Educational preparation and Program mission

The program is a flexible, interdisciplinary, practice-based Doctor of Education program that is offered primarily through online delivery. The mission of the program is centered on developing leaders who use their skills to promote social justice, and societal and organizational change. Drawing on the Jesuit tradition of Creighton University, the program is built on a leadership model that encourages continual, critical self-reflection. With increasing self-knowledge, leaders are empowered to work mindfully toward a more just community, workplace, and world. The concept of leaders as stewards of an organization will be emphasized during each course using collaborative/active learning pedagogies and promoted through a practicum, research activities, and extensive interactions with leaders and professionals from business, health, and education. The collaborative learning community will be shaped by the Jesuit ideals of academic excellence, respect for human dignity, and a faith that does justice. The vision for the program graduates is that they will possess skills to lead and will have internalized values that will guide their efforts at personal and organizational change. The program is unique because of its interdisciplinary nature, based and founded in the Jesuit tradition, and offered online with extensive use of self and peer reflection using the techniques of journaling, personal professional development, and reflective practice reports. The program is advised by a committee of nationally prominent leaders.

Programs of study

General Requirements
The Ed.D. Program in Leadership consists of 60 semester hours and a required master’s or equivalent professional degree. All students complete the 21 hours of leadership core program, 15 hours of elective credits, 3 hours of practicum, and 15 hours of research and dissertation as well as 6 hours of seminar. Students will tailor the Practicum experience and Dissertation to focus on their particular professional/workplace interests.

Degree Requirements (60 credits)
Leadership Core Program (21 credits hours required leadership courses, 6 credit hours leadership seminar, 3 hours Interdisciplinary Practicum)

Core Courses (21 credit hours)
ILD 801  Leadership Styles and Reflective Practice  
ILD 802  Leadership and Applied Ethics  
ILD 803  Strategic Planning and Management  
ILD 804  Organizational Theory and Behavior  
ILD 805  Administrative and Policy Leadership Issues  
ILD 806  Change Theory and Practice  
ILD 807  Financial and Legal Leadership Issues

Leadership Seminars (6 hours—2 credit hours each)
ILD 808  Seminar 1: Program Orientation (on campus)  
ILD 809  Seminar 2: Mid-Program Reflection & Dissertation Design  
ILD 810  Seminar 3: Portfolio Review & Defense (on campus)

Interdisciplinary Practicum (3 credit hours)
ILD 811  Interdisciplinary Practicum

Electives (15 credit hours required)
ILD 850  Quantitative Research Design and Methods  
ILD 851  Qualitative Research Design and Methods  
ILD 852  Mixed Methods Research  
ILD 899  Dissertation Research (9 credit hours)

Program goals

- Leadership skills that are rooted in faith, justice, and ethics with a global perspective
- A continued interest and utilization of reflective practice as a means for professional and personal growth
- Understanding, integration and utility of organizational theory and leadership in practice
- Integration and utility of change theory in practice  
  Effective interpersonal and organizational communication
- Knowledge of and application of funding and budgeting processes as well as legal principles to organizations
- Utilization of technology as transformative agent in organizations
- Creativity in designing, developing, applying and assessing research ideas to improve practice
### Faculty

**Creighton University Faculty**

- **Barbara Brock, Ph.D.** (Professor of Education)
- **Isabelle Cherney, Ph.D.** (Professor of Psychology, Director of the Honors Program) - **Director of Ed.D. Program**
- **Brenda Coppard, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA** (Associate Dean and Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy)
- **Mary Ann Danielson, Ph.D.** (Associate Vice President for Academic Excellence and Assessment, Professor of Communication Studies)
- **C. Timothy Dickel, Ed.D., NCC** (Professor of Education)
- **Andrew Hoh, Ph.D.** (Associate Professor of Management)
- **Kathryn Huggett, Ph.D.** (Director of Medical Education Development and Assessment)
- **Sharon Ishii-Jordan, Ph.D.** (Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Education)
- **Gail Jensen, Ph.D., PT, FAPTA** (Dean, Graduate School and Associate Vice-President, Academic Affairs)
- **Bridget Keegan, Ph.D.** (Professor of English)
- **Keli Mu, Ph.D., OT** (Associate Professor and Chair of Occupational Therapy)
- **Kirk Peck, PT, Ph.D., CSCS** (Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy)
- **Richard Reed, Ed.D., RN.** (Associate Professor of Nursing)
- **Anne Schoening, Ph.D., RN, CNE** (Assistant Professor of Nursing)
- **Deborah Wells, Ph.D.** (Associate Dean of Graduate Business Programs, Associate Professor of Management)

**Special Faculty**

- **Peggy Hawkins, Ph.D. RN BC CNE** (former Program Director: Doctorate in Education and Associate Dean for Health Professions, College of Saint Mary)
- **James Ihrig, Ed.D.** (University of Nebraska—Lincoln, Department of Educational Administration)
- **Ron Joekel, Ed.D.** (Professor Emeritus, Educational Administration—University of Nebraska, Lincoln)
- **Al Seagren, Ed.D.** (Director, Center of the Study of Higher and Post-Secondary Education, University of Nebraska)
- **Daniel Wheeler, Ph.D.** (Professor Emeritus of Leadership Studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

### Admission requirements

Applicants must have a master’s or equivalent professional degree from an accredited institution and submit the following documents:

1. Completed application form and application fee
2. Current resume, including leadership experience and personal statement of goals related to leadership
3. Official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended (no photocopies are accepted)
4. Three recommendations by persons familiar with the applicant’s academic background, leadership potential, achievements, and personal qualities
5. A minimum TOEFL score of 550 (paper-based) or 80 (internet based) for students from countries in which English is not the native language.
6. Creighton University reserves the right to request GRE scores or a personal interview.
7. Three samples of the applicant’s writing and/or research

### Who should apply?

The program is a generalist leadership program for individuals holding mid-level leadership positions to prepare for an executive leadership position.

- **Education**: Principal, Superintendent, Chair, Director, Head of non-profit organizations, Dean, Vice President
- **Business**: Director of Human Resources, Director of Training and Development, Program Manager
- **Health Professions**: Director of Clinical Education or Clinical Residency Program, Program Director, Associate Dean or Dean, Chair, Vice President
- **Non-Profit Organizations**: Director, Vice-President, President of Non Governmental Organizations

### For more information

Creighton University Ed.D. Program • Brandeis Building
2500 California Plaza • Omaha, NE 68178

Program Director: Dr. Isabelle Cherney • 402-280-1228 • Email: cherneyi@creighton.edu