This video will provide an overview of the Social and Cultural Analysis of Education structure and program requirements.

Obtaining this degree consists of 33 units, or 11 classes.

The structure of the program includes three central courses that all students take. SCAE 550 and 551 are the core program courses, which you will take together with your cohort. SCAE 550 - Foundations of Social and Cultural Analysis of Education – is always taken in the first fall semester. This course offers an understanding of the theories and constructs you will use throughout the program. It also provides professional development regarding studying at the graduate level. SCAE 551 - Critical Pedagogies – follows in the Spring semester. This class takes what you’ve learned in the foundations class and allows you to start applying it in real world situations. Additionally, all students take a capstone – SCAE 695, in the Fall semester of the final year in the program. This course provides you with the opportunity to define your own curriculum and further study the topics that interest you most.

Our program offers areas of emphasis in Urban and International contexts. You’re required to take 3 courses within your area of emphasis, and 1 course in the other area. So, for example, if you’re in urban contexts, you’ll take 3 urban courses and 1 international course.

There are 3 courses offered for urban contexts, and 3 courses for international contexts. An additional course, SCAE 564 – Language and Educational Policies, is considered to be both urban and international.

In addition to the SCAE courses already mentioned, you will complete two research methods courses. The first, EDP 400, is an introductory course to educational research. Then, you have a choice of taking either an advanced qualitative or quantitative research methods course.

The two additional classes that make up your degree plan are your electives, and the program is flexible with what classes you can take to meet this requirement. Graduate or upper-division undergraduate courses from across the university may be used. Keep in mind that you could choose to take additional SCAE classes as your electives. Also, students pursuing a thesis or a project can use the required thesis and project courses as their electives.

The SCAE program generally takes two to three years to complete, depending on whether you are a full time or a part time student. Full time students usually take 3 courses per semester, while part time students take 2. Here, we have a modified cohort
structure, where you take the core courses as a cohort during the first year, and then pursue your interests at your own pace after that.

Graduation requires that you pass your courses with a 3.0 GPA, and complete one of three culminating exit requirements. You can choose between the comprehensive exam, thesis or project. The comprehensive exam is usually offered over an extended weekend, and it’s a “take home” exam. If you opt to do a thesis or project, you’ll need to submit a proposal early on, so plan ahead.

[Elvin]
As you can tell, the SCAE curriculum is more flexible than most programs because you have a lot of choices in the classes you take. You’ll also see this reflected in our classes, and many times you’ll be able to choose what educational issues to explore, and which texts to read and discuss. Check out the full description of program requirements on the website and in our student handbook.