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)
Faculty

Creighton University Faculty

Barbara Brock, Ph.D. (Professor of Education)
Isabelle Cherney, Ph.D. (Associate Dean of the Graduate School, Professor of Psychology) - Director of Ed.D. Program
Brenda Coppard, Ph.D., OTR/L, FAOTA (Associate Dean and Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy)
Sue Crawford, Ph.D. (Professor of Political Sciences)
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)
Peggy Hawkins, Ph.D. RN BC CNE (Professor of Nursing)
Kathryn Huggett, Ph.D. (Director of Medical Education Development and Assessment)
Sharon Ishii-Jordan, Ph.D. (Associate Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, 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)
William Raynovich, Ed.D. (Director, Emergency Medical Services Education)
Richard Reed, Ed.D., RN (Associate Professor of Nursing)
Linda Scheirton, Ph.D. (Associate Professor, Occupational Therapy)
Anne Schoening, Ph.D., RN, CNE (Assistant Professor of Nursing)
John Wingender, Ph.D. (Economics and Finance Chair, Professor of Finance)
Deborah Wells, Ph.D. (Associate Dean of Graduate Business Programs, Associate Professor of Management)
Wayne Young, Jr., Ph.D. (Associate Vice President of Student Services)
Special Faculty
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)

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. Two 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, 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

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