

Education Professions

The Amherst College Loeb Center for Career Exploration and Planning's **Careers In Education Professions** program supports and motivates students who are thinking of becoming teachers, special education teachers, administrators, or education policy makers. The program welcomes those who wish to re-imagine education and its contribution to society. The Education Professions program takes a multidisciplinary approach focusing on the history of education, teaching, school reform, education policy, and the sciences of human learning and development.

A sampling of where Amherst College graduates pursue careers in education include *Americorps*, *City Year*, *Match Education*, *Teach for America*, *Curriculum Associates*, and a range of *independent schools*, *education nonprofits*, and *education technology companies*.

MEET THE ADVISOR

"I am passionate about cultivating effective and caring educators and challenging learners to realize the value in exploring beyond their comfort levels. Before coming to Amherst, I created a leadership development program at the College of Charleston, developed a global teaching program at Washington College, and launched an innovative engineering course for NASA. As an educational psychologist, my research focuses on experiential learning and communities of practice. My ongoing work with the National Park Service prepares teachers and informal educators to incorporate place-based pedagogies and curricula within K-16 learning environments. If you wish to explore the diversity of education professions, make sense of a recent internship, or just unpack long-held or emergent interests in teaching or researching educational systems, I welcome you to schedule an advising appointment."

Robert Siudzinski, Program Director, Careers In Education Professions

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Loeb Center Careers In programs encourage you to develop a deep and sustained exploration of

a particular field. Some of the highest-impact ways to do that include:

ED PROS FELLOWSHIP

At the center of the of the Careers In Education Professions program is a selective and intensive fellowship for students with a demonstrated interest in education. Open to first years, sophomores, juniors, and seniors, the annual cohort is composed of 24 students from almost every major on campus.

Weekly seminar sessions provide a forum for the cohort to discuss core issues in education. Ed Pros seminar sessions are extended and enhanced through several monthly place-based learning opportunities.

TREKS

Treks provide opportunity for exploration off campus via site visits to public schools, early childhood development programs, museums and adult learning centers, and special education initiatives to meet educators, talk with leaders and advocates, and observe (and in some cases interact with) learners of varied background, abilities, and motivations.

INTERNSHIPS

Internships allow you to apply what you have learned in the classroom to the world of work. Internships are a great step to clarifying interests, skills, and career goals.

GET INVOLVED

Join an Amherst College student organization such as: A Better Chance Tutoring, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Splash! At Amherst College, WorldRead (Reader to Reader, Inc.), The EDU.

“Going into the D.C. education trek, I had a pretty clear idea of what it was I wanted to do. I do think that through having the chance to interact with alumni, as well as other students, my desire to continue on my path has increased. I’ve become much more excited about what lies ahead and realized the multiple facets involved in getting to understand the target populations I hope to work with.”

Priyanka Shetty ‘16, Psychology and English

“I’ve walked away from the experience with an inspired interest in education policy and economic development. My co-workers and staff members were some of the most passionate individuals with whom I have ever worked.”

Athri Ranganathan ‘16

RESOURCES AND NEXT STEPS

- **Handshake** (amherst.joinhandshake.com) is your one-stop shop for Loeb Center events, appointments, and resources, as well as a wide variety of internship and job opportunities. Complete your Handshake profile! The more complete your profile is, the more effective and customized the platform becomes.
- Make a Careers In appointment via Handshake to talk more in-depth about your own questions, and get advice. You can also visit the Loeb Center during drop-in hours. Drop-in hours require no appointment and each 20-minute appointment is taken on a first come, first served basis.
- Chat with a PCA. Peer Career Advisors (PCAs) are highly trained students who can relate to what it means to balance classes, time with friends, and planning steps to a career. PCAs can give you great resume advice and answer questions about Handshake, internships, interviewing, networking, self-assessment, and other Loeb Center resources.
- Read the Loeb Center weekly newsletter, Career Columns.
- Like Careers In Education Professions on Facebook: facebook.com/amhersteducates/

CAREERS IN

The Loeb Center provides all students with opportunities to dive deeply into specific career areas of interest.

Our Careers In programs provide:

- expert advising from industry specialists
- tailored exploratory programs and skills workshops
- insight into recruiting processes, internship and job search strategies, and interview preparation
- access to alumni in the field

You may participate in any Careers In program at any time as your interests develop, deepen, change, or multiply.

There are seven different Careers In programs:

- Arts and Communication
- Business and Finance
- Education Professions
- Government and Nonprofit
- Health Professions
- Law
- Science and Technology

The Loeb Center also offers general advising and exploration opportunities for students who are curious about a broad range of career options or who are just beginning to reflect on their interests, values, and skills.