

## What Can I Do with a Major in Inner City Studies

Inner City Studies examines the political, economic, social, and cultural foundations that impact communities in the United States and throughout the world. The program has established, as its primary function, the training of education and helping professionals who desire to work in schools and communities with disadvantaged populations. The program's curriculum follows a social change/social justice model, and NEIU students are typically interested in multiculturalism and pluralism. Because the program is organized within the College of Education, policy discussions around public school quality, funding, and administration are relevant topics. At the graduate level, cultural awareness of various ethnicities is emphasized. Other subjects that complement inner city studies are political economy, agriculture/food justice, race/racism, public health/health politics, and sex, gender & sexuality.

### Sample Job Titles (some jobs might require further training)

Alcohol/Drug Case Worker	Employment/Occupational Social Worker	Policy Advocate
After-school Program Manager	Field Officer, Human Rights Campaign	Peace Corps/Vista
Broadcast/Newspaper Reporter	Foreign Service Officer	Political Aide
Case Worker	Foster Care Worker	Private Investigator
Case Aid Worker	Government Advisor	Public Opinion Surveyor
Child Welfare Officer	Government/Politics Teacher	Recreation Coordinator
Congressional Aide	Grant Writer	Research Analyst/Consultant
Correctional Case Worker	Interviewer	Special Education Advocate
Community Organizer/Action Director	Intake Counselor	Social Worker
Compliance Analyst (school system)	Juvenile Justice Specialist	Social Services Administrator
Consumer Advocate	Juvenile Court Counselor	Social Welfare Examiner
Court Administrator	Legislative Coordinator	Substance Abuse Counselor
Cultural Affairs Director	Mayor's Office Legislative Aide	Tenant/Landlord Mediator
Cultural Resource Center Manager	Liaison for Worker (adjudicated) Re-entry	Teacher
Debt Counselor (non-profit)	Mental Health Worker	Union Organizer
Delinquency Counselor	Negotiator	US Customs Agent
Director, Non-Profit Agency	Pre-trial Services Officer	Victim Services Specialist
Discrimination Investigator	Public Health Education Specialist	Youth Case Manager/Advocate
Workforce Development Job Developer	Public Policy Analyst	University Extension Service Specialist
	Probation/Parole Officer	(Urban Gardening)

Jobs requiring additional education or experience

Attorney  
College/University Faculty  
School counselor  
Judge, Magistrate, Adjudicator  
Urban/Regional Planner

Related Major Skills

Leadership abilities  
Interact with diverse populations  
Team workers  
Knowledge of community resources  
Insight into group, political, and societal dynamics  
Work well under pressure  
Present specific viewpoints  
Compare and contrast evidence  
Measure media effects  
Work with deadlines  
Attention to details  
Research and planning (sociological)  
Knowledge of social structures and change  
Understand corporate and government organizational structures  
Ability to understand & improve human relationships  
Write press releases, scripts, or other promotional materials

Develop leadership skills in others  
Create powerful images with sight, sound, motion, and words. Speak publicly  
Knowledge in humanities, social science, and natural science  
Computer literate including spreadsheets, word processing, relational databases, etc.  
Influencing/persuasion skills  
Evaluate information and resources  
Planning and managing skills  
Work independently  
Data collection and analysis  
Unbiased decision-making  
Conflict resolution  
Writing grant proposals  
Maintaining records  
Conducting field studies  
Identifying value systems  
Utilizing statistical applications  
Plan events

International Organizations of Interest

UNESCO ([www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org))

UNESCO leads the global Education for All movement, aiming to meet the learning needs of all children, youth and adults by 2015.

UNICEF ([www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org))

UNICEF is the driving force that helps build a world where the rights of every child are realized. Programs and partnerships target equal access to schools, early childhood development, and school readiness.



### National Organizations of Interest

#### [Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development \(www.ascd.org\)](http://www.ascd.org)

ASCD addresses all aspects of effective teaching and learning—such as professional development, educational leadership, and capacity building--and offers broad, multiple perspectives in reporting key policies and practices. *Educational Leadership*, ASCD's monthly magazine, provides practical strategies for educators.

#### [Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund \(MALDEF\) \(www.maldef.org\)](http://www.maldef.org)

MALDEF is a leading nonprofit Latino litigation, advocacy and educational outreach institution in the United States.

#### [National Association for Bilingual Education \(www.nabe.org\)](http://www.nabe.org)

NABE represents both English language learners and bilingual education professionals. Along with our affiliate organizations in 23 states, they represent a combined membership of more than 20,000 bilingual and ESL teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, university professors and students, researchers, advocates, policymakers, and parents.

#### [National Alliance for Public Charter Schools \(www.publiccharters.org\)](http://www.publiccharters.org)

A leading national nonprofit organization committed to advancing the charter school movement. NAPCS' goal is to increase the number of high-quality charter schools available to all families, particularly in disadvantaged communities that lack access to quality public schools. The Alliance provides assistance to state charter school associations and resource centers, develops and advocates for improved public policies, and serves as the united voice for this large and diverse movement.

#### [National PTA \(Parent Teacher Association\) \(www.pta.org\)](http://www.pta.org)

National PTA is the largest volunteer child advocacy organization in the United States. A not-for-profit association of parents, educators, students, and other citizens active in their schools and communities, PTA is a leader in reminding our nation of its obligations to children.

#### [North Central Regional Education Laboratory \(NCREL\) \(www.ncrel.org\)](http://www.ncrel.org)

NCREL is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to helping schools--and the students they serve--reach their full potential. NCREL is one of ten Regional Educational Laboratories and provides research-based resources and assistance to educators, policy makers, and communities in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

#### [Rethinking Schools \(www.rethinkingschools.org\)](http://www.rethinkingschools.org)

Founded in 1986 by activist teachers, Rethinking Schools is a nonprofit, independent publisher of educational materials. They advocate the reform of elementary and secondary education, with a strong emphasis on issues of equity and social justice. They publish several resources related to testing, and print the Rethinking Schools Journal.

Internships (Nationally and Internationally)[After School Matters](http://www.afterschoolmatters.org) ([www.afterschoolmatters.org](http://www.afterschoolmatters.org))

After School Matters is a nonprofit organization that offers Chicago high school teens innovative out-of-school activities through its science37, sports37, tech37, words37 and nationally-recognized gallery37 programs.

[Boys and Girls Club of Chicago \(BGCC\)](http://www.bgcc.org) ([www.bgcc.org](http://www.bgcc.org))

BGCC provides a safe environment for young people to have fun and learn. Each club is supervised by caring and trained professionals who engage kids in more than 200 activities each year, which include sports and recreation, career exploration, healthy living and an appreciation for the arts.

[Cornerstone Foundation](http://www.cornerstonefoundationbelize.org) ([www.cornerstonefoundationbelize.org](http://www.cornerstonefoundationbelize.org))

A community development organization in Belize in Central America. The mission is to support women by offering vocational training, ESL, literacy, HIV/AIDS prevention, life skills training, and human rights education.

[Cultural Canvas Thailand](http://www.culturalcanvas.com) ([www.culturalcanvas.com](http://www.culturalcanvas.com))

An organization which generates awareness of current social issues in Thailand's second most populated city. Issue development on women's empowerment, Burmese refugee assistance, HIV/AIDS outreach and education, and assistance to sex workers.

[NEIU Office of Career Services College Central Network](http://www.collegecentral.com/neiu) ([www.collegecentral.com/neiu](http://www.collegecentral.com/neiu))

The job and internship listing site for NEIU's Office of Career Services.

[Watoto Wa Baraka International](http://www.watutowabaraka.org) ([www.watutowabaraka.org](http://www.watutowabaraka.org))

Located in Kenya, an organization focusing on school fee subsidy, youth sports, HIV/AIDS outreach, orphans, sustainable agriculture, and women's issues.

Volunteer opportunities (nationally and internationally)[100 Black Men of Chicago](http://www.100bmc.org/programs.htm) ([www.100bmc.org/programs.htm](http://www.100bmc.org/programs.htm))

A mentoring program for African-American men.

[The National Center for Fair and Open Testing](http://www.fairtest.org) (Fair Test) ([www.fairtest.org](http://www.fairtest.org))

Fair Test works to end the misuses and flaws of standardized testing and to ensure that evaluation of students, teachers and schools is fair, open, valid and educationally beneficial.

Employing Organizations (Nationally and Internationally)[Education Fast Track](http://www.educationfasttrack.org) ([www.educationfasttrack.org](http://www.educationfasttrack.org))

The Education for All - Fast-track Initiative (FTI) is a global partnership between donor and developing countries to ensure accelerated progress towards the Millennium Development



Goal of universal primary education by 2015. All low-income countries which demonstrate serious commitment to achieve universal primary completion can receive support from FTI.

[Heartland Alliance](http://www.heartlandalliance.org) ([www.heartlandalliance.org](http://www.heartlandalliance.org))

Heartland Alliance's work spans across four key areas, providing comprehensive programs that help those most threatened by poverty or danger improve their lives: housing, healthcare, economic security, and legal protections.

[WestEd](http://www.wested.org) ([www.wested.org](http://www.wested.org))

WestEd is a Joint Powers Agency, authorized by a California Joint Powers Agreement and governed by public entities in Arizona, California, Nevada, and Utah, with Board members representing agencies from these states and nationally. A nonprofit agency\* working at local, state, and federal levels, WestEd develops research-based programs, intervention strategies, and other resources, including publications and services.

[United Way of Metropolitan Chicago](http://jobs.uw-mc.org) (<http://jobs.uw-mc.org>)

United Way does what no single organization alone can do. They bring together leaders from government, corporations, human service providers and the community to develop innovative solutions to local issues, leveraging funding for a network of programs.

[Upward Bound](http://www2.ed.gov/programs/trioupbound/index.html) (<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/trioupbound/index.html>)

Provides fundamental support to participants in their preparation for college entrance. The program provides opportunities for participants to succeed in their precollege performance and ultimately in their higher education pursuits. Upward Bound serves: high school students from low-income families; and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree.

#### Organizations of Interest in Chicago-area

[Catalyst Chicago](http://www.catalyst-chicago.org) ([www.catalyst-chicago.org](http://www.catalyst-chicago.org))

An independent newsmagazine created in 1990 to document, analyze and support school-improvement efforts in the Chicago Public Schools. It is published by the Community Renewal Society (CRS), a nonprofit organization founded in 1882 that works to create racially and economically just communities.

[The Consortium for Chicago School Change](http://ccsr.uchicago.edu/content/index.php) (<http://ccsr.uchicago.edu/content/index.php>)

CCSR was created in 1990 after the passage of the Chicago School Reform Act that decentralized governance of the city's public schools. Researchers at the University of Chicago joined with researchers from the school district and other organizations to form CCSR with the imperative to study this landmark restructuring and its long-term effects. Since then CCSR has undertaken research on many of Chicago's school reform efforts, some of which have been embraced by other cities as well. Thus CCSR studies have also informed broader national movements in public education.

[Designs for Change \(www.designsforchange.org\)](http://www.designsforchange.org)

DFC seeks to improve the nation's 50 largest urban public school systems, beginning in Chicago. DFC applies world-class research and policy analysis to develop reforms which address the most difficult problems facing urban schools.

[Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights \(http://icirr.org\)](http://icirr.org)

An organization dedicated to promote the rights of immigrants and refugees to full and equal participation in the civic, cultural, social, and political life of America's diverse society. In partnership with member organizations, the Coalition educates and organizes immigrant and refugee communities to assert their rights; promotes citizenship and civic participation; monitors, analyzes, and advocates on immigrant-related issues; and, informs the general public about the contributions of immigrants and refugees.

[Leadership for a Quality Education \(http://www.uscharterschools.org/cs/r/view/uscs\\_sp/61\)](http://www.uscharterschools.org/cs/r/view/uscs_sp/61)

The LQE site provides information on four main school reform topics: accountability, charter schools, small schools, and principal training. They have posted a number of different charter school related documents, including a contact directory for Chicago charter schools and a resource guide for charter school developers.

[South Side United \(www.southsideunited.org\)](http://www.southsideunited.org)

SSU is a multiracial, non-profit organization formed in October, 2003. SSU consists primarily of active and former Local School Council members. Our mission is to organize and strengthen parent and community capacity to improve educational quality and student achievement in Chicago's South Side public schools.

**On-line Job Boards**

(NEIU's Office of Career Services Job Board: [www.collegecentral.com/neiu](http://www.collegecentral.com/neiu))

[www.cps.edu](http://www.cps.edu)

[www.lake.k12.il.us](http://www.lake.k12.il.us)

[www.dupage.k12.il.us/](http://www.dupage.k12.il.us/)

[www.applebatch.com](http://www.applebatch.com)

[www.educateamerica.net](http://www.educateamerica.net)

[www.tutorsteach.com](http://www.tutorsteach.com)

[www.tutornation.com](http://www.tutornation.com)

[www.youthmentoring.org](http://www.youthmentoring.org)

[www.mentoring.org](http://www.mentoring.org)

<http://workforcedev.jobamatic.com/a/jbb/fin>

[d-jobs](http://d-jobs)

[www.care.com](http://www.care.com)

[www.Idealist.org](http://www.Idealist.org)

[www.NPO.net](http://www.NPO.net)

[www.Skillsforcauses.com](http://www.Skillsforcauses.com)

[www.Devnetjobs.org](http://www.Devnetjobs.org)

[www.ngomanager.org/jobs](http://www.ngomanager.org/jobs)

[www.ethical-jobs.org](http://www.ethical-jobs.org)

[www.transitionsabroad.com](http://www.transitionsabroad.com)

[www.intjobs.org](http://www.intjobs.org)

<http://uk.oneworldjobs.net/jobs>

[www.tigweb.org](http://www.tigweb.org)

[www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov)

