The Master of Arts in Leadership for Sustainable Communities (MALSC) is an interdisciplinary program designed to develop public and private sector leadership in sustainable community development. Focused upon the three pillars of leadership, ethics and sustainability, the MALSC program prepares emerging leaders to excel in positions of leadership in the neighborhood, workplace, business, institutional or governmental communities in which they belong. For the purposes of this program, sustainability is defined as improving the three P's: “planet, people and profit.” The MALSC program helps students become agents of social change through critical discussion and analysis of community issues from income gaps to education and climate change. Students integrate their knowledge and skills by designing and implementing a community sustainability project as the capstone of their studies.

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**
- Activity Advisor
- Community Organizer
- Data Analyst
- Diversity Consultant
- Event Planning Specialist
- Executive Director
- Health or Faith Institutional Staff
- Human Relations Manager
- Market Researcher
- Municipal or State Government Official
- Patient Advocate
- Policy Analyst
- Program Director
- Volunteer Coordinator

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**
Along with your completed application accompanied by a $50 non-refundable application fee, you’ll need to provide the following:

- Official transcript(s) indicating that the applicant has earned an appropriate baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university. Transcripts from all institutions are required.
- Three letters of recommendation. Letters are accepted from former professors, employers, supervisors familiar with the applicant’s professional experiences, or from religious or community leaders.
- Personal Statement. One-page personal statement that summarizes the value of the program of graduate study for his/her personal and professional growth and development.
- Professional Resume
- Interview with the MALSC program coordinator. After all the required application materials have been received, each applicant will be contacted to arrange for a personal interview.
- Additional evidence of potential for success. Items such as academic or professional awards, special certifications, samples of scholarly or creative work and completion of specialized examinations. (not required, but encouraged)

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**READING**
gradandadult@alvernia.edu
1.888.ALVERNIA ext. 6
1.888.258.3764
610.796.5187

**PHILADELPHIA**
philadelphia@alvernia.edu
1.888.ALVERNIA ext. 7
1.888.258.3764
215.635.4734

**APPLY TODAY**
alvernia.edu/malsc
Master of Arts in
Leadership for Sustainable Communities

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

COURSE REQUIREMENTS — 30 CREDITS

The program for Leadership for Sustainable Communities leading to a Master of Arts degree is accredited by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and Middle States Commission of Higher Education. The program requirements for this degree are as follows:

Required Interdisciplinary Course (3 credits)
COR 520: Ethics and Moral Leadership

Required Entry-Level Courses (6 credits)
LAS 508: Leadership for Sustainable Communities
LAS 537: Introduction to Research Methods

Note: LAS 508: Leadership for Sustainable Communities and LAS 537: Introduction to Research Methods courses should be taken as early as possible in every MALSC student’s schedule.

MALSC Course Rotation (up to 18 credits from the following courses):

LAS 512: Poverty in America
LAS 514: Economics, Sustainability & Risk
LAS 516: Leadership in Literature
LAS 518: Management in the Non-Profit Sector
LAS 521: Grantwriting
LAS 542: Cultural Studies & Heritage Conservation
LAS 555: Policy & Policy Analysis
LAS 5//90: Special Topics
LAS 603: Culture, Ecology & Religion
LAS 612: Conflict Resolution
LAS 613: Social Justice & Ethics
LAS 620: Cross Cultural Conflicts in Our Communities
LAS 638: Sustaining Our Environment
LAS 679: Independent Research
LAS 680: Thesis

Required Capstone Course (3 or 6 credits):
LAS 670: Seminar with Supervised Field Experience in Community Service (6 credits)
LAS 671: Seminar with Supervised Field Experience in Community Service (3 credits, repeatable for MALSC Degree)

CAREER SUCCESS

At Alvernia, we measure our success by our graduates’ personal and professional satisfaction and by the way they contribute to the greater good in all areas of society. Individuals who benefit from this program come from non-profit and for-profit sectors. This includes cultural, educational and environmental agencies, human and social services agencies, and governmental and non-profit institutions and agencies. Our graduates are emerging leaders in their communities, identifying opportunities for positive change and are equipped with the skills, knowledge and confidence to implement those changes.

MALSC TRANSFER POLICY

MALSC students may take up to nine credits from other Alvernia University master-level programs that can be counted toward the MALSC course rotation. When taking a graduate course outside the MALSC program, students must get approval from the graduate program coordinator in which that course resides. Students may be approved (Transfer Credit Approval Form required) to transfer up to six credits from another accredited institution of higher education. Any course taken through Alvernia University that is not listed as LAS, as well as any possible transfer courses related to the program mission and objectives, must be approved by the MALSC program coordinator.