Transfer Guide Leading to a Bachelor’s Degree in Nonprofit & NGO Studies

All degree requirements are subject to the provisions and notices in the NIU Undergraduate Catalog. Information is valid through August 2018.

About the Department
The Center for Nonprofit & NGO Studies at NIU provides undergraduate students with the opportunity to earn a B.A. or a B.S. degree, a minor, or a certificate in Nonprofit & NGO Studies (NNGO). Nonprofit & NGO Studies 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 program options:

- **Nonprofit & NGO Studies Major** -- 18 credit hours in core courses plus 18 hours of interdisciplinary requirements. You then select 15 credit hours of electives, providing the opportunity to pursue your own interests and passions in the worlds in which nonprofits and NGOs operate
- **Nonprofit & NGO Studies Minor** -- 18 credit hours as an addition to any major
- **Undergraduate Certificate** -- 12 credit hours as an addition to any major

Faculty
The Center for Nonprofit & NGO Studies 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 program, some Nonprofit & NGO Studies 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 Nonprofit & NGO Studies 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 we take. Nonprofit & NGO Studies 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 develop a Tenant’s Union at a local housing project
- Organizing fundraising events for an after-school tutoring program
- Working with a nonprofit Board of Directors to give a student point-of-view

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 Nonprofit & NGO Studies Student Association provides a place for NNGO majors, minors, certificate students, or any student with a shared interest to engage with like-minded individuals. The NNGO Student Association seeks to allow students to have fun, engage in service and professional
development, and assist and advise the Center 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** with a wide variety of salary levels. Coursework in NNGO prepares 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.

**Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science?**
Students who decide to major in CLCE will need to decide if they want to pursue a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree. Students who have previously studied a foreign language or have an interest in serving a foreign language population might pursue a B.A. degree, while students who have strengths in math or computer science usually pursue a B.S. degree.

**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 (3)*
  - or ECON 160: Contemporary Economic Issues (3)
  - or HIST 171: World History II: Problems in the Human Past (3)
  - or PHIL 231: Contemporary Moral Issues (3)
  - or POLS 260: Introduction to Comparative Politics (3)
  - or SOCI 170: Introduction to Sociology (3) *(often recommended for upper level SOCI requirement)*
  - or SOCI 270: Social Problems (3)
- POLS 100: American Government and Politics (3)

Courses to be taken at NIU:

- NNGO 100 – Community Leadership and Civic Engagement
- NNGO 302 – Intro to Research in NGOs and Communities
- NNGO 350 – Community Organizations in a Digital World
  - or NNGO 390 – Special Topics in Nonprofit & NGO Studies
- NNGO 410 – Nonprofits and Community Engagement
- NNGO 429 – International NGOs and Globalization
  - or ANTH 429X – International NGOs and Globalization
  - or SOCI 329x – International NGOs and Globalization
- NNGO 495 – Capstone Seminar in Nonprofit & NGO Studies (3)
- ANTH 329 – Anthropology & Contemporary World Problems (3)
- PSPA 301 – Philanthropy and Fundraising (3)
- PSPA 326x – Nonprofit Management (3)
  - or POLS 326x – Nonprofit Management (3)
- SOCI 379 – Collective Behavior & Social Movements (3)

Students must also take an additional five (5) elective courses to be chosen with their advisor.
For More Information

Wanting more information on appropriate courses to take at your community college? Your community college advisor can help you using the NIU Articulation Tables, which identify comparable courses at your community college and NIU.

For more information on the Community Leadership and Civic Engagement program at NIU, visit www.niu.edu/nonprofit or find us at:

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For a current NIU Undergraduate Catalog and application materials, contact:

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DeKalb, IL 60115-2857
800.892.3050 (toll-free in Illinois) or 815.753.0446
www.niu.edu/admissions