BOSTON COLLEGE
LYNCH SCHOOL OF
EDUCATION

Graduate Programs in Educational Research, Measurement, and Evaluation
Education for transformation

At the Lynch School of Education, we develop innovative, reflective leaders. Their contributions to research, measurement, and statistics inform policies and practices that help youth flourish in school and in life.

Our programs in educational research, measurement, and evaluation integrate state-of-the-art research design, statistical methods, and testing and assessment—with a focus on improving equity in education. You will work with faculty who are active researchers, nationally recognized for their influential work in the Lynch School’s seven research centers as well as in schools and communities. Coursework balances theory and application, preparing you for positions in universities, research and policy centers, testing services, school systems, and government and nonprofit agencies.

Rich experiential learning

Boston offers singularly diverse opportunities for research assistantships, internships, and employment. The area is home to what are considered some of the best urban and suburban public school districts in the country as well as many nonprofit institutions, educational agencies, and research and consulting firms. Greater Boston is also an internationally known hub for higher education.
Graduate programs of study

We offer two master’s degrees and a Ph.D. in educational research, measurement, and evaluation as well as certificate and specialization programs. Scheduling is flexible: you can attend classes in the evenings, part or full time, or during the summer.

Applied Statistics and Psychometrics .......................... M.S.
Educational Research, Measurement, and Evaluation .... Ph.D., M.Ed.

Certificate and specialization programs
Pursuing specializations and certificates can enhance your education and boost your appeal to employers. You can complete requirements for each on its own, or as part of your Lynch School master’s degree.

› Assessment Literacy and Data Use for Educators
› Institutional Research

A dynamic community
At the Lynch School, you’ll enjoy the support of 500 fellow graduate students and 111 faculty, who will guide your learning and connect you with resources and opportunities to achieve your professional goals. As a Lynch School graduate, you will also become part of a global network of more than 178,000 Boston College alumni, including teachers, principals, superintendents, professors, curriculum specialists, policy shapers, assessment experts, mental health counselors, school counselors, and more.

Shortly before graduating, Elizabeth Blesson, M.Ed. ’16, accepted a job as a dual-language program analyst for District of Columbia Public Schools. The position, she says, aligns with her goal “to help inform policy on how language acquisition unfolds in urban schools.”

As a graduate research assistant at the Lynch School’s Barbara and Patrick Roche Center for Catholic Education, Blesson assisted in the management and analysis of two of the center’s ongoing research projects: the Two-Way Immersion Network for Catholic Schools (TWIN-CS), which supports dual-language immersion programs at 18 Catholic elementary schools across the country, and the National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools, a collaboration with Loyola University Chicago.

In her new position, Blesson is researching ways to measure bilingual and cultural competency in high school students and is collecting English-language learner enrollment data from the district’s 112 schools. “The numbers help us tell the story,” she says, “of how we might give all students the best possible educational experience.”
Rigorous, relevant coursework

Master’s programs

M.S. in Applied Statistics and Psychometrics
This new program trains quantitative specialists. You will learn to conduct statistical analyses, design research studies, and develop measurement scales for educational, social, behavioral, and health science research projects. You will graduate prepared to pursue doctoral study or a career in quantitative research in education, psychology, social work, and other fields.

M.Ed. in Educational Research, Measurement, and Evaluation
This program offers a well-rounded curriculum of quantitative and qualitative coursework in research design, statistics, assessment and test construction, large-scale data collection, and program evaluation. The program also provides opportunities to take electives in other Lynch School departments and explore your professional interests.

Doctoral study

Ph.D. in Educational Research, Measurement, and Evaluation
The doctoral curriculum emphasizes research methodology and data analysis. It includes advanced coursework in research design, statistical methods, and testing and assessment as well as seminars in statistical and measurement topics. You will also be encouraged to tailor coursework and dissertation research to pursue your own interests.

Promoting social justice

Improving the human condition is at the core of the Lynch School’s founding mission. We believe in education’s capacity to transform lives, especially among underserved populations. That is why our educational research, measurement, and evaluation programs focus on addressing the learning needs of all youth—paying particular attention to diversity in race, primary language, learning abilities/style, and socioeconomic status.
The Lynch School faculty form a community of scholar-practitioners dedicated to improving practice, shaping policy, and preparing students to serve diverse populations. Their rigorous research across a range of interests informs solutions to pressing problems in education and policy on local, national, and international levels. Faculty bring their extensive scholarship into the classroom to integrate the most current evidence-based practices into coursework.

“Our faculty help students discover where they can make the greatest contribution to the field. We find out what interests and inspires them most and then help them to develop their own areas of research or specialty and, ultimately, their career paths. Whether they want to conduct large-scale international assessments or work with a local school system, our students gain the knowledge and skill sets that will improve education.”

Zhushan (Mandy) Li
Associate Professor, Educational Research, Measurement, and Evaluation
Lynch School of Education
Collaboration with faculty leaders

Both master’s and doctoral students can work with faculty and other experts at one of the Lynch School’s internationally renowned research centers, which include the Center for Optimized Student Support; the Center for the Study of Testing, Evaluation, and Educational Policy; the Barbara and Patrick Roche Center for Catholic Education; and the TIMSS and PIRLS International Study Center, which conducts comprehensive studies on math, science, and reading achievement in more than 60 countries.

You’ll have opportunities to assist faculty on major studies, interventions, and conferences at the centers. Current research initiatives focus on computer-based testing environments, the impact of educational support services for immigrant children, and leadership development in Catholic schools, among other areas.

Presenting and publishing opportunities

Each year, many of our faculty and students present their research at major professional conferences, including the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. Students and faculty also co-author research papers that are published in leading scholarly journals.

Partnerships in the field

The Lynch School’s network in Greater Boston provides you with many opportunities to obtain internships in settings that align with your interests and goals. Typical internship sites include research consulting firms, testing companies, government agencies, and education nonprofits—many of which employ our alumni.

Sam Racine, M.Ed. ’17

Graduate Research Assistant
Barbara and Patrick Roche Center for Catholic Education
Lynch School of Education

An undergraduate economics major at Boston College, Sam Racine graduated with a strong background in quantitative analysis—and a growing interest in psychology. He says he enrolled in the M.Ed. in Educational Research, Measurement, and Evaluation program “to pursue the best of both worlds.”

In the second semester of his two-year program, Racine interned at Maguire Associates, a higher education research consulting firm in Concord, Massachusetts. He also assisted Usha Tummala-Narra, an associate professor in the Lynch School’s Counseling, Developmental, and Educational Psychology department, on a study examining factors affecting the mental health of Asian American college students. Racine then became a graduate research assistant at the Barbara and Patrick Roche Center for Catholic Education at the Lynch School, creating questionnaires and analyzing data for the Emmaus Series for Catholic School Leaders, a professional development program for school principals and heads of schools.

The Educational Research, Measurement, and Evaluation program, he says, “is open to students’ exploring. There are so many ways to apply this degree.”
Career support

The Lynch School helps put you on a path to professional success. All our students enjoy the benefits of faculty mentoring, and many take advantage of regular departmental job postings as well as the school’s extensive connections in Boston and beyond.

The Boston College Career Center also offers a wealth of services, some specifically aimed at Lynch School students and alumni:

› One-on-one advising with a career counselor dedicated to the Lynch School
› The Education and Social Services Career Fair, which brings more than 60 employers to campus each year
› Alumni panels and alumni networking nights
› Career skills workshops on résumé and cover letter writing, interview techniques, and targeted job search strategies that meet your needs

Lifelong connections

Members of Boston College’s alumni network of more than 178,000 help students and graduates explore their fields and advance their careers, offering support through online communication, personal mentoring, and at educational and social events with Lynch School graduates.

www.bc.edu/isoealumni

Positions held by recent graduates

Director of Efficacy, Analytics, and Studies
Pearson Education
Boston, Massachusetts

Director of Professional Services
EduMetrics
Brookline, Massachusetts

Director of Quantitative Studies
Lawrence Hall of Science
University of California at Berkeley
Berkeley, California

President
Cumberland County College
Vineland, New Jersey

Project Manager
Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Research Assistant
Center for Education Policy Research
Harvard University
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Research Associate
Center for Program Design and Evaluation
Dartmouth College
Hanover, New Hampshire

Researcher
American Institutes for Research
Waltham, Massachusetts

Senior Administrator
in Student Learning Growth
Orange County Public Schools
Orlando, Florida

Senior Research Analyst
Ministry of Education
Singapore

Senior Research Associate
Education Development Center, Inc.
Waltham, Massachusetts

Transparency Specialist
Center for Sustainable Energy
San Diego, California
Financial aid

We award more than $7.5 million each year in financial aid, including:

› Scholarships
› Graduate assistantships
› Need-based awards
› Federal aid

www.bc.edu/lsoefunding

Admission

Applications are accepted for admission in the fall or spring semester. All undergraduate majors are welcome. The application deadlines, requirements, and process are outlined on our website.

www.bc.edu/lsoegrad