Organizational Leadership (B.A)

Workplace literature is rich with the leadership theme. It is identified as the key to organizational effectiveness and success.

Grounding our study in the social sciences, we seek to identify the complex understandings of both "leadership" and "organization," develop the skills associated with these themes, and prepare to bring these skills to the highest level of effectiveness in our organizations. Further, students will embed these themes in areas of professional expertise.

Lewis University Accelerated Programs

The School of Graduate, Professional and Continuing Education provides adult students an opportunity to complete a college degree with a learner-centered, accelerated delivery format compatible with their needs and lifestyles. Most three-semester credit hour courses are completed in eight-week sessions.

The academic focus is on the integration of theory and practice emphasizing application, analysis and synthesis through collaborative learning experiences. Through small class size, group interaction and one's unique life experiences, the classroom becomes a dynamic environment in which each student is an active participant.

Lewis faculty are prepared as teachers, scholars, researchers and practitioners. In the adult classroom, they serve as coaches, role models and facilitators. Each holds a master’s or doctoral degree, providing a rich blend of academic knowledge in their discipline with practical, professional experience.

Organizational Leadership

Develop the necessary skills to lead change in an organization. Whether you believe leaders are made or born that way, becoming an effective leader takes work. In this Adult Accelerated Organizational Leadership degree program, you will drill down into organizational structure, leadership and real-world methodologies within our values-centered curriculum, learning about and developing your skills in:

- Human relations
- Change management
- Strategic perspectives
- Interpreting and directing organizational data
- Creative problem solving
- Effective leadership
- Critical thinking
- Conflict management and resolution

In addition to the accelerated undergraduate program, students will have an option to pursue an accelerated graduate degree (MA) in Organizational Leadership through the B.A. to M.A. Option.

Did You Know?

Lewis is a transfer friendly University.

Lewis can transfer up to:

- 72 hours from a 2-year college
- 96 hours from a 4-year university

Military transcripts accepted

* Credit hours must be transferred from a Higher Learning Accredited institution.

The Choice Is Yours

- Online
- On-ground
- Combination of both formats

We understand the need to balance work, family, and education. Earn a top-rated degree with flexible choices that fit your life.
Degree Requirements

• Successful completion of a minimum of 128 semester credit hours.
• Completion of 32 semester graded credit hours at Lewis University including four upper division major courses (12 semester credit hours.)
• Achievement of an overall grade point average of at least 2.00 (“C”) for all courses taken at Lewis University and a 2.00 average for the major area courses.

General Education (45)
- College Writing 1 (3)
- College Writing 2 (3)
- Introduction to Human Communication (3)
- Mathematics (3)
- Natural Science (3)
- Social Science (3)
- Social Science (3)
- Social Science (3)

Three of the following courses:
- Global History I (3)
- Global History II (3)
- Fine Arts Requirement (3)
- Literature Requirement (3)

Three of the following Mission-based courses, two must be taken at Lewis:
- Christian Ethics (3)
- Diversity and Social Justice (3)
- 100 level Theology (3)
- 200 level Theology (3)

Core Courses (30)
- Introduction to Applied Social Sciences (3)
- Life, Career and the Emerging Workplace (3)
- Social Theory (3)
- Organizational Development (3)
- Positive Leadership (3)
- Learning in Organizations (3)
- Leadership for Service (3)
- Organizational Communication (3)
- Organizational Research Analysis (3)
- Capstone: The Future of Leadership (3)

Electives (12)
Advisor-approved appropriate electives are offered on a regular basis.

The Advanced writing requirement of the General Education curriculum is satisfied by successful completion of Organizational Research Analysis (ORGL-44000)
Bachelor of Arts to Master of Arts (B.A. to M.A. Option)

The Bachelor’s to Master’s option allows qualified undergraduate to complete the graduate MAOL (Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership) in less time than it would take if the two programs were to be taken separately. Nine graduate hours may be used to complete requirements in the undergraduate major (42 hours), the bachelor’s degree (128 hours), and specific course requirements for the master’s program (36 hours). The total number of required graduate credits (36) will remain the same.

In order to qualify for the B.A./M.A. degree option in Organizational Leadership, students must:

• Major in Lewis University’s Organizational Leadership B.A. degree.
• Have achieved a minimum GPA of 3.0 in courses in the Organizational Leadership B.A. major.
• Senior status – Submit a Graduate Application, meet with a representative from the Graduate Admission office, and be accepted into the M.A. program.

Total hours to graduate in the B.A./M.A. Option (including undergraduate general education requirements, major courses, and electives): 128 undergraduate hours + 27 graduate hours = 155 total B.A. to M.A. Option hours.

ORGL-30000 Introduction to the Applied Social Sciences: This course examines the history of Social Sciences, their evolution and the forces acting upon the social world to cause change. Primary theorists and how their work has influenced modern practice will be explored. Case studies will be utilized to focus on the application of Social Science to Leadership Theory.

ORGL-32000 Life, Career and the Emerging Workplace: This course engages students in the exploration of their self-perception and the ways in which they are perceived by others, especially in the workplace. Building on this foundation, the course continues to consider both the development of personal goals and objectives, as well as the concept of working with others to establish professional direction and offering consistent feedback for positive change. Students will develop the themes that are Leadership and Management.

ORGL-33000 Social Theory: This course develops students’ understanding of the role of the Applied Social Sciences. Considering the wide phenomenon of transition beyond classical social systems, this course proceeds to focus on the development of participative systems. Students will read essential primary authors in this course, and engage the perspective of many of the national and global movements for human rights and democratization. Throughout the course, implications for the workplace will be considered.

ORGL-34000 Positive Leadership: This course aims to provide an introduction to the core ideas of positive psychology and their implications for leadership. After considering the principles of positive psychology students will examine how to create, foster and manage positive organizations where people can thrive. The focus of this course will be how positive leadership applies to the self, at work and with relationships.

ORGL-36000 Organizational Development: Students will consider the notion of leader as a “change agent” and how this notion is applied to transition from a focus on progress to one of “sustainability” in organizational life. Reviewing the emergence of this movement, its concerns and directions, this course will also offer students the opportunity to consider their abilities and challenges as leaders for sustainable change.

ORGL-40000 Learning in Organizations: This course focuses on organizational epistemology. After considering the movement from manufacturing goods and services to management of knowledge, this course will present to students key ideas in organizational learning and help them develop concrete skills to facilitate the process of learning in the workplace.
ORGL-42000 Leadership for Service: Building upon a foundation in applied ethics, Lasallian values, and the notion of "servant leadership," this course seeks to situate leadership in the context of service. This course uses study dynamics such as case study methodology, biography, and observation to develop skills for enhancing organizational ethics and orientation to service.

ORGL-43000 Organizational Communication: This course explores the connection between leadership and language. Students will focus on developing skills in reading, writing, and speaking at work, particularly in the language of their organization. Students will also develop their skills in leading group discussions. At the end of this course, students will create a written development plan to enhance their skills in managing organizational communication.

ORGL-44000 Organizational Research Analysis: This course will develop students’ ability to understand the role of research in organizational alignment. Students will demonstrate the ability to read and interpret the data resulting from research, discern the general quality of such research, assist organizations in making a good-fit in research tools, and shape organizational behaviors which respond to data.

ORGL-45000 Capstone: The Future of Leadership: The course provides an opportunity for students to apply theory and learning from the BAOL program to the Capstone process. Students will conduct a detailed analysis of leadership theory applied to a past and current leader. Additionally, students will develop a set of detailed goals relative to their own leadership development. Students will complete a multi-part paper and presentation. Prerequisite: Consent of Instructor