



## Emerging Leader Program YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

**“Developing Leaders Today to Leave a Legacy Tomorrow!”**

### **Vision**

To cultivate a spirit of leadership development that inspires students to act with passion and lead with integrity as a means of transforming our communities.

### **Learn... LEAD... Leave a Legacy!**

The Emerging Leader Program (ELP) is built on the understanding and expectation that leadership can truly be learned, practiced, and utilized by all individuals. In fact, the program defines and is committed to the perspective that “leadership is a dynamic process of self-discovery that fosters a passionate vision, collaborative relationships, and congruency between values and actions directed at empowering positive change in our communities.” The ELP is a structured, self-paced program designed to strengthen your leadership knowledge and skills. In completing the program, you will experience opportunities that foster your self-discovery, promote collaborative relationships, and emphasize empowering communities. In response to completing the ELP, you will receive a notation on your academic transcript; an official leadership transcript; an ELP medal and certificate at the annual awards banquet; and the ELP service pin. Perhaps more importantly, you will have further developed the qualities and skills that are needed to be successful, to create a better community, to empower others, and to leave a positive legacy.

### **Benefits of Participation in the Emerging Leader Program**

- **Structure:** The ELP provides you with structured requirements that guarantee the growth and development of comprehensive leadership skills. After completing the program, you will receive recognition and awards at the annual YSU Awards Banquet.
- **Self-Paced:** The ELP is designed to be a flexible program that enables you to proceed at your own pace. Students may begin the program either at the start of the fall or spring semester and may complete the requirements in as little as two semesters.
- **Support:** As an Emerging Leader, you will be matched with an Emerging Leader Coach (ELC) who will assist you on your leadership journey. Your ELC will meet with you at least three times each semester. In addition, you will have an opportunity to develop a leadership network with other students participating in the program.
- **Skills:** The ELP will provide you with an opportunity to build the skills that are in demand by prospective employers and community organizations. Your leadership development experience will help you build knowledge and skills that will contribute to your success in your career, in your relationships, and in your community.

# Emerging Leader Program Requirements

## 1. Leadership Development Units (24 Total Units)

All students enrolled in the ELP seeking the Leadership Certification must complete 24 Leadership Development Units (LDU) designed to enhance leadership knowledge and skills. Students must complete the Leadership Journey (2 Units), Core Competencies [Option A or B] (12 Units), one LEAD Exploration & Renewal (4 Units), and necessary Elective programs (6 Units) to meet the Leadership Development Units.

### Foundation

#### Leadership Journey (2 Units)

All students newly enrolled in the ELP who desire certification must attend an initial foundation experience. The Leadership Journey experience will be scheduled at the start of each semester. The purpose of the experience is to review what is leadership?, explore how you will benefit from the experience, and begin exploring leaving a legacy. In completion of the journey, you will receive 2 units.

**Core Competencies** (Students may either complete Option A or Option B)

#### Option A (12 Units)

##### Exploring Leadership (Academic Course)

This 3 credit course offered in the Department of Counseling and Special Education fulfills the requirements for the Leadership Core Competencies, leadership supportive course, and also fulfills part of the Personal and Social Responsibility domain of the General Education Requirements.

#### Option B (12 Units)

##### Leadership Core Competency Experiences

This option consists of a series of six Experiences that focus on important development related to leadership. The programs are delivered in a very engaging and experiential manner.

Visionary Leadership	2 Units
Communication Skill Enhancement	2 Units
Ethical Leadership: A Key Characteristic	2 Units
Inclusive Leadership	2 Units
Interpersonal & Group Dynamics	2 Units
Conflict Resolution	2 Units

**LEAD Exploration and Renewal (8 Units Available/4 Units Required):** Students seeking certification must attend either the Fall Exploration (scheduled fall semester) or the Spring Renewal (scheduled spring semester). Students may attend both programs to receive

additional elective credit. You will find the programs scheduled on a Saturday each semester to be engaging, interactive, and involving by design.

### **Fall Exploration (4 Units)**

The Fall Exploration is an exciting and interactive way to challenge yourself while working in a team environment. The event is structured to stimulate your leadership development through adventure-challenge activities. During this experience you will have an opportunity to collaborate with other student leaders in engaging activities committed to enhancing teamwork, group problem-solving skills, communication, and individual and group development.

### **Spring Renewal (4 Units)**

The Spring Renewal provides an interactive opportunity organized in a manner to stimulate your renewal of your leadership skills. The spring semester event is intended to be challenging, supportive, and community oriented. During the renewal experience, participants will have an opportunity to interact with other student leaders, identify their strengths, and explore the legacy they wish to leave.

**Electives (6 Units):** All ELP participants must complete an additional 6 units of elective programs that are intended to further enhance leadership development. As part of the ELP, a variety of programs are scheduled throughout the academic year that serve as electives. In addition, you may request approval for up to six elective units for participation in University programs or leadership training (e.g. Resident Assistant, Peer Assistant, Student Leader) by completing the LDU Approval form available in the Office of Student Life.

## **2. Service (40 Hours)**

Leadership involves service to others. As a result, all students enrolled in the ELP must engage in 40 hours of service. The Office of Student Life can assist you in finding appropriate service opportunities and offers several opportunities (e.g., food drive, Giving Tree) throughout the academic year. In addition, you may request approval for service projects in which you are currently involved or service that you are completing as part of another organization or academic course.

## **3. Leadership Supportive Course (1 Course)**

Leadership is an interdisciplinary focus and has been influenced by a range of academic disciplines. In an effort to strengthen students' understanding of leadership, all students must satisfactorily complete (C or better) one three-credit academic course from an approved list of leadership-supportive courses. A list of approved courses is available in the Office of Student Life and on the website. Many of the courses that fulfill this requirement also count toward other University requirements (e.g., General Education Requirements). **Students that satisfactorily**

**complete the Exploring Leadership course do not need to complete an additional course to fulfill this program requirement.**

#### **4. Organizational Involvement**

Leadership involves action and the direct application of knowledge and skills to improve our communities. All students enrolled in the ELP must actively participate in one or more involvement opportunities (e.g., registered student organization, intercollegiate athletics, theater production, Student Government, community organization).

### **Emerging Leader Living-Learning Community Option**

The Emerging Leader Community (ELC) located in Cafaro House provides students with a unique living-learning opportunity focused on enhancing leadership development. The ELC brings together students who are interested in building connections, developing their leadership, and becoming active members of their community. As a member of this unique living-learning community, students live in a community with other students interested in leadership, complete the 3-credit Exploring Leadership course (fulfills part of General Education Requirements), and participate in activities fostering development, collaborative relationships, and community. The ELC is a great opportunity to develop as a leader, create an active support network, and receive the academic and personal benefits from a living-learning community.

### **Emerging Leader Program Web Site:**

[www.ysu.edu/studentlife](http://www.ysu.edu/studentlife)

For all other questions, please call 330-941-7285 or 330-941-7459  
or email [emergingleader@cc.ysu.edu](mailto:emergingleader@cc.ysu.edu).