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Master of Arts in Nonprofit Leadership and Management

Program Overview
Designed by, for and with local practitioners, the Master of Arts in Nonprofit Leadership and Management is an integrated course of study melding state-of-the-art leadership theory with cutting-edge management models, strategies and tools designed to teach professionals how to create high-performance nonprofit organizations. Students learn new ways of conceptualizing their work through their studies with expert practitioner faculty and top academicians from the University of San Diego’s School of Leadership and Education Sciences (SOLES). The curriculum is focused on applied learning which facilitates the transfer of knowledge from theory to practice. Through the process of conducting and producing organizational audits, market research and marketing plans, development plans, legislative campaigns, designing research-based programs and evaluation models, and capital campaign feasibility studies, students learn how to be politically and technically expert in bringing best practices to nonprofit organizations. The resulting products ultimately comprise a portfolio illustrating how to be politically and technically expert in bringing best practices to nonprofit organizations. Students who reflect the diversity of San Diego and its nonprofit community.

Distinguishing Features
• Renowned practitioner and academic faculty who live the art and science of nonprofit management
• A student body predominated by nonprofit professionals
• Students who reflect the diversity of San Diego and its nonprofit community
• Students enrolled in the Master of Arts in Nonprofit Leadership and Management who are employed by 501(c)(3) organizations receive a deeply discounted tuition rate and are eligible for specially designated practitioner scholarships.

• Students may be eligible to apply for additional scholarships and financial aid through SOLES. To learn more about the opportunities available, please visit www.sandiego.edu/soles/financialaid.
• A focus on applied learning where concepts learned in the classroom come to life. Each student completes 10 community benefit products during the degree that are modestly valued at $30,000.
• Ongoing public education events such as the Annual Nonprofit Governance Symposium and regular community events that are designed to propagate a culture of excellence throughout the greater nonprofit community.
• A growing PhD specialization in Nonprofit/Philanthropic Leadership and Management.
• The Caster Family Center for Nonprofit Research, which provides access to and analysis of various types of nonprofit data, conducts research on the sector, analyzes funding, public policy and environmental trends affecting nonprofits and provides program evaluation services.
• One active advisory board that oversees the academic program and research center.

Program Curriculum
The SOLES faculty enrich all programs and course offerings with the values, concepts and themes that will help students become ethical, civic-minded and committed leaders in their chosen fields. To complete the Master of Arts in Nonprofit Leadership and Management, candidates complete 36 graduate units.

Required Courses (32 units)
- EDLD 501 Nonprofit Sector and Management Fundamentals 3 units
- EDLD 550 Leadership Theory and Practice 3 units
- EDLD 500 Research, Design and Evaluation of Nonprofit Programs 4 units
- EDLD 502 Leadership and Ethics 3 units
- EDLD 503 Nonprofit Finance 3 units
- EDLD 505 Organizational Theory and Change 3 units
- EDLD 506 Resource Development and Fundraising 3 units
- EDLD 507 Community Organizing and Change 3 units
- EDLD 510 Board Management and Leadership 2 units
- EDLD 599 Legal Issues for Nonprofit Leaders 1 unit
- EDLD 504 Human Relations for Leaders 1 unit
- EDLD 511 Strategic Planning and Positioning 3 units

Electives (select 4 or more units)
- EDLD 513 Advocacy Skills and Strategies 2 units
- EDLD 517 Capital and Endowment Campaign Planning 2 units
- EDLD 516 Related Business Development 2 units
- EDLD 512 Beyond Collaboration 1 unit
- EDLD 514 Public Speaking 1 unit
- EDLD 515 Risk Management 1 unit
- EDLD 508 Marketing for Nonprofit Organizations 2 units
- EDLD 579 Understanding Bi-National Nonprofits in the U.S.-Mexican Border Region 2 units

Additional graduate students are required to complete an international experience to graduate.

Additional Requirements for International Students
- Transcripts must be issued in English by the academic institution or must be officially translated by an approved agency. Applicants are required to request their foreign transcripts be evaluated by an independent credential evaluation service. Applicants may contact The International Education Research Foundation, Inc. and request a Detail Report, or World Education Services and request a Course-by-Course Report.
- Submit the official results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Minimum requirements are 83 (Internet-based), 237 (computer-based), or 580 (paper-based).
- Submit Certification of Finances Form and supporting documents. Please visit www.sandiego.edu/admissions/graduate/ for form and additional information.

School of Leadership and Education Sciences