

PUBLIC, NONPROFIT AND COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Introduction

CU Denver's Public, Non-Profit and Community Leadership (PNPCL) Graduate Certificate is administered by The Center for New Directions in Politics and Policy, within the Department of Political Science.

The Certificate will develop and demonstrate a student's core competency in public policy, local government politics, and/or community leadership. It can be tailored to meet the needs of individuals pursuing public or non-profit careers or for individuals who seek to enhance their local leadership and civic engagement more broadly. Participants will develop knowledge, skills and political acumen to lead more effectively at the local level. The program emphasizes the perspectives and impacts of local decision-making on marginalized communities and will prepare students to advance equity in their current or future roles.

Students must have an undergraduate degree in any field to pursue the Graduate level PNPCL Certificate (an Undergraduate Certificate is available for students without bachelor's degrees). It can be earned as a stand-alone university certificate or pursued while earning a graduate degree in Political Science, the applied degree through New Directions, or another CU Denver program (check with your home program advisor). A certificate is an excellent way to explore whether you'd like to pursue a full Master's degree. For students who enroll as non-degree seeking, up to all 12 of your non-degree certificate credits could be transferred into a full Political Science or applied Political Science New Directions Master's Degree program, upon departmental approval and acceptance into the graduate program.

This certificate is administered by the Center for New Directions in Politics and Policy. The required course and some electives will be delivered through the New Directions weekend intensive format taught by practitioners over the course of three weekends spaced several weeks apart. Other electives are offered by Political Science faculty through standard, weekly courses offered in-person or remotely over the course of a full term. Students without prior experience in public sector or non-profit leadership will be highly encouraged to utilize an individually structured internship to satisfy one of their course requirements to gain invaluable experiential learning in the field.

These program requirements are subject to periodic revision by the academic department, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences reserves the right to make exceptions and substitutions as judged necessary in individual cases. Therefore, the College strongly urges students to consult regularly with the New Directions director at NewDirections@ucdenver.edu or their Certificate advisor.

Admissions and Declaring This Certificate

Any current or potential student wishing to declare this certificate should schedule a certificate advising appointment with either the Director of the New Directions graduate program at NewDirections@ucdenver.edu, or with the Director of the on-campus graduate program (Dr. Betsy Jose) (betsy.jose@ucdenver.edu), in order to register their intent to pursue the Public, Nonprofit, and Community Leadership Certificate and to develop a curriculum plan.

Graduate Education Policies and Procedures apply to this program.

Certificate Requirements

1. Students must complete a minimum of 12 credit hours from approved courses.
2. Students must complete a minimum of 12 graduate (5000-level or higher) PSCI credit hours.
3. Students must earn a minimum grade of B- (2.7) in all program courses that apply to the certificate and must achieve a minimum cumulative certificate GPA of 3.0. Courses taken using P+/P/F or S/U grading cannot apply to certificate requirements.
4. Students must complete all coursework with CU Denver faculty.

Code	Title	Hours
Complete the following required course:		3
PSCI 5914	Community Organizing and Community Development	
Complete nine credit hours from the following Public and Community Leadership elective courses: ¹		9
PSCI 5008	Graduate Topics in Political Science ²	
PSCI 5009	Politics of the Budgetary Process ²	
PSCI 5024	State Politics: Focus on Colorado	
PSCI 5025	Local Governance and Globalization	
PSCI 5075	Gentrification and Social Equity	
PSCI 5084	Local Government and Administration	
PSCI 5094	Urban Politics, Planning, and Development	
PSCI 5206	Social Movements, Democracy and Global Politics	
PSCI 5265	Social Justice And Globalization	
PSCI 5274	Conflict Resolution and Public Consent Building	
PSCI 5414	Non-Profits and Social Change	
PSCI 5424	The Social Economy and Sustainable Development	
PSCI 5434	The Cooperative Movement: Politics and Policy	
PSCI 5548	Labor Law and Collective Bargaining	
PSCI 5840	Independent Study: PSCI ²	
PSCI 5939	Internship	
Total Hours		12

¹ Public Leadership Course credits may also be earned through study abroad in the Semester in Berlin program or the Development in East Africa program.

² When relevant and approved by certificate advisor

To learn more about the Student Learning Outcomes for this program, please visit our website (<https://clas.ucdenver.edu/newdirections/certificates/graduate-certificate-public-non-profit-community-leadership-certificate/>).