The interdisciplinary minor in Leadership and Civic Engagement (LCE) is designed for any student whose objective is to practice leadership on our campus and in the community. It complements any major, offering the opportunity to promote positive social change. As you practice leadership on campus and in the community, you’ll gain the skills to succeed in a variety of careers and professions, and you’ll distinguish yourself from others on campus and in the marketplace upon graduation.

The LCE curriculum focuses on communication, service, diversity, ethics, group dynamics, leadership theory, policy, and decision making. The LCE faculty are highly respected for their interdisciplinary skills and expertise in leadership, community organizing, and civic engagement.

Curriculum overview

Students minoring in Leadership and Civic Engagement are required to take two core courses:

- LCE 200 - Introduction to Leadership and Civic Engagement
- LCE 400 - Leadership and Civic Engagement Practicum

An additional 15 credits are required, with students taking one course from each of the following categories:

- Communications
- Ethics
- Group/Organization Dynamics
- Diversity/Multiculturalism
- Policy and Decision Making

Course offerings vary by semester and can include topics like:

- SOA 336 - Gender, Policy, and Social Justice
- PSC 306 Civil Rights
- PSC 323 - Civil Liberties
- WGS 339 - Women and Public Policy
- MGT 320 - International Management
- BLS 310 - Social Movements
- PSY 204 - Social Psychology
- PHL 215 - Introduction to Ethics

Skills Developed

Through theory and practice, you’ll learn how to:

- communicate effectively through writing and public speaking
- solve problems
- apply leadership skills in a variety of contexts
- understand and enact social change
- work in teams
- apply leadership concepts to real-world settings

Top Jobs

- Business Managers (average salary $63,072)
- Community Organizers (average salary $40,594)
- Non-Profit Executive Directors (average salary $49,386)
- State Representatives (average salary $45,923)
- Government Affairs Directors (average salary $98,599)
- Non-Profit Program Coordinators (average salary $44,374)
- Mayors (average salary $56,622)

The CEO Institute states: “All successful organizations and businesses need effective leaders. The leadership of effective and well-trained leaders is paramount to providing an agreed upon goal for the company’s success. Leaders are invaluable when it comes to formulating and communicating new strategic directions, as well as communicating with and motivating employees to increase dedication to organizational goals. Ongoing leadership skills training is essential to making sure that leaders are on the right track”.

A minor in Leadership and Civic Engagement is an excellent complement to many majors including Political Science, Business, Health and Society, Economics, History, Sociology and Crime & Justice Studies - and develops skills that will enable you to become a strong leader in your academic studies as well as your career pursuits.

More Info

- Honors College
- Study Abroad
- Internships in civic engagement and the social sector in Boston through The College of Social Innovation
- Volunteer opportunities through the Leduc Center for Civic Engagement
- Undergraduate research

Contact info: https://www.umassd.edu/programs/leadership-civic-engagement/