

UC 12341 13F

APPROVED OCT 30 2013

Proposal for Minor in Leadership Studies
The Honors College at the University of Houston

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Description of the Minor in Leadership Studies

The proposed Minor in Leadership Studies would be an interdisciplinary and experiential program open to baccalaureate students in all majors and degree programs. The foundation of the proposed Minor in Leadership Studies is four leadership core courses, coupled with four elective courses organized into themes: Individual Leadership, Group/Organizational Leadership, Global Leadership, and Field Experience, for a total of 17 credit hours.

The proposed Minor in Leadership Studies seeks to promote college student leadership development by educating undergraduate students for and about leadership in a complex world. The goal of the minor is to prepare students to serve effectively in formal and informal leadership roles in campus, local, national, and global contexts. Faculty, staff, and students in the minor are dedicated to advancing the field of leadership studies by building upon and critically evaluating existing theoretical, research-based, and practical knowledge.

Core courses in the minor are sequenced to meet increasingly complex sets of learning outcomes across cognitive, personal development, group/organizational domains, and global dimensions. Students in the minor are exposed to diverse theories and perspectives on leadership and are encouraged to apply analytical skills to develop their own working philosophy of leadership that will serve them in organizational and career contexts. Civic engagement and multicultural competence are viewed as necessary requirements for leadership.

Leadership Studies as a field of study

Though the study of leadership can be dated back to Plato, Sun Tzu, and Machiavelli, nationally, leadership studies as a field of study has only been a focus of academic studies for the past 70 years. From the development of the first interdisciplinary program in leadership research at the Ohio State University in 1945 to the first minor program in leadership studies at University of Richmond in 1994, there has been a burgeoning of academic leadership programs so that more than 100 such programs exist today. Many of the University of Houston's peer institutions offer such programs.

A partial list of other institutions that offer an undergraduate leadership minor include:

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|---------------------------------|--|
| California State University | University of California at Davis |
| East Tennessee State University | University of Central Florida |
| Indiana University | University of Colorado at Boulder |
| Kansas State University | University of Denver |
| Kansas University | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign |
| Marietta College | University of Kansas |
| Marquette University | University of Maryland |
| Ohio State University | University of Minnesota |
| Pennsylvania State University | University of Missouri |
| Texas A&M University | University of Nebraska, Lincoln |
| Texas State University | |

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University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of North Texas
University of Richmond
University of South Dakota
University of South Florida
University of Southern California

University of Texas, Austin
University of Texas, Arlington
Virginia Military Institute
Washburn University
Washington State University

Need for Minor in Leadership Studies

Higher education can be a catalyst for engaged citizenship and leadership in service to others and to the development of the United States. There has also been an increased recognition of the importance of “everyday leadership” which promotes a wider view of leadership than does the traditional approach of considering leadership from a purely positional frame of reference. The proposed Leadership Studies Minor will allow students from any major to study leaders and leadership in a variety of contexts.

There is currently no formal academic program in Leadership Studies open to undergraduate students from all majors. The Minor in Leadership Studies will provide complementary leadership development opportunities that would include student organization leadership, leadership skills training programs, and community leadership experiences. The minor, therefore, will be an important part of the university’s effort to provide exposure to leadership for undergraduate students.

Academic Requirements

Required Courses (4 hours):

HON 3330	Leadership Theory and Practice	3 hours
HON 4100	Honors Portfolio	1 hour

One Course in each of the following areas (12 hours):

Leadership as an Individual	3 hours
Leadership within Groups/Organizations	3 hours
Leadership within a Global Context	3 hours
Field Experience (Internship, Service Learning, Travel Trip, or Thesis)	3 hours

Total Program Requirements **16 hours**

Eligibility and Application Process

In order to apply for the Minor in Leadership Studies, students must have:

1. Completed at least 30 credit hours prior to application to the program.
2. Be in good academic standing.
3. Completed HON 3330 with a C or better.
4. Met application deadlines: Applications will be accepted beginning on

October 1 and March 1 for admission in the subsequent semester. The first 30 qualified applicants will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis each semester.

5. Been admitted into the Minor prior to the completion of the final 9 credits of Minor course work.

Course Descriptions

Required Courses (4 hours)

- **HON 3330: Leadership Theory and Practice** Cr.3. (3-0). Prerequisite: **ENGL 1303** or equivalent. This course will provide learners with a review of major leadership theories designed to incorporate research findings, practice, skill-building, and direct application to real world scenarios. Beyond leadership theories, the course will cover a variety of topics impacting today's student, public and private-sector leaders as a foundation for learning including power and ethics, diversity, teamwork, leadership development, politics, coaching and mentoring, motivation, creativity, conflict, and communication.
- **HON 4100: Honors Portfolio** Cr.1. (1-0). Prerequisite: senior standing. The goal of this course is to assist with the completion of the honors portfolio, which examines enrichment experiences and demonstrates preparedness for the student's future vocation, employment, and/or graduate studies. The assessment, reflection, and revision of the student's cumulative body of work will highlight their talents, goals, and education.

Approved Courses (12 hours)

Courses listed below are approved courses for the Leadership Studies Minor. Academic petitions for approval of coursework that can be applied to the Minor, not listed below, will be made to the director of the Leadership Studies Minor and the dean of the Honors College.

Leadership as an Individual

- **COMM 1331: Fundamentals of Public Speaking** Cr. 3. (3-0). Beginning theory and practice of informative and persuasive communication.
- **COMM 1333: Interpersonal Communication** Cr. 3. (3-0). Theories and research relating to the initiation, growth, and deterioration of interpersonal relationships in contemporary society.
- **HON 4397: Policy Debate and Persuasive Speech** Cr. 3. (3-0) Theories and practice of argumentation, debate and persuasion, as well as the art of public speaking.
- **PHIL 3350: Ethics** Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: three semester hours in philosophy or consent of instructor. Selected problems in moral philosophy.
- **PHIL 3351: Contemporary Moral Issues** Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: 3 semester hours in philosophy or consent of instructor. Philosophical analysis of contemporary issues such as abortion, affirmative action, the treatment of animals,

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capital punishment, euthanasia, and famine relief.

- **SOC 2310: Social Problems** Cr. 3. (3-0). Analysis of major social problems including crime, drug abuse, inequality, racism, and unemployment, among others. Examination of proposed solutions and potential consequences for policy.

Leadership within Group/Organizations

- **COMM 3332: Effective Meeting Management** Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: junior standing or consent of instructor. Procedures for planning and conducting meetings, including large conventions, board meetings, and informal committees.
- **COMM 3358: Leadership Communication & Organizations** Cr. 3. (3-0). Leadership communication in organizational contexts. Theories and types of leadership, power, influence, diversity, ethics, leadership development, and related communication behaviors and activities.
- **POLS 3388: Political Leadership** Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: **POLS 1336** and **1337**. Theories of leadership: political, social, presidential, international, moral, and ethical. Case studies of leadership success and failure.
- **SOC 3342: Sociology of Work** Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: three semester hours of sociology or consent of instructor. Modern industrialism as social behavior; work groups as social systems; assumption and values with regard to the meaning and place of work in American society.


Leadership with a Global Context

- **HON 3397: Argument, Advocacy, and Activism** Cr. 3. (3-0). Study of the practice of advocacy and activism in a diversity of contexts.
- **POLS 3365: Public Opinion** Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: **POLS 1337** or equivalent, or consent of instructor. The analysis of the kinds and distributions of opinions and attitudes in mass public and the effects of those opinions on activities of policy makers.
- **POLS 3380: The Policy Making Process** Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: **POLS 1336** and **1337** or equivalent, or consent of instructor. Agenda setting, legislative approval, implementation, and program evaluation, with an emphasis on specific policy areas.
- **POLS 4315: Political Information and Communications** Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisites: **POLS 1336** and **1337** or equivalents, or consent of instructor. Examines transmission and reception of political messages, exploring the way political messages have been communicated through the media, and examines how audiences receive and interpret political information.
- **SOC 3365: Sociology of Education** Cr. 3. (3-0). Prerequisite: **SOC 1300**. Issues confronting American education, including desegregation, student achievement, teacher morale, student dropout behaviors, and teacher turnover.

Please submit academic petitions for approval of coursework to the Honors College
212 M.D. Anderson Library, 212B

Contact: Brenda Rhoden, Leadership Studies, Director
brhoden@uh.edu or 713-743-9025

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William F. Monroe, Ph.D
Honors College, Dean