HGSE prepares you with the skills you’ll need for a long-term, impactful career in education.

WE CULTIVATE THE LEADERS EDUCATION NEEDS
we know that the work we do here matters to the world. We approach our mission of improving educational opportunities and outcomes with urgency and purpose.

Education has been dramatically affected by the pandemic. We know that skilled leadership will help us weather this crisis. To empower a new generation of educators to meet the emerging challenges of a complex, rapidly changing world, we have reimagined our Master of Education degree, creating new programs and new pathways for learning, personalized career development and growth, and now the option to earn the degree online and part time, for leaders advancing in their careers. Our redesigned residential master’s program builds on years of innovation and co-creation by faculty and current and former students — addressing the fundamental needs of the field of education and preparing professionals to meet those needs. Our online Master’s in Education Leadership is designed for experienced education professionals who want to deepen their impact, with the convenience of an online program that complements their careers.

Across our Ed.M. options, HGSE provides unmatched opportunities to be mentored and taught by outstanding faculty, and to form lifelong connections with passionate peers and educators from around the world. Whichever program you choose, you will be surrounded by a diverse, engaged, and supportive community, dedicated to transforming lives through education.

I hope you will join us.

BRIDGET TERRY LONG
Dean
Saris Professor of Education and Economics
Harvard Graduate School of Education
WORLD-CLASS FACULTY. CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH. INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY.

Whether you’re seeking to develop new competencies, hone your leadership skills, or advance your career, HGSE offers master’s programs — residential and online — that provide exceptional academic preparation, deliver opportunities for personal and professional growth, and deepen your knowledge to make an even greater impact on the world.
SHAPING EDUCATION — AT EVERY LEVEL, IN EVERY ROLE

We’re committed to changing the world through education — and our unique Ed.M. programs help you make this vision a reality.

Our programs will enable you to tap into your leadership potential, create the conditions for meaningful learning and development, and provide opportunities for you to address and remedy systemic challenges present in the education landscape — across communities and throughout education settings.
HGSE faculty and alumni are leading the way in improving outcomes for all students. In addition to facilitating academic learning, Ed.M. faculty members are out in the field — conducting cutting-edge research and generating initiatives that transform teaching and learning.

Upon graduation, our alumni translate the leadership, entrepreneurial, and practical skills they’ve learned into a variety of outcomes-focused initiatives — as teachers and think tank researchers, principals and policymakers, counselors and curriculum designers.
Whether your goal is to become an education entrepreneur, instructional designer, or research director, our programs can help you get there. The curriculum for our Ed.M. programs is based on Foundations courses — rich, immersive learning experiences that strengthen your ability to understand, evaluate, and address challenges facing students, families, and communities.
LET’S START WITH THE FOUNDATIONS
Core Skills + Knowledge + Ways of Thinking

HOW PEOPLE LEARN
Offers a deep understanding of how people progress through different ages, stages, and contexts of learning.

EVIDENCE
Explores how to gather, evaluate, and implement evidence so you can make decisions that lead to better outcomes for all learners.

EQUITY + OPPORTUNITY
Focuses on the core concept of equity in education — preparing you to identify and address the inequities that exist in the field.

LEADING CHANGE
Provides knowledge on how to work within an organization or education system — with an emphasis on leading and managing change.
As the education sector manages the fallout from the pandemic’s disruptions and looks ahead to future challenges, it’s clear the need for strong leadership has never been more critical. To help address these issues and widen the offerings we can make to the field, HGSE now offers two ways to get a master’s degree: our flagship residential Ed.M. in Education and the new online Ed.M. in Education Leadership.
TRAINING LEADERS — AT EVERY STEP IN THEIR CAREERS

Students can earn an Ed.M. from Harvard through one of five residential programs or through our new online program. All programs feature the academic rigor, cohort learning, and world-renowned faculty that define Harvard graduate study, and each program is tailored to specific student populations.

The **residential Ed.M. in Education** is designed for aspiring or established educators, leaders, and innovators — offering you a full-time, immersive, on-campus experience.

The **online Ed.M. in Education Leadership** is designed for educators with at least seven years of relevant experience — offering you a part-time program that’s conducted almost exclusively online.
Our residential Master’s in Education (Ed.M.) is a one-year, full-time Harvard experience that provides you with the opportunity to design your own pathway at one of the world’s premier education training grounds. The program’s unique curriculum enables you to craft a customized set of enriching experiences that cultivate your ability to foster positive impact and help generate better outcomes for all students.
IT’S TIME TO GET WITH THE PROGRAM

Preparation + Experience + Real-World Engagement

As a residential master’s student, you can choose and apply to one of the following five Programs where you’ll develop expertise in a specific practice area that aligns with your professional interests:

EDUCATION LEADERSHIP, ORGANIZATIONS, AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
Cultivates the skills you need to become an effective, strategic, and innovative leader.

EDUCATION POLICY AND ANALYSIS
Provides you with a deep understanding of what works in education and how to leverage policy to generate solutions.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION
Prepares you to offer learners the academic and social-emotional supports that align with their individual needs.

LEARNING DESIGN, INNOVATION, AND TECHNOLOGY
Offers you the opportunity to create technological innovations and evolve the science of learning to improve student outcomes.

TEACHING AND TEACHER LEADERSHIP
Equips you with the skills needed to transform learning, advance social justice, and make a difference in the lives of all students.

Each program includes coursework, core experiences, and real-world opportunities that will prepare you to meet the challenges of your chosen career path.
IT TAKES CONCENTRATION

Cohort + Community + Collaboration

If you wish to specialize in a specific context or area of education, our flexible curriculum provides a selection of **Concentrations** — each offering a combination of tailored coursework and co-curricular activities, such as events, speaker series, and workshops. The Program also offers curated **Elective courses** that will enable you to customize your HGSE learning experience.

**ARTS AND LEARNING**
Helps you explore the integral role the arts play across art forms, age groups, and learning environments.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD**
Prepares you for a variety of roles within the early childhood education sector.

**GLOBAL, INTERNATIONAL, AND COMPARATIVE EDUCATION**
Enables you to gain experience addressing education inequalities in low- and middle-income countries.
HIGHER EDUCATION
Equips you for a career in postsecondary education — within universities, nonprofit, organizations, government agencies, and consulting firms.

IDENTITY, POWER, AND JUSTICE IN EDUCATION
Provides you with the skills to create education spaces that aim to eliminate oppressive conditions and inequitable outcomes.

LITERACY AND LANGUAGES
Gives you the tools to address how literacy-related developments support student outcomes.
Our new two-year, part-time online Ed.M. program allows you to develop the skills you need to advance your career and make an even greater impact in the field.

Except for two brief residential experiences, the program is conducted fully online and includes a combination of synchronous meetings and asynchronous coursework. Throughout your graduate experience, you will interact with Harvard faculty, build lifelong professional connections, and prepare yourself for new leadership opportunities.
CHOOSE YOUR
LEADERSHIP PATHWAY

Practice Area + Aspiration + Impact

The online Ed.M. in Education Leadership curriculum offers you two pathways — PreK–12 or Higher Education — that align with your area of interest:

PREK–12
Equips you to do change-making work on behalf of students from early childhood to secondary education levels — as teacher leaders, afterschool directors, and more.

HIGHER EDUCATION
Prepares you as a dynamic leader in a diverse range of postsecondary education contexts — from college and university settings to nonprofit education organizations.

To help you manage, lead, and implement change in complex organizations, our online Ed.M. in Education Leadership curriculum offers Leadership Core Competencies that will strengthen your ability to:

• Lead change and think strategically
• Foster productive organizational conditions
• Navigate politics and practice political inclusion

• Communicate effectively
• Cultivate self-development and team professional development skills
**Professor Adriana Umaña-Taylor**
The Identity Project

Adriana Umaña-Taylor concentrates her academic research on factors that impact the development and adjustment of adolescents. She created The Identity Project — an intervention curriculum that engages young people and helps them explore and more fully understand their racial and ethnic identity. She also currently works on three studies that examine how adolescents address issues related to race, ethnicity, and identity.

**Professor Paul Reville**
Education Redesign Lab

Paul Reville is a former secretary of education for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and focuses on education reform and policy issues. He’s the founding director of HGSE’s Education Redesign Lab — an organization that works to improve outcomes for low-income children. The lab collaborates with local officials to increase access to early childhood programs, enrichment activities, health services, college/career assistance, and networking opportunities.
The Aspen Institute

Douglas Wood was the 2018 recipient of HGSE’s Alumni Council Award for Outstanding Contribution to Education and currently serves as the director of the Aspen Institute’s Criminal Justice Reform Program. He’s previously worked as a teacher, associate dean, and program officer and has been recognized for his work helping low-income, first-generation students receive and complete a high-quality postsecondary education.

Kari Croft, Ed.M.’15
Da Vinci RISE High in Los Angeles

Kari Croft co-founded Da Vinci RISE High in 2017 to ensure Los Angeles-area youth in foster care or impacted by homelessness could complete their education and receive much-needed ancillary services. The former high school teacher developed the initial concept for the school while attending HGSE — with encouragement from faculty and cohort members — later creating a charter petition as her Equity in Education course final.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

Regardless of which program you pursue, you will gain critical insights and perspective through discussions, small-group sessions, and research projects. Yet we also recognize the importance of learning that takes place within your cohort, via alumni networks, and through co-curricular experiences. Here’s a sampling of the community learning you’ll experience as an HGSE student:

COHORT LEARNING
Peer-to-peer learning plays a significant role at HGSE, and you’ll have the opportunity to engage with members of your cohort during in-class and synchronous online discussions and through co-curricular learning experiences.

ALUMNI NETWORKS
Our global alumni base of 28,000+ professionals will serve you throughout your career by providing connections, collaborations, and mentoring opportunities.
CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Learning continues far beyond your in-class academic experience, and HGSE offers a variety of programming, including:

BEYOND ACADEMICS
Events, collaborative learning experiences, and professional development opportunities abound — both on-campus and online.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
Fellowship programs, including the Equity and Inclusion Fellowship, and advisory committees.

TEACHING AND LEARNING
Events and programs that highlight and promote innovative teaching and learning strategies.

HARVARD ADVANTAGE
As an HGSE student, you’ll also experience a range of benefits, resources, and opportunities available across the Harvard University system, including online access to the world’s largest library system.

BOSTON AND CAMBRIDGE
As a residential student, you can enjoy all Boston and Cambridge have to offer — from history and innovation to sports and culture. As a student in the online Ed.M. program, you will also have the opportunity to explore the area during your two brief residential experiences.
EXPLORE REAL-WORLD OPPORTUNITIES

HGSE faculty members are recognized for their expertise in education practice, policy, and research — consulting with urban school districts on turnaround programs, advising federal policymakers, and generating education opportunities in countries around the globe.

Our programs will enable you to explore a wide variety of career pathways while working alongside our faculty. Through numerous research projects, online collaborations, and mentorship opportunities, you can gain real-world experience throughout the field of education.
LAUNCH YOUR CAREER IN EDUCATION

Through innovative programs, workshops, and recruiting events, the Career Services Office at HGSE offers you lifelong professional development and career management. As one of the few offices of its kind dedicated to education students, HGSE’s career services team will help you navigate your job search by assisting with resumes, cover letters, interviewing skills, salary negotiations, and internships.

A 2019 Ed.M. report revealed that our graduates go on to work in a variety of fields, including the following:

Where Our Graduates Go
- PreK–12: 35%
- Nonprofits: 22%
- Higher education: 19%
- Media/Technology: 8%
- Consulting: 6%
- Other: 5%
- Government: 3%
- Healthcare: 2%

What Our Graduates Do
- Administration Management: 40%
- Teaching/Training: 28%
- Analyst/Research: 17%
- Technology/Production: 7%
- Counseling/Human Services: 6%
- Other: 2%
WHO STUDIES AT HGSE?

2019–20 ENTERING CLASS

Master of Education (Ed.M.) students: 615
Certificate of Advanced Study (C.A.S.) students: 7
Doctor of Philosophy in Education (Ph.D.) students: 25
Doctor of Education Leadership (Ed.L.D.) students: 25

Students came from 41 U.S. states + D.C. and all continents with the exception of Antarctica, and represented 52 countries of citizenship.

Visit hgse.me/hgse-doctoral to learn more about our doctoral programs.
24% MEN

71% WOMEN

1% TRANSGENDER, GENDERQUEER/GENDER-NONCONFORMING, OR ANOTHER IDENTITY

4% NO RESPONSE

15% LGBTQ+

23% FIRST GEN

25% INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

33% SELF-IDENTIFIED STUDENTS OF COLOR*

*US CITIZENS AND PERMANENT RESIDENTS

RANGE OF WORK EXPERIENCE: 0-30 YEARS

ED.M. AVERAGE: 4.2 YEARS

ED.L.D. AVERAGE: 10.3 YEARS

PH.D. AVERAGE: 5.2 YEARS
READY TO CHANGE THE WORLD THROUGH EDUCATION?

HGSE brings together people who are committed to making a transformative impact through education — people who demonstrate leadership, dedication, curiosity, a sense of mission, and an entrepreneurial spirit. By beginning — or continuing — your education journey through one of our master’s degree programs, you can identify an enriching pathway that will help you achieve your professional aspirations.
We invite you to learn more about our programs — including the admissions application and financial aid process. You will find additional resources and next steps here:

**ADMISSIONS**

**Step One**
Introduce yourself by filling out an online form at [hgse.me/hgse-intro](http://hgse.me/hgse-intro)

**Step Two**
Explore and connect with us by visiting our Admissions website at [gse.harvard.edu/admissions](http://gse.harvard.edu/admissions)

**Step Three**
Apply online at [hgse.me/application](http://hgse.me/application)

**Deadline**
Submit your online application and materials by January 5, 2022 by 11:59 p.m. EST.

**FINANCIAL AID**
We recognize that graduate education is a significant investment of your time and resources. At HGSE, we partner with applicants to identify workable funding resources to help make graduate study here possible. HGSE’s resources can include grants, scholarships, loans, work-study funding, or fellowships. There are also funding opportunities outside of Harvard to investigate. Start planning now; it’s never too early. Learn more at [hgse.me/hgse-aid](http://hgse.me/hgse-aid).

For more information, visit [gse.harvard.edu/masters](http://gse.harvard.edu/masters).