

Applied Leadership Experience (ALE) Information

The ALE is designed for students to actively apply the knowledge, skills, and behaviors acquired during the leadership study. The ALE provides students with practical day-to-day experiences in leadership settings.

More specifically, the learning outcomes for the ALE are:

- Implement a personal leadership plan that meets an organizational need at your ALE site.
- Demonstrate the abilities to observe, reflect, and analyze at your ALE site.
- Demonstrate an understanding of barriers to change and leadership skills to overcome the barriers as an individual and as part of the organization.
- Demonstrate communication skills, writing and presentations skills, problem-solving skills, and group/team building skills.
- Articulate a personal philosophy of leadership that includes an understanding of self, others, and community.
- Demonstrate understanding and successful application of Kolb's (1984) Experiential Learning Model and all its elements: Concrete Experience (CE)—Reflective Observation (RO)—Abstract Conceptualization (AC)—Active Experimentation (AE).

ALE Selection and Preparation

The ALE advisor does not place the student in an applied leadership experience. It is the responsibility of the student to determine the experience that is meaningful to them. The student is required to complete an ALE application form/proposal and submit it to the ALE advisor prior to registering for the ALE course.

The approval of an ALE application is based upon the kinds of experiences offered, the potential for leadership opportunity, the ability of the site supervisor to meet the program expectations, and the inclusion of sufficient experience hours.

Appropriate experiences include, but are not limited to, NSOA, Leadershape, Emerging Leaders, Participation or Executive Leadership with a Student Organization, Residence Advisor, O-Team, Leading Alternative Spring Break, Student Ambassadors, Honors Fellows, Sports Team involvement, working with an on-campus or off-campus employer, or off-campus volunteer opportunities and organizations.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will I get assigned an ALE or do I have to have the experience lined up?

You will seek out potential opportunities before the start of the course and submit an application online. Upon approval by the course instructor, you will then be able to register for the course.

Do I have to be in the Interdisciplinary LEADership Minor to participate in the ALE course?

In order to participate in the Applied Leadership Experience (ALE) you must complete LEAD 201 to be considered. LEADership Minors will be given priority registration.

What can I use for my ALE?

Your ALE can be anything and anywhere! Examples from previous students include: NSOA, Leadershape, Emerging Leaders, Participation or Executive Leadership with a Student Organization, Residence Advisor, O-Team, Leading Alternative Spring Break, Student Ambassadors, Honors Fellows, student-athletes, working with an on-campus or off-campus employer, or off-campus volunteer opportunities and organizations

When will I find out if my ALE proposal gets approved?

Your ALE instructor will contact you if they need additional information about where you would like to complete your ALE. When approved, you will receive an email allowing you to register for the course.

When is ALE offered to take?

The ALE course is offered every semester and is offered in hybrid format.

What happens if my position changes or my hours are not completed by the end of the semester?

If the appropriate clock hours are not completed during the semester enrolled, an "IP" (In Progress) is assigned. Continued contact with your faculty ALE instructor is crucial.