

LEADERSHIP, COMPASSION, AND CREATIVITY CERTIFICATE



"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more,
do more and become more, you are a leader"
-John Adams, sixth President of the United States.



WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY



Division of Student Affairs





Mission

The Leadership, Compassion, & Creativity Certificate's (LCCC) mission is to expand opportunities and support student learning, research, and intellectual discourse. By exploring the values of leadership, compassion, & creativity across all Student Affairs disciplines and with people of all communities, our LCCC students will be able to learn more about how they as students can practice effective leadership in their current roles, civic life, and future careers.

Purpose

- Establish a community of learners working together not only to better themselves, but also one another
- Encourage leadership as a process through which people work together to create a positive impact
- Gain the skills to serve others in this community and the global world, specifically increasing student's civic engagement
- Expose students to resources available for them to engage fully in co-curricular activities
- Motivate students to engage fully in their college community by exploring all available opportunities for learning
- Help students recognize that they are responsible for their own development as leaders
- Engage students in an exploration of practical skills necessary for successful transition through college, and into the working world
- Create a strong foundation upon which to build students' co-curricular academic record and launch their vocational exploration



Benefits

There are many benefits for students who complete the LCCC certificate as shared below.

- Students will receive an **official University Leadership Certificate**, signed by the Vice President of Student Affairs, upon completion.
- **Recognition** at graduation by means of a medal.
- **Enhance personal and professional goals** and objectives.
- Opportunity to select programs that are **fitted to students** personal and professional objectives.
- Increased understanding of **self-awareness**.
- **Establish relationships** with students, staff, faculty, and the local community.
- **Preparation for life after college** through learning opportunities and service projects.
- Opportunity to **develop professional references** and learn the skills necessary to perform tasks in a variety of professions.
- **Competitive edge** for graduate schools and prospective employers.
- Ability to identify **transferable skills** not necessarily acquired through classroom experiences.



Career Readiness Competencies

Master these WCSU Career Readiness Competencies to prepare for a successful transition into the workplace.

More information on how to master these skills can be found at www.wcsu.edu/careersuccess/competencies



DREAM MORE

through CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT



Program Description

The goal of this program is to encourage students to attend, and where possible, participate, in special university programs and events as well as attend club/organizations meetings. Students will be exposed to various campus events and gain a better understanding of campus culture. By attending meetings of clubs/organizations on campus, students will be better equipped to make decisions about their personal interests in involvement in the campus community.

Program Requirement #1

Choose one of the following organizations and participate in their meetings requirements:

- Student Government Association
- Program Activities Council
- Fraternity and Sorority Life
- Inter-Residence Hall Council
- Hall Council
- Other Clubs and Organizations (Per the approval of the Program Director)

Career Readiness Competencies

The required meeting attendance of an organization satisfies the following Career Readiness Competencies: Critical Thinking / Professionalism / Teamwork / Communication / Leadership / Technology / Diversity, Equity and Inclusion / Adaptability



DREAM MORE

through CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT



Program Requirement #2

Must attend 20 events sponsored by the following programs/organizations:

- Residence Hall Programs
- Student Government Association
- Inter-Residence Hall Association
- University Forums
- Hall Councils
- Becoming and Engaged Student Leader
- Western Cultural Connection Series
- Approved Clubs and Organizations

Career Readiness Competencies

The required attendance of 20 campus events satisfies the following Career Readiness Competencies:
Communication / Diversity, Equity and Inclusion / Technology / Communication

Leadership

A process of social influence, which maximizes the efforts of others, towards the achievement of a goal. Leadership is influencing others by your character, humility, and example. It is recognizable when others follow in word and deed without obligation or coercion (Sonny Newman, 2014).



DO MORE with COMMUNITY SERVICE



Program Description

The goal of this program is to encourage students to become involved with and to participate in, on/off campus Community Service and other volunteer projects. Students will be exposed to opportunities to grow and develop their compassion for others by working to help local people in need.

Program Requirements

Participation in five Community Service hours per semester with a minimum of 25 Community Service hours prior to completion of the program.

Students are free to select from a host of Community Service programs and events including, but not limited to:

- Soup Kitchens
- Campus/Community clean-up
- The Homeless Project
- Western Day of Service
- Other off-campus or on-campus community service approved by the Program Director.

Career Readiness Competencies

The completion of the required 25 hours of Community Service programs satisfies the following Career Readiness Competencies:

Leadership / Professionalism / Diversity, Equity and Inclusion / Teamwork / Compassion / Self Awareness

Compassion

A holistic understanding of an issue with a commitment to act towards improving the situation (adopted from Dr. Chris Kukk).



LEARN MORE

with LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



Program Description

The goal of this program is to enhance student's skills in personal and professional career development, to teach students about different leadership styles and how to lead effectively as well as how to work in groups and create a cohesive and successful team. Students will also be able to expand their learning opportunities and develop strategies to support their learning, research, and intellectual discourse, make ethical decisions.

Program Requirements

Attendance at a minimum of 15 various workshops offered by Student Affairs and/or other University departments. Conference/Convention sessions as well as participation in Clubs and Organizations training may also qualify as a workshop, assessed on a case by case basis by the Program Director.

Though programs differ from year to year, below is a list of programs that are offered regularly at WCSU:

- Career Workshops
- Career Exploration and Special Career Events both general and discipline-specific
- Find Your LeaderShape
- Counseling Workshops
- Academic Workshops
- Health and Wellness Presentations
- The Group Process
- Increasing Mental Health Awareness
- LCCC Workshops
- Ethical Leadership

Career Readiness Competencies

The completion of the required 15 Leadership Development programs will satisfy various competencies depending on the type of workshop as determined by the Program Director.



BECOME MORE

with

CAREER PREPARATION



Program Description

The purpose of this program is to encourage students to participate in any of Western Connecticut State University's experiential learning opportunities. This program is designed to provide hands-on, experiential learning in the day-to-day activities that are part of holding leadership positions. Some examples are group activities where participants attack real-world business problems, job rotation and shadowing programs, adventure learning, and virtual or live simulations. These experiences allow leaders to gain new knowledge and skills through hands-on practice in low-risk environments.

Program Requirements

Must be enrolled in and complete one of the following experiential learning programs:

- Athletics Department Team Captain
- Cooperative Education Internship Program CED 297
- RD – TO – BE
- Certification as a Peer Educator
- Serve as: PAC, NPC, IFC, SGA, IRHA, or President of an organization/club approved by the Program Director(s)
- Service as: On-campus employment as a supervisory role (potential examples not limited to: RA, Campus and Student Center Supervisors, IT&I Managers, Orientation Leader)

Career Readiness Competencies

The completion of the required Career Preparation program will satisfy various competencies depending on the type of workshop as determined by the Program Director.

Creativity

The ability to transcend traditional ideas, rules, patterns, relationships, or the like, and to create meaningful new ideas, forms, methods, interpretations, etc. originality, progressiveness or imagination.

YOU ARE A LEADER

COMPLETION



Deadlines

The last opportunity to join the Certificate program is before Midterms of the semester prior to graduating. Therefore if you graduate in May, you must express your interest to LCCC advisors before Fall Semester midterms.

Your competency requirements must be completed by the midterms of the semester you plan to graduate. Therefore if you graduate in May, you must complete your requirements by Spring Semester midterms.

Reflections are due April 1st. Capstones are due April 22nd of each year.

Reflections

In order to complete the LCCC program, the student must write a reflection/summary essay of each program, detailing their experience. By the end of the LCCC program, the student will have one reflection/summary essay for each requirement: Campus Engagement, Community Service, Leadership Development, and Career Preparation.

Reflections allow students to think back on their experience immediately and see how it affected them, and how it may influence their future actions. Reflections also serve as a method of assessing all programs in a similar fashion regardless of how their overall concept may vary. Lastly, students will be able to use this information when compiling their capstone presentation upon completion of the four disciplines.



YOU ARE A LEADER

COMPLETION



Capstone Presentation

Once a student has completed all reflection/summaries for each of the four programs, the student must put together a capstone presentation.

Creativity is welcomed for this final project and can be done in the following ways:

- Video presentation
- Storyboard
- Collage
- Performance
- Or any other way that will showcase the student's creativity.

The presentation must include the following:

- What is your personal leadership philosophy and/or definition?
- How has this changed throughout the LCCC experience?
- What have you learned about yourself?
- How will you continue to learn, lead, and serve?
- How has this certificate affected your time at WCSU?
- How has this certificate enhanced your creativity?
- How have you become a more compassionate leader/individual through this certificate?

Capstone approval will be granted at discretion of LCCC Director.



YOU ARE A LEADER

COMPLETION



Students that complete the LCCC program will be invited to the annual Student Leadership Recognition Banquet (SLRB) to be recognized for their achievement. The date for the SLRB will be announced at the end of the fall semester so students have plenty of time to coordinate their schedules if needed. Under special circumstances, accommodations will be made for students who cannot attend the SLRB.

At the SLRB, students will display their capstone presentation and explain how the program influenced them to those attending the SLRB.