



Twin Cities Campus

Arts and Cultural Leadership M.P.S.

CCAPS Graduate Programs Instruction

College of Continuing and Professional Studies

Link to a [list of faculty](#) for this program.

Contact Information:

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Website: <https://ccaps.umn.edu/arts-and-cultural-leadership-masters-degree>

- Program Type: Master's
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2018
- Length of program in credits: 30
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.
- Degree: Master of Professional Studies

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

The Arts and Cultural Leadership (ACL) program is designed for students who have at least three years of professional, volunteer, and/or advocacy work in the arts and cultural field. Required curriculum, blended with flexible course work, allows students to build a program around their current strengths, experiences, and career direction. Courses in leadership and nonprofit management, along with seminars and directed studies in arts and cultural studies, provide working adults a degree with a clear, career-related focus.

The ACL program is designed to help students:

Gain insight and develop approaches to creating and stewarding the relationships and interdependencies necessary for sustaining a vibrant arts community

Refine strategic planning and communications skills in order to better lead organizations in complex environments

Advocate for the arts and culture sector by promoting better understanding and integrating the economic, political, ethical, technological, and diverse social environments in which it functions

Understand and convey the international context for the arts and the impact of the global economy

Appreciate and nurture the creative process, recognizing how art and the artist function in society

The ACL program uses a foundation of 18 credits (out of 30 that are required for the degree), with latitude built in to pursue elective coursework in support areas such as nonprofit management, leadership, education, public affairs/policy, urban planning, strategic planning, etc. Using an applied learning approach, students receive a high-quality education that draws on the expertise of University faculty and community-based faculty.

By the end of the program, students will be knowledgeable in:

Critical and strategic thinking, and effective communication

The intersection, navigation, and impact of cultural and creative practices within local and global dynamics

Policy formation, implementation, and application relevant to culture, creativity, and the arts

Leadership practices in a variety of contexts

How to implement expertise, improve relationships, and optimize resources

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Prerequisites for Admission

The preferred undergraduate GPA for admittance to the program is 3.00.

To be admitted, students must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited post-secondary US institution or its foreign equivalent.

Other requirements to be completed before admission:

At least 3 years of professional, volunteer, and/or advocacy work in the arts and cultural field is required. Factors of academic preparation, relevant experience, evidence of readiness and maturity, writing ability, and reasons for seeking the degree will be taken



into account as part of the admissions review. GRE scores may be submitted, but are not required.

Special Application Requirements:

The application package must include official transcripts of all baccalaureate and post-baccalaureate work, a current resume, two letters of recommendation, a two- to three-page written statement of purpose in which the student elaborates on his or her interest in the program, and an additional writing sample of approximately 10 pages. Application deadlines are in spring for fall semester admission, and fall for spring semester admission. Please refer to the program website for further details.

International applicants must submit score(s) from one of the following tests:

- TOEFL
 - Internet Based - Total Score: 84
 - Internet Based - Writing Score: 21
 - Internet Based - Reading Score: 19
 - Paper Based - Total Score: 563
- IELTS
 - Total Score: 6.5
 - Reading Score: 6.5
 - Writing Score: 6.5
- MELAB
 - Final score: 84

Key to [test abbreviations](#)(TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB).

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website.

Program Requirements

Plan C: Plan C requires 30 major credits and up to null credits outside the major. There is no final exam. A capstone project is required.

Capstone Project: See department for more details.

This program may be completed with a minor.

Use of 4xxx courses toward program requirements is permitted under certain conditions with adviser approval.

A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required for students to remain in good standing.

A minimum of 30 credits are required for completion of the MPS degree.

Take core courses for a letter grade, earning a B- or better.

Obtain a cumulative GPA for all degree course work of 3.0 or better.

Required courses (15 credits)

- ACL 8001 *{Inactive}*(2.0 cr)
- [ACL 5211](#) - Trends and Impacts in Arts and Cultural Leadership and Management (3.0 cr)
- [ACL 5221](#) - Creative Entrepreneurship and Resource Development (3.0 cr)
- [ACL 5231](#) - Ethical Dilemmas and Legal Issues for Cultural Leaders (3.0 cr)
- [ACL 6201](#) - Reimagining Cultural Leadership (3.0 cr)
- ACL 6202 *{Inactive}*(2.0 cr)

Electives (12 credits)

Elective courses can be selected from related academic departments including ACL, MST, OLPD, and PA. Electives should relate to the professional tasks required of arts and cultural leaders or enhance the student's understanding of the arts within a broader cultural context. Courses must be chosen in consultation with the advisor. Examples include, but are not limited to the courses listed below.

Take 12 or more credit(s) from the following:

- [ACL 5100](#) - Topics in Arts and Cultural Leadership (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
- [ACL 5241](#) - Financial Management for Arts Nonprofits, Community Organizations, and Artists (3.0 cr)
- [ACL 5251](#) - Courageous Imagination in Action: Art and Culture as Forces and Resources of Change (3.0 cr)
- [ACL 5950](#) - Special Topics (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
- [ACL 5993](#) - Directed Studies (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
- [DES 5165](#) - Design and Globalization (3.0 cr)
- [GCC 5005](#) - Innovation for Changemakers: Design for a Disrupted World [GP] (3.0 cr)
- [GEOG 8106](#) - Seminar: Social and Cultural Geography (3.0 cr)
- [JOUR 4263](#) - Strategic Communication Campaigns (3.0 cr)
- [JOUR 5251](#) - Strategic Communication Theory (3.0 cr)



- [LA 5413](#) - Introduction to Landscape Architectural History (3.0 cr)
- [LS 5100](#) *(Inactive)* (1.0 - 4.0 cr)
- [MST 5011](#) - Museum History and Philosophy (3.0 cr)
- [MST 5012](#) - Museum Practices (3.0 cr)
- [OLPD 5011](#) - Leading Organizational Change: Theory and Practice (3.0 cr)
- [OLPD 5048](#) - Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Leadership (3.0 cr)
- [OLPD 5080](#) - Special Topics: Organizational Leadership, Policy, & Development (1.0 - 3.0 cr)
- [PA 5003](#) - Introduction to Financial Analysis and Management (1.5 cr)
- [PA 5011](#) - Dynamics of Public Affairs Organizations (3.0 cr)
- [PA 5101](#) - Management and Governance of Nonprofit Organizations (3.0 cr)
- [PA 5102](#) *(Inactive)* (3.0 cr)
- [PA 5103](#) - Leadership and Change (1.5 - 3.0 cr)
- [PA 5104](#) - Human Resource Management for Public and Nonprofit Organizations (3.0 cr)
- [PA 5111](#) *(Inactive)* (3.0 cr)
- [PA 5190](#) - Topics in Public and Nonprofit Leadership and Management (1.0 - 3.0 cr)
- [PA 5204](#) *(Inactive)* (3.0 cr)
- [PA 5211](#) - Land Use Planning (3.0 cr)
- [PA 5251](#) - Strategic Planning and Management (3.0 cr)
- [PA 5253](#) *(Inactive)* (3.0 cr)
- [PA 8203](#) *(Inactive)* (4.0 cr)
- Other electives chosen in consultation with student's adviser.

Final Project

The ACL Final Project provides students with an opportunity to focus on the needs of a particular organization or community as they identify and carry out, in consultation with the leadership of that group and their academic advisor(s), a project that meets a need within that group and reflects both the interest of the students and their academic achievement.

[ACL 6002](#) - Capstone: Applied Research Project (1.0 cr)

[ACL 6003](#) - Capstone: Reflections and Presentation (2.0 cr)