The University of Central Arkansas PhD in Leadership (LEAD) prepares scholar leaders to research and act for the common good. Recognizing that complex challenges require an integration of responsible leaders from various community sectors, program graduates will transform education, community, government, and nonprofit organizations to strengthen human and community capabilities.

LEAD:
Leaders Engaging Arkansans’ Development

Katherine Ligon
Higher Education

“As a native of Ukraine, I hope to utilize my international knowledge of the Slavic culture to empower global awareness in my new home country. The LEAD program will help me achieve these goals.”

MISSION

The PhD in Leadership enlists the Human Development Index (HDI) and other indicators of limited living conditions to gauge vitality and need in the state and region. With knowledge of networking, decision-making, and research, graduates advance community and human development by targeting educational attainment, community vitality, public health, cultural/fine arts, environmental sustainability, and other developmental factors.
Upon completing the program, the PhD Leadership graduate should be able to:

- Articulate the complexities associated with leadership, the conditions under which it occurs, and the approaches to examination of leadership ranging from traditional to more contemporary theories;
- Analyze concepts, theories, and models required by leaders in the 21st century global environment to advance organizational success and foster organizational growth;
- Recognize and assess community and human capabilities and development;
- Conduct scholarly research that contributes to the body of leadership knowledge;
- Address community and human development through research and action development;
- Adhere to ethical standards in the scholarship and practice of leadership that foster collaboration, higher levels of organizational performance, and mentorship.

The PhD in Leadership program is the only degree program of its kind in Arkansas and is unique to this region of the United States. The program, taught by faculty from a variety of academic disciplines, offers a broad-based, interdisciplinary curriculum using scholarly skills and research for preparing active professionals from education, community, government, and nonprofit settings to contribute to the knowledge of contemporary community leadership and to assume organizational leadership roles.

Students enter the program in designated cohorts and complete core courses in leadership and research. In addition, students choose and pursue individual interests in cognate areas. Cognates deepen students' knowledge in education, community, government, and nonprofits and may relate more specifically to community and P-12 education leadership, postsecondary education, public health, fine arts, community development, or environmental sustainability. Drawing upon the strengths of their shared fundamental coursework and their individual scholarly talents, students engage in human and community research and action.

**LEARNER OUTCOMES:**

**OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM:**

The PhD in Leadership program helps me develop the skills to lead at the highest level while creating opportunities for those who are unable to create them for themselves.

"The PhD in Leadership program helps me develop the skills to lead at the highest level while creating opportunities for those who are unable to create them for themselves."

"The LEAD program’s interdisciplinary nature allows me to formally blend my two passions - education and outreach. This is the program I have been waiting for."

"The interdisciplinarity of the LEAD program allows me to explore issues in community development and business, while expanding my knowledge of leadership in education."

"To maintain our current way of life, we must cultivate from the bottom up and foster leadership at the grassroots level. The PhD in Leadership program will give me the foundation needed to do just that."

"Professors in the LEAD program consider the student a part of a team-based learning environment where we have opportunity to manage projects, contribute to research, and present our ideas at national conferences."

"The LEAD program allows me to formally blend my two passions - education and outreach. This is the program I have been waiting for."

**LEAH HORTON**

**JAMIE STACKS**

**KYLE L. JONES**

**TIM BULLINGTON**

**NEED MORE INFORMATION?**

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