Community Leadership and Civic Engagement (CLCE) is an exciting new major at Northern Illinois University. It was created for students who want to make a difference in the world, but want a paying career as well.

The CLCE major is one-of-a-kind in Illinois and among only a select few in the United States. It is interdisciplinary, meaning that students are exposed to a wide variety of topics such as sociology, public administration, and business.

In addition, community engagement opportunities allow students to apply classroom concepts to practical situations in the real world. CLCE majors use these experiences to gain firsthand knowledge of how community organizations operate, make a lasting impact, and build their resumes while earning course credit.

**Making a Difference**

A group of CLCE students directly contributed to a successful grant application that brought in $8.5 million for a local library. Students take part in campus service groups such as Helping Hands, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Circle K, and We Care 4 NIU.

**Expanded Horizons**

Majors often choose to study abroad, like Jacob, who spent a semester in Indonesia while earning course credit that can be applied toward the CLCE major. Through a competitive application process, six CLCE majors were selected to visit Washington D.C. over spring break and meet with nonprofit leaders and congressional staffers.

**Campus Leaders**

CLCE majors are often very active on campus. For example, Delonte is a CLCE graduate and was the NIU Student Association President.

**Internships**

CLCE students are encouraged to take part in internships, which can be completed for course credit. Examples include Noi, who interned at the United Nations; Isabelle, who interned with PEACE Mexico; and Amanda, who was a congressional intern for the U.S. House of Representatives.

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Community Leadership and Civic Engagement (CLCE) is a cutting edge major combining classroom theory with hands-on, practical experiences to prepare the next generation of global problem solvers.
Students choose Community Leadership and Civic Engagement (CLCE) because they want to make a difference in the world, but want a paid career as well.

Students interested in CLCE often ask “What jobs are available?” Typical graduates pursue rewarding careers in the public and nonprofit sectors. Many jobs found in the nonprofit sector are nearly identical to those in governmental and business sectors.

The nonprofit sector is one of the fastest growing job sectors in the United States and offers a wide variety of career opportunities.

CLCE includes courses from multiple areas of study ranging from sociology and anthropology to public administration and political science. Working closely with faculty, students take part in hands-on community projects to build professional experience while applying lessons learned in the classroom.

### CLCE Core Requirements

**Core Requirements in Department**

*CLCE 100 Community Leadership and Civic Engagement*

CLCE 310 Civic Engagement

CLCE 350 Community Organizations in a Digital World

or CLCE 390 Special Topics in CLCE

or CLCE 429 International NGOs and Globalization

CLCE 410 Nonprofits and Community Engagement

CLCE 495 Capstone Seminar in Community Leadership and Civic Engagement

**Core Requirements outside Department**

*ANTH 220 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*

ANTH 329 Anthropology and Contemporary World Problems

*COMS 220 Rhetoric and Public Issues*

*POLS 150 Democracy in America*

PSPA 301 Philanthropy and Voluntarism

PSPA 326X Nonprofit Management

or POLS 326 Nonprofit Management

PSPA 401 Philanthropy and Voluntarism

PSPA 402 Resource Strategies for Nonprofit Organizations

or MGMT 402X Resource Strategies for Nonprofit Organizations

*SOCI 170 Introduction to Sociology*

*denotes gen ed requirement

Students choose one of the following emphasis areas within the major to customize their learning experience while finishing the degree requirements:

- Advocacy
- Arts and Humanities
- Enterprise
- Environmental
- Global Engagement

See our website at niu.edu/ngold for detailed descriptions of emphasis areas and degree requirements.