

Education Tripos: Guidance on further reading for prospective applicants

We are often asked about wider reading and super-curricular exploration for students intending to apply to read Education at Cambridge. This list will give you some ideas for reading around the subject, and each individual track, and help you start to think about some key debates.

This list is neither prescriptive nor exhaustive, and it is much better to find a few topics which particularly interest you and research them further, rather than attempting to skim read a large number of books and articles. You may find that particular chapters interest you and lead you to research further online.

Do not worry if you cannot obtain any of the books from the reading list – this is not essential. You may find it is equally useful to read online content and newspapers – further guidance on this is given below. The most important thing is to think critically about what you are reading.

We understand that you may not have access to libraries containing these titles, and we certainly do not expect prospective applicants to make expensive purchases. Many of the titles can be bought second-hand on websites such as Amazon. In some cases you may find that previous editions of titles are available extremely cheaply, and often these can still provide some useful reading.

Suggested texts for all tracks

The following books are suggested as an introduction to the study of Education. Feel free to pick and choose chapters from one or two of these:

Arthur, J., & Davies, I. (Eds.). (2010). *The Routledge education studies reader*. London: Routledge.

Bartlett, S., & Burton, D. (2010). *Introduction to education studies* (3rd ed.). Los Angeles: Sage.

Bartlett, S., & Burton, D. (2016). *Introduction to education studies* (4th ed.). Los Angeles: Sage.

Matheson, D. (Ed.). (2014). *An introduction to the study of education* (4th ed.). London: Routledge.

Ward, S. (Ed.). (2013). *A student's guide to education studies* (3rd ed.). Abingdon: Routledge.

Newspapers and online content

You may also want to keep up with current developments by reading the Times Educational Supplement (TES) newspaper, or the education sections of The Times, The Guardian or The Independent. The TES also has lots of online content here: www.tes.co.uk

There are also many other education based websites and blogs out there which may spark your interest in a particular topic. Reading something you disagree with is often very useful in helping you formulate your thoughts and ideas!

The Faculty of Education (@CamEdFac) and the Education Faculty Library (@edfacilib) also tweet regularly about education topics in the news.

Education, Psychology and Learning

Prospective applicants for this track might find it useful to look at the following document, available online here: <http://www.apa.org/ed/schools/teaching-learning/top-twenty-principles.pdf>

Top 20 Principles from Psychology for PreK – 12 Teaching and Learning: Coalition for Psychology in Schools and Education

Education, Policy and International Development

While there is no specific reading recommended prior to interview, prospective applicants for this track are encouraged to read about and explore issues that are of interest to them relating to Education, Policy and International Development.

Education, English, Drama and the Arts

Prospective applicants for this track might find the following useful:

Literary Contexts

Poplawski, P. (Ed.). (2008). *English literature in context*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

This is a useful resource text. You might like to browse this before your interview and select some literary texts to read – or simply consider how the works you have read in your present course might ‘fit’ in Poplawski’s contexts.

Poetry – for browsing

Ferguson, M. W., Salter, M. J., & Stallworthy, J. (Eds.). (2005). *The Norton anthology of poetry* (5th ed). New York: W.W. Norton.

Padel, R. (2004). *52 Ways of looking at a poem: or how reading modern poetry can change your life: a Poem for every week of the year*. London: Vintage.

We wish you the best of luck in preparing to make an application to read Education at Cambridge.