

Colorado Student Leaders Institute
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
University of Colorado Denver
Summer 2018

Class Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

Location: Student Commons Building, Room 1500

Instructors: Celeste Archer (celeste.archer@ucdenver.edu)

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Mission Statement

The Colorado Student Leaders curriculum is designed to provide an interdisciplinary outlook on the current events, historical roots, and major problems spanning social studies, science, technology, and artistic perspectives on domestic and international issues, as well as the ties between them. Through a series of diverse lessons provided by the instructor and a speakers series, experiential field trips, and three accompanying projects (National History Day in Colorado, Short-Term Business Plan, and Colorado Problem & Solution Exploration), students will exit the course with a diverse knowledge of 10 student-identified topics, as well as of the ties between domestic and international problems, grassroots implications of international problems, and vice versa.

CU Succeed Equivalent Catalog Description

Major Goals

1. To identify the current events, historical roots, and major problems of 10 selected, Colorado-centric topics, and relate those to student-identified focuses in either social studies, science, technology, or the arts.
2. To draw connections between domestic and international problems; the natural sciences, social sciences, arts, and humanities; and the historical roots of current situations and issues.
3. To foster entrepreneurial ideas and independent action on related projects.
4. To incorporate this knowledge into the construction of a National History Day project, a short-term business plan, and a Colorado problem and solution exploration.
5. To encourage solution thinking about current issues and concerns in order to foster real world applications.
6. To encourage collaboration and interpersonal cooperation across disciplines and amongst peers.
7. To challenge college-ready reading and writing skills.

Required Readings

- TBD and provided by guest speakers and instructor. These will be posted on Canvas no less than 48 hours prior to the applicable lesson.
- *Just Like Us: The True Story of Four Mexican Girls Coming of Age in America* by Helen Thorpe for book report

Class Content

The purpose of this class will be to focus on student-selected topics that are Colorado-based with international implications, and incorporate social studies, science, technology, and the arts. Within these subject areas, special attention will be paid to current events, entrepreneurship, economics education, business planning, and civic engagement.

Supplemental Projects

Colorado Problem & Solution Exploration

For this project-based aspect of the course, students will have to apply their knowledge of current and international events to identify a problem in Colorado that falls within one of the identified topic areas. They will then have to devise a realistic solution to this problem based on the knowledge they gain from class and through "lab-based" interpersonal collaboration sessions regarding innovation, economics, politics, grass-roots movements, and artistic expression. Students will have to select a solution that focuses around their selected major. Students will present their problem and proposed solution to the 2017 session of the Colorado Legislature.

National History Day in Colorado

For this supplemental section of the course, student will have to construct the beginnings of a Colorado-centric National History Day in Colorado project based on their 11-step process. At the conclusion of the course, students will present their preliminary thesis and research. Their topic should be directly related to their chosen major. Students will be required to finish this project over the course of the school year and compete at their geographical regional contest.

Short-Term Business Plan

For this project, students will design a business plan based on the knowledge in their course regarding innovation, economics, entrepreneurship, and business planning. Under the guidance of a business mentor, groups of no more than 10 students will create, execute, and turn a profit on a business plan in 28 days. Their business project should be directly related to their chosen major.

Assessment Measures

Journal Entries (10 points ea.)

Students will complete 20 journal entries over the course of the program. Journal entries must be between 250 and 350 words and follow the Summary-Question-Quote (SQQ) format.

- **Summary:** Summarize one lecture/activity from the day. Address the thesis/main point of the lecture, as well as the key points. Analyze what the significance of the thesis is.
- **Quote:** Paraphrase a quotation from the lecture or readings, or include a quotation relevant to the main point.
- **Question:** Ask a question that motivates deeper research on the topic addressed in your summary.

Due:

- Week 1 Journals (#1-6) uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on July 16
- Week 2 Journals (#7-12) uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on July 23
- Week 3 Journals (#13-18) uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on July 30
- Week 4 Journals (#19-20) uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on August 3

Resume (25 points)

In preparation for college, students will create a formal academic resume with cover letter. The CU Denver Career Center will provide a training on this at the beginning of the program.

Due: Uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on August 3

Senator Letter (25 points)

Students will compose a letter to one of Colorado's U.S. Senators explaining why they support or oppose a Senator's stand on a particular topic. These letters should be 1-2 double-spaced pages.

Due: Uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on August 3

Book Report (30 points)

Students will complete an essay analyzing the arguments in their assigned book, and summarizing their "Book Club" activities. This essay should be 3-5 double-spaced pages in length. Students will also complete 3 mini activities (10 points each) throughout the month in preparation to write their final book report.

Mini-Assignments

- **Story of Purpose:** Using their Moral Bucket List, write your story of purpose—what are you passionate about, what are your short- and long-term goals, what makes you feel purposeful? The Purpose Story should be 1 double-spaced page in length.
- **Origins:** Where do you come from? Who were some of your ancestors? When did your family arrive in the United States? The Origins Story should be 1 double-spaced page in length.
- **Current Events:** Immigration is a hot button political issue. Go online and research current events relating to the on-going immigration debate. Read and summarize 3 articles. Include URLs to the articles you read.

Due:

- Story of Purpose uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on July 16
- Origins uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on July 23
- Current Events Readings/Summary uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on July 30
- Final Book Report uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on August 3

Labs (75 points ea.)

Students will present deliverables for each of their labs throughout the course of the program, these are not worth points but students cannot graduate from the program without turning them in. Their final projects will be presented on showcase day. Deliverables will include the beginnings of an NHDC project, an identified problem and proposed solution to a Colorado Problem presented in a form of each group's choice, and a finished product prepared for sale at the Fundraising Luncheon.

NHDC

- NHDC Topic uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on July 16
- Preliminary Thesis and Source List uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on July 23
- Final Presentation uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on July 31

Colorado Problem

- Preliminary Problem Topic Ideas uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 on July 16
- Focused Problem Topic and 5 Solution Ideas uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on July 23
- Final Colorado Problem Solution due on Showcase Day, August 3 (must also be uploaded to Canvas)

Business Plan

- Draft Business Plan uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on July 16
- Final Business Plan and product due on Showcase Day, August 3 (must also be uploaded to Canvas)

Leadership Reflection (25 points)

At the conclusion of the program, students will submit an essay of 1-2 double-spaced pages in length that succinctly summarizes what they think it means to be a leader and what qualities they believe COSLI has provided them in that regard.

Due: Uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 pm on August 3

Total Points: 610

- 549-610 points - A
- 488-548 points - B
- 427-487 points - C