Transfer Guide Leading to a Bachelor’s Degree in Community Leadership and Civic Engagement

All degree requirements are subject to the provisions and notices in the NIU Undergraduate Catalog. Information is valid through August 2016.

CLCE majors choose if they want to pursue a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree.

How to Choose Between a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) and Bachelor of Science (B.S.)

Choose a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) if: you have an interest in serving a foreign language population and feel comfortable completing a 2-4 semester sequence of a foreign language.

Choose a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) if: you are strong in math and feel comfortable completing a sequence of math and computer science or laboratory sciences.

Courses Highly Recommended Prior to Transfer:
In addition to the Foundational Studies requirements, and the PLUS general education courses, the following are general education requirements that satisfy CLCE requirements:

- ANTH 220 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology
  or ECON 160 Contemporary Economic Issues
  or HIST 171 World History II: Problems in the Human Past
  or PHIL 231 Contemporary Moral Issues
  or POLS 260 Introduction to Comparative Politics
  or SOCI 170 Introduction to Sociology
  or SOCI 270 Social Problems
- POLS 100 American Government and Politics

Courses to be taken at NIU:

- ANTH 329 Anthropology and Contemporary World Problems
- CLCE 100 Community Leadership and Civic Engagement
- CLCE 302 Intro to Research in NGOs and Communities
- CLCE 350 Community Organizations in a Digital World
  or CLCE 390 Special Topics in Community Leadership and Civic Engagement
- CLCE 410 Nonprofits and Community Engagement
- CLCE 429 International NGOs and Globalization
  or ANTH 429X International NGOs and Globalization
  or SOCI 329X International NGOs and Globalization
- CLCE 495 Capstone Seminar in Community Leadership and Civic Engagement
- PSPA 301 Philanthropy and Volunteerism
- PSPA 326X Nonprofit Management
  or POLS 326X Nonprofit Management
- PSPA 402 Resource Strategies for Nonprofit Organizations
  or MGMT 402X Resource Strategies for Nonprofit Organizations
- SOCI 392 Organizing for Social Action

Students must also take an additional five (5) courses within their chosen emphasis area.
About the Department
The Center for Non-Governmental Organization Leadership and Development (NGOLD) at NIU provides undergraduate students with the opportunity to earn a B.A. or a B.S. degree, a minor, or a certificate in Community Leadership and Civic Engagement (CLCE). CLCE is a program created for students who want to make a difference in the world by working for nonprofit organizations or in the fields of philanthropy, public service or community engagement, but want a paying career as well. Students can choose from three academic options:

- **CLCE Major** – 18 credit hours in core courses plus 36 credit hours in interdisciplinary courses toward a B.A. or B.S. degree. You can select an area of emphasis in Advocacy, Arts and Humanities, Enterprise, Environmental, or Global
- **CLCE Minor** – 18 credit hours as an addition to any major
- **Undergraduate Certificate** – 12 credit hours as an addition to any major

Faculty:
NGOLD is fortunate to offer exciting, hands-on classes taught by world-class professors who truly care about connecting your talents with course material. In keeping with the interdisciplinary nature of the CLCE program, some CLCE faculty have joint appointments with other academic disciplines. All of our permanent faculty have earned doctorates, and our instructors all have master’s degrees.

Engaged Learning Opportunities:
In CLCE, we take care to blend the hands-on “how-to” with the “why” – it is important for our students to understand the theory and research behind the actions. CLCE students collaborate with others from class to work in a professional capacity with nonprofit organizations in the community. These projects can be added to your resume as part of your professional work experience. Examples of previous engagement projects include:
- Helping developing a tenant’s association at a local housing complex
- Organizing fundraising events for an after-school tutoring program
- Working with a nonprofit Board of Directors to give a student point-of-view
- Creating social media and marketing plans to promote nonprofit programs

We offer exciting opportunities that tie the classroom to the real world, including study abroad programs, internships, and independent study projects. Additionally, students have the opportunity to participate in undergraduate research programs which help contribute to the nonprofit field of study.

Student Organizations:
The CLCE Student Association provides a place for students to engage with like-minded individuals and the broader community. The CLCE Student Association seeks to allow students to have fun, engage in service together, and assist and advise NGOLD when called upon. Additionally, many different NIU student organizations have service-oriented missions and are open to all NIU students.

Career Information:
The nonprofit sector is one of the fastest growing job sectors in the United States and offers a wide variety of career opportunities. CLCE courses prepare students to work in the nonprofit field, or in the public or private sectors, in jobs connected to the nonprofit arena. While many jobs in the nonprofit sector are identical to those in other sectors (accounting, marketing) others are unique to the sector such as grant writing or donor development.

For More Information
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