Doctor of Philosophy in Leadership

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS IN BRIEF

Alvernia is a Franciscan University rooted in the Catholic and liberal arts traditions, dedicated to the ideals of service in the helping professions. Our rich heritage of service and strong faith resonates in contemporary ways in our campus life and academic programs. Alvernia University’s graduate programs are designed for the focused working professional who places equal value on intellectual achievement and professional growth. Our faculty and staff are committed to teaching, guiding and supporting our students in all aspects of their experience at Alvernia University, from course selection and scheduling, to connecting with peers and colleagues.

In Alvernia University’s Doctor of Philosophy program, you will acquire advanced theoretical and practical knowledge, along with leadership skills that will position you as an expert in your field. Although our doctoral program is designed to develop accomplished scholar-practitioners, there are some distinct differences in the three area of concentrations of the program. Students are forever changed by their Alvernia University doctoral program experience.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Students are eligible for admission to the Doctor of Philosophy in Leadership program when the following criteria have been met:

• Successful completion of graduate coursework
• Minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher
• Completion of graduate entrance application with supporting documentation

THREE AREAS OF CONCENTRATION (CHOOSE ONE)

Corporate Leadership

Corporate Leadership will prepare professionals for leadership positions within various fields of business. Through coursework in advanced research and scholarship in corporate leadership, this program will enable executives to continue to develop their leadership talents and research capabilities and understand their transformative role and responsibilities as servant leaders. Exploring global issues, opportunities and the challenges of leading a workforce with individuals from diverse backgrounds will contribute to their effectiveness and ability to be visionary agents of change.

Educational Leadership

Educational Leadership will prepare educators to meet the challenges of contemporary school leadership at all levels of administration including higher education. Through course work in advanced research and scholarship, this program will enable individuals to develop their leadership talents and research capabilities, as well as to understand their responsibilities as agents of change within an increasingly complex and demanding educational system that is expected to meet the needs of all children. Individuals will contribute to the knowledge base as leaders responsible for creating and improving learning communities in our global society.

Community Leadership

Community Leadership will prepare professionals for leadership positions as agents of change in government and community organizations. Coursework will include advanced research and theories of leadership, critical analyses regarding the impact of social welfare policies and procedures, entrepreneurial strategies, research-based assessment of programs, and evidence based management. This program will enable leaders in government and community organizations to act as agents of change and to contribute to a greater understanding regarding community leadership.
CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

**Doctor of Philosophy in Leadership (63 credits)**

**Leadership Core (18 credits):**
- PhD 706: Leadership: Advanced Systems Theory and Research
- PhD 709: Organizational Analysis: Culture, Theory and Change Strategies
- PhD 711: Moral and Ethical Foundations for Decision-Making
- PhD 724: Theories in Organizational Structure and Strategic Leadership
- PhD 725: Leadership: Diversity and Social Justice in Complex and Global Organizations
- PhD 801: Negotiations and Conflict Resolution for Contemporary Leaders

**Research Core (15 credits):**
- PhD 701: Advanced Research & Colloquium (6 credits)
- PhD 704: Quantitative Research: Design & Analysis
- PhD 710: Qualitative Research: Design & Analysis

Select one of the following three advanced research courses as appropriate:
- PhD 851: Instrument Design and Analysis
- PhD 853: Advanced Quantitative Research: Design & Analysis
- PhD 855: Advanced Qualitative Research: Design & Analysis

**Dissertation (12 credits)**

Choose an area of concentrations: Corporate, Community, and Educational Leadership (18 credits)

**Required courses for Corporate Leadership:**
- PhD 727: Developing Human Resources in Organizations
- PhD 803: Leadership and Spirituality
- PhD 821: Organizational Policy and Finance

Select three of the following electives for concentration in Corporate Leadership:
- PhD 814: Seminar in Organizational Law
- PhD 815: Economic Development of Organizations
- PhD 821: Organizational Policy and Finance
- PhD 828: U.S. Presidents as Leaders (only offered during a presidential election year only)

**Required courses for Community Leadership:**
- PhD 729: Welfare Politics and Leadership with Community Organizations
- PhD 805: Development and Evaluation of Organizational Policies and Programs
- PhD 815: Economic Development of Organizations

Select three of the following electives for concentration in Community Leadership:
- PhD 803: Leadership and Spirituality
- PhD 814: Seminar in Organizational Law
- PhD 818: Federal, State and Local Government Relations
- PhD 821: Organizational Policy and Finance
- PhD 828: U.S. Presidents as Leaders (only offered during a presidential election year only)

**Required courses for Educational Leadership:**
- PhD 731: Advanced Supervision and Leadership Theory
- PhD 807: Curriculum, Culture and Instructional Leadership
- PhD 825: Educational Policy and Leadership

Select three of the following electives for concentration in Educational Leadership:
- PhD 821: Organizational Policy and Finance
- PhD 824: Personnel and Human Resource in Educational Organizations
- PhD 830: Current Issues in Education
- PhD 832: Law, Advocacy and the Educational Institution
- PhD 828: U.S. Presidents as Leaders (only offered during a presidential election year only)

**Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility Certification**

Four of the courses in the educational leadership track could apply to our Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility Certification program. With the addition of one course, the Superintendent's Internship, you could obtain this certification in addition to your degree.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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