Leadership Studies

An interdisciplinary program governed by experts…

To reflect the many facets and perspectives of leadership, courses are offered by a wide spectrum of departments, including psychology, political science, business administration, communications, human service studies, philosophy, history, business administration, and others.

The Leadership Studies Advisory Board was created in 2010 to oversee the academic program. This board is comprised of experts from academics, career services, and student life; all who share a common goal of creating the most well-rounded Leadership educational experience.

…To infuse leadership in all majors

A core message of Leadership Studies at Elon is that leadership is applicable to and necessary in every field. Recent graduating minors represent the entire gamut of majors, including business, communications, social sciences, life sciences and humanities.

Recent and current minors include academic Fellows from Elon’s various schools, as well as multiple Lumen Prize winners, members of Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Honor Society for Leadership.

Recent graduates have entered a variety of careers ranging from graduate training in Ph.D. and law programs to launching entrepreneurial start-ups to working for international business consulting firms.

Recent scholarly work on leadership

A key to the program is to be an active presence in the field of leadership research. During the past year, faculty and students published or presented on topics such as student perceptions and prioritization of leadership attributes; the impact of Elon experiences on student growth outcomes; examination of competencies of new leader-lawyers; and creation of a competency model for entry-level professionals.

Invited speaker series

Leadership experts from other institutions are also brought to campus to present to and meet with students. Recent speakers in 2011-12 include:

- Dr. Marcus Dickson, from Wayne State University, came to discuss his research on Project GLOBE, the largest ever cross-cultural research program in the world.
- Dr. Robert Sinclair, from Clemson University, came to discuss the role leaders can play in ensuring the health and well-being of employees.

New courses and internship opportunities

In addition to mentored research experiences, students may now earn ELR and academic credit towards the minor via leadership-themed internships. Internships are customized to students’ interests, range from teaching and research assistantships to developing start-up companies.

Most notably, since 2010 students have had opportunities to intern at one of the premier leadership consulting firms in the world, the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, N.C.

New courses are continually devised to explore leadership from various perspectives as well as provide experiential learning. Recent elective additions to the minor include Leadership & Organizational Development, Community Empowerment, and Philosophy of Leadership.

For more information, visit our website at elon.edu/e-web/academics/elon_college/leadership/.