

Graduate Certificate in Leadership Studies

The purpose of the Graduate Certificate in Leadership Studies is to build foundational knowledge of the history, theory, and practice of leadership with a focus on ethical decision making and understanding of the dynamics of power in doing the work of leadership. The primary objectives are to offer graduate students and working professionals tools and techniques to better understand and navigate leadership opportunities within professional and community environments, and to respond efficiently and effectively to the demands of a changing social, cultural, and political landscape while doing the work of leadership.

Admission to Graduate Studies

Admission Requirements

- All applicants must meet the requirements outlined in the Admission to Graduate Study (<https://policy.ku.edu/graduate-studies/admission-to-graduate-study/>) policy.
- Bachelor's degree: A copy of official transcripts showing proof of a bachelor's degree (and any post-bachelor's coursework or degrees) from a regionally accredited institution, or a foreign university with equivalent bachelor's degree requirements is required.
- English proficiency: Proof of English proficiency (<https://gradapply.ku.edu/english-requirements/>) for non-native or non-native-like English speakers is required. There are two bands of English proficiency, including Admission and Full proficiency. For applicants to online programs, Full proficiency is required.

Graduate Admission

Any applicant seeking to pursue a graduate certificate in Leadership Studies must submit an online application (<https://gradapply.ku.edu/apply/>). Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Please see the Admission to Graduate Study (<http://policy.ku.edu/graduate-studies/admission-to-graduate-study/>) policy for information on admission requirements.

New Applicants

Applicants who are not already enrolled in a KU graduate program should include the following materials in their application to the certificate program.

- A **statement of purpose** outlining their interest in the Leadership Studies graduate certificate
- Copy of **official transcripts** (<http://graduate.ku.edu/transcripts/>) from all colleges and universities attended

Current KU Graduate Students

Applicants already in a KU graduate program must be in good standing with their home department to be eligible for admission the certificate program. Current KU graduate students should include the following materials in their online application:

- A **statement of purpose** outlining their interest in the Leadership Studies graduate certificate

- A **letter of support** from their faculty advisor or the Director of Graduate Studies in their home academic unit

Contact

Visit the Institute for Leadership Studies website (<https://ils.ku.edu/admission-graduate-certificate/>) for more detailed information about the application process.

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
LDST 710	History and Theory of Leadership Studies	3
LDST 720	Leadership Ethics	3
Mastery of Leadership Skills and Methods		3
Choose one course from the elective options listed below.		
LDST 715	Leadership, Equity, and Inclusion	
LDST 730	Managing the Work of Leadership	
LDST 760	Leadership and Communication	
LDST 769	Special Topics in Leadership Skills and Methods: _____	
Understanding of Critical Leadership Contexts and Communities		3
Choose one course from the elective options listed below.		
LDST 690	Special Topics in Leadership Studies: _____	
LDST 740	Leadership and Power	
LDST 799	Special Topics in Leadership Contexts: _____	
Total Hours		12

Alternative elective options can also be approved by the director of graduate studies. All elective courses should be chosen in consultation with an advisor.

At the completion of this program, students will be able to:

- produce effective written communication for and with diverse audiences across varied contexts.
- engage in effective oral communication with diverse audiences across varied contexts.
- integrate principles of ethical decision-making into leadership decisions.
- integrate principles of critical reflection into leadership decision-making.
- develop an understanding of the historical background and core domains relevant to social diversity and equity in the United States.
- develop and apply knowledge and approaches (e.g. skills, competencies, strategies, styles, etc.) to respond efficiently and effectively to the demands of a changing social, cultural, and political landscape while doing the work of leadership.