COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP - PREPARING LEADERS TO GENERATE SOCIAL CHANGE

UMBC’s Community Leadership program provides aspiring and practicing leaders with the skills and experience needed to generate transformative social change.

Community Leadership coursework draws from a wide range of disciplines—including Entrepreneurship, Public Policy, and Sociology—to give students a thorough understanding of the social, political, and economic contexts in which community leaders do their work.

The structure of the program helps students integrate into communities and organizations through deeply immersive experiential learning opportunities. Students will identify and examine key issues facing a specific community-oriented organization and develop and deliver a research-based intellectual product that both enhances the student’s professional development and broadens the capacity of the partner organization.

WHEN YOU CHOOSE THIS GRADUATE PROGRAM, YOU CAN COUNT ON:

- Applied learning and an interdisciplinary capstone course that is the culminating experience in the theory and practice of collaborative leadership, community-centered social capital development, and culturally-inclusive problem solving.
- Instructors who have deep practical experience and a passion for community leadership.
- Flexible evening class schedule that accommodates working professionals.

WHY UMBC?

- UMBC is classified by the Carnegie Foundation as a Research University (High Research Activity).
- UMBC has a deep and long-held commitment to building community partnerships and tackling issues of social justice with rigor, curiosity, and creativity.
- Classes are conveniently offered in the evening on UMBC’s main campus, located just five minutes from BWI Airport, with easy access to I-95 and the 695 Beltway, or at the Lions Brothers Building in Baltimore.
- Campus is located just outside of Baltimore, a city with a long legacy of grassroots social change, providing the ideal place for students to engage with community-oriented organizations and develop strong leadership skills.
- Ranked in the top five on U.S. News & World Report’s 2017 closely-watched Most Innovative Schools list and has recognized UMBC as a global leader in higher education.

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Master’s of Professional Studies (M.P.S.):
Community Leadership
30 Credits (9 courses)

REQUIRED CORE COURSES
18 CREDITS
- CLDR 601*: Introduction to Community Leadership: Models, Communication, and Contexts (3)
- SOCY 600* or PUBL 600*: Research Methodology (3)
- CLDR 602: Legal and Ethical Issues in Community Leadership (3)
- CLDR 603*: Capstone Project (6)
- SOCY 606*: Social Inequality & Social Policy (3)

* Indicates courses needed for Community Leadership Certificate.

PATHWAY COURSES
12 CREDITS
As students enter the program, they will determine a pathway with an additional 12 credits of electives. Working with the Program Director students identify an appropriate grouping of four electives, which could include the pathways in Urban Studies, Nonprofits, Social Entrepreneurship, or a unique pathway that you design with the Director.

URBAN STUDIES
- PUBL 644: Urban Theory
- PUBL 645: The U.S. City
- PUBL 646: The Global City
- Elective Approved by Program Director

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP
- ENTR 608: Design Thinking
- ENTR 610: Intrapreneurship
- ENTR 611: Project Management Approaches
- ENTR 612: Creative Problem Solving & Social Entrepreneurship

NON-PROFITS / PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS
- PUBL 613: Managing Public Organizations
- SOCY 681: The Social and Institutional Roles of Nonprofits
- SOCY 685: Structure and Function of Nonprofit Organizations
- Elective Approved by Program Director

YOUR PATHWAY
Design your own pathway with the focus of your current or anticipated community work and what you need to study. You will develop a plan for this individual pathway with the Director.

Please consult leader.umbc.edu for typical schedule.