

OUR GRADUATE PROGRAMS OFFER CONVENIENCE AND EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Alvernia University provides you with more than theories and tools for a successful career. It provides you opportunities to discuss and apply what you have learned. If you join the MALS program, you will find:

- **Incomparable personal attention** from your advisor and your professors.
- **Small classes** that promote interactive learning.
- **Tuition Deferment** if you are reimbursed by your employer.
- **Opportunity to network** with other adult students like yourself.
- **Accelerated** sessions and multiple start dates.

You'll also find our faculty and staff are committed to teaching, guiding, and supporting our graduate students in all aspects of their experience at Alvernia—from course selection and scheduling, to connecting with peers and colleagues, and balancing theory and practice through class discussion.

OUR FACULTY

It's simple: our engaging, dynamic faculty members are the heart of Alvernia. They enjoy the freedom to conduct scholarly and scientific research, but they are here because they love to teach, and they truly enjoy getting to know their graduate students. Many of our graduate professors not only teach but are active in their fields and are committed members of professional associations and community boards. They are attuned to the real-world needs of our graduate students, who are here to build their skills.



INSIDE ALVERNIA

While our core institutional values—*service, humility, collegiality, contemplation, and peacemaking*—extend from the faith of our Franciscan founders, they have a universal ethical appeal.



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AlverniaUniversityGradCS



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Follow us on Twitter:
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*If you are interested
in the MALS at our
Philadelphia Center,
please contact us at:*

School of Graduate
and Continuing Studies
Philadelphia Center
1355 West Cheltenham Ave.
Melrose Park, PA 19027

1-215-635-4734
1-888-ALVERNIA
(1-888-258-3764), ext. 7
philadelphia@alvernia.edu
**www.alvernia.edu/
philadelphia/index.html**

Philadelphia Center Office Hours
Mon-Thurs, 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

www.alvernia.edu

OTHER GRADUATE PROGRAMS OFFERED AT ALVERNIA UNIVERSITY

- Master in Business Administration (classroom and online delivery formats)
- Master of Education
- Secondary (Grades 7-12), Early Childhood (Grades Pre K-4), Special Education, School Nurse or Principal Graduate Certifications
- Master of Arts in Community Counseling
- Master in Science in Nursing
- Master in Science in Occupational Therapy
- Superintendent Letter of Eligibility
- Doctor of Philosophy with Concentrations in Education, Corporate, and Community Leadership

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about our MALS program, to request an application, or to inquire about our deferred payment plan based on employer tuition reimbursement, please contact:

School of Graduate and Continuing Studies
Main Campus • 540 Upland Avenue • Reading, PA 19611
1-610-796-8228
1-888-ALVERNIA (1-888-258-3764), ext. 6
graduate@alvernia.edu
www.alvernia.edu/academics/graduate/index.html

Graduate Center Office Hours
Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, By Appointment

MASTER OF ARTS IN LIBERAL STUDIES
PROGRAM FOR COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

M.A.L.S.



ALVERNIA

UNIVERSITY



An Education in the Franciscan Tradition



PREPARE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

When professors, students, and community partners take intellectual risks, they create a curriculum that includes critical writing and thinking with well-defined methodologies to make communities more sustainable. Our MALS degree program is designed around sustainable community development in three distinct tracks:

CULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY—examining the multiplicity of cultures, perspectives, and experiences and their meaning and value on the natural world.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY—interconnecting the natural and man-made worlds, and the roles played by humans in designing, constructing, and/or managing natural and built environments.

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY—exploring legal, political, sociological, and ethical perspectives of justice and social change, as well as factors of policy development, implementation, and evaluation.



MALS PROGRAM FOR COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP MATRICULATION

The Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree program for Community Leadership matriculates students on a rolling basis. Students are required to complete six credits of interdisciplinary courses, 21 credits of coursework focused on community leadership, and six credits through a capstone course that includes a seminar and supervised field experience. Students with full graduate status must achieve and maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher to be retained in the program.

PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

Students must possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, with a 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. Students pursuing the MALS for Community Leadership come from a wide variety of academic backgrounds.

FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING

Graduate classes meet one evening per week for 14 weeks during the fall, spring, and summer semesters. Our small class size allows for personal attention from professors and ample opportunity to participate in class discussions and to ask questions. The MALS for Community Leadership degree program may be completed at our main campus in Reading or at our Philadelphia Center. Also, there is an opportunity for cohort development in which a grouping of special topic courses could be developed to meet your organizational needs. The MALS is designed to meet the needs and demanding schedules of adult learners. In addition to the traditional semester format, courses may be offered periodically in alternative formats including condensed terms, online, blended (part traditional and part online), and short-term residencies.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

MALS graduates are prepared to contribute to the greater good in positions such as activity advisor, community organizer, data analyst, diversity consultant, event planning specialist, human relations manager, market researcher, patient advocate, policy analyst, program director, executive director, and volunteer coordinator.



Spencer Stober, Ed.D.
Professor of Biology

"The MALS program is designed to engage students with knowledge and experience in the basic principles of cultural, environmental, and socio-economic sustainability. The program promotes leadership to develop sustainable communities for both the present and the future."

"The MALS for Community Leadership offers flexibility of liberal arts education courses, community-based learning, and maintaining sustainable projects to meet cultural needs."

Gerald S. Vigna, Ph.D. ■ Assistant
Coordinator, Master of Arts in Liberal Studies

A MASTER'S DEGREE MUCH MORE THAN

Maybe you've got a passion for being a leader within a sustainable community in a profit or non-profit sector. Maybe you're interested in exploring community issues and want to become an agent for social change. Or maybe you're just looking for a degree that is as committed to enhancing the society as you are. Whatever your goals, the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree with an emphasis in Community Leadership can help you get there with a course that's as unique as you are.

The MALS for Community Leadership degree program prepares professionals who will excel in positions of leadership in public and private settings. The program helps students become agents of social change through critical discussion and analysis of community issues.

Individuals who benefit from this program come from non-profit and profit sectors, including cultural and environmental agencies, human and social services, and governmental agencies.

flexible curricular design through a unique blend of action research, and skills for building and addressing local, economic, environmental, and social needs.”

Associate Professor of Theology
Studies (MALS) for Community Leadership

SEE FROM ALVERNIA: EARN A CREDENTIAL

Our MALS degree prepares students to provide excellent community services to individuals.

If you want more from your graduate program than merely a credential, Alvernia could be the right choice for you and your career.

PAYING FOR AN ALVERNIA EDUCATION

An Alvernia education remains an excellent value in the higher education marketplace. Financial planning counselors can provide information about loans to help make your MALS affordable. Also, we offer a deferred payment plan for graduate students who are eligible for reimbursement from their employer. Once you are an Alvernia graduate student, the Office of Student Financial Planning continues to assist you with financing your education and more.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit our website for details about the course schedule and descriptions, to apply online, or to learn more about our main and satellite locations, faculty, and innovative programs that meet the needs of graduate students like you.

**ALVERNIA
UNIVERSITY**

Harrisburg

York

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO

Please visit us at www.alvernia.edu
for clear, specific local and regional directions.



COME VISIT US!

We invite you to visit Alvernia University in person. Spending time here and talking to a Graduate Coordinator are the best ways to know if we are the right fit for you. Our daytime, evening, and Saturday hours provide convenient opportunities for a personal visit. Once you have decided to apply to Alvernia, our supportive staff will help you along the way with the entire MALS admission process. To arrange a visit, please contact our Graduate Admissions by phone or email.

ALVERNIA
UNIVERSITY

■ Pottsville ■ Allentown

★ Reading

Philadelphia ★

TO ALVERNIA UNIVERSITY

alvernia.edu/about/reading/index.html

regional driving directions to our campuses.

GET YOUR DEGREE ON TIME AND ON TARGET.

With several formats a year, our MALS program lets you earn your degree at a faster pace than traditional programs. We offer a flexible schedule so students can continue working full-time while obtaining their MALS degree. Because classes are small, instructors are available to give more personal support, both in and out of the classroom.

