RESEARCH AND EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

The research and evaluation methodology (REM) program offers a way to combine substantive interests about education with advanced training in research methods. A central mission of the program is to give students the training they need to use sophisticated methods that shed light on policies, programs and practices that have been enacted to facilitate student learning and to mitigate educational inequality. You will learn not only how to apply a methodological approach, but to think deeply about when and why the approach is sensible given the real-world context that motivated the need for research. Learning how to do high quality research is just one piece of the puzzle. Communicating your findings with clarity is another. In REM, you will develop the ability to convey the results from complicated studies to a broad audience.

A spirit of critical inquiry is a defining feature of our community. When claims about education are made—by students or faculty—it is expected that those claims will be supported by an empirical warrant. Our faculty strive to foster an environment for students that is at once challenging and supportive. During our weekly “REM seminar,” you have the opportunity to interact with invited speakers, discuss timely research topics and studies, brainstorm ideas for publishable papers, and practice giving oral presentations. Close contact between students and faculty is the rule, not the exception. We teach courses and mentor students with the same commitment and dedication that is evident in our scholarly research. You can expect to experience on-going support as you embark on a path that begins with coursework, transitions to dissertation prospectus and defense, and culminates in a job that meshes with your career aspirations.

REM Students

The REM program is a place for intellectually curious and motivated students who want to learn about deep research methodology with an eye toward influencing education policy and practice. The most common methodological specializations are in (1) psychometrics and educational assessment and (2) applied statistics. The program is a full-time commitment, and all admitted students are supported with five years of funding, including tuition remission and a stipend for living expenses. You will participate in graduate research assistantships each semester and can expect to work with faculty on research projects as part of CADRE.

The Center for Assessment, Design, Research and Evaluation (CADRE)

All REM students can expect to be involved in CADRE research. The mission of CADRE is to produce generalizable knowledge that improves the ability to assess student learning and to evaluate programs and methods that may have an effect on this learning. CADRE projects represent a collaboration with the ongoing activities in the School of Education, the University, and the broader national and international community of scholars and stakeholders involved in educational assessment and evaluation. View examples of CADRE projects (http://www.colorado.edu/cadre/cadre-projects-and-resources).

Doctoral Degree

- Education • Research and Evaluation Methodology • Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate/colleges-schools/education/programs-study/research-evaluation-methodology/education-research-evaluation-methodology-doctor-philosophy-phd)