



University College

Overview of the proposed Civic Engagement Minor

Students enrolled in the Civic Engagement Minor at Northern Arizona University will explore the relationships between the discipline they study and a comprehensive knowledge of civic engagement practices and experiences. The minor will combine scholarly knowledge and research with a variety of experiential opportunities in which students become involved in action research with community organizations aimed at creating more democratic, just, and sustainable communities. The premise of this minor is that grassroots democratic theory and practice can and should mutually inform each other, as should the scholarly and various other knowledges and traditions in the wider community.

Students who complete this degree will acquire a broad education in democracy, power, and the skills that bring about change to enhance the commonwealth from the local level, to national and transnational scales through a series of intentional and sequenced learning experiences. Experiential and leadership training will provide students with a deep and broad understanding of a career as a *vocation*, in which personal flourishing and broad public purposes are intertwined. This will enhance students' employability, vocational connections, and relationships, as well as their capacities to work in diverse, complex, and dynamic situations. The minor enables students to participate in a transformative initiative in which the NAU community participates in numerous partnerships with surrounding communities in order to become better stewards and citizens.

Key to the success of the minor are our Action Research Teams (ARTs), beginning with First Year Seminar students organized into course-specific working groups, sophomores and juniors who continue to want to participate in the public work of the ARTs and assume leadership and organizing responsibilities for initiatives within each ART, sophomore or junior Peer Teaching Assistants from the First Year Seminar Program who work with the students in each Seminar, graduate student mentors assigned to each umbrella ART, and multi-generational community partners—K-12 students and their parents, community members and organizations, and Navajo elders. In the ARTs, **NAU students and faculty collaborate with members of the broader community to work on a variety of environmental, social, educational, economic, and political issues.** Students collaborate with organizations in every sector – nonprofits, governmental agencies, and businesses.

Student Learning Outcomes for the Civic Engagement Minor

We seek to fulfill the aspirations for the Civic Engagement Minor through the following Program Student Learning Outcomes:

- Civic Engagement Minor graduates will demonstrate peer mentoring and group leadership skills among diverse constituents and stakeholders through their coursework assessments and summative projects in the program. (Skills)
- Civic Engagement Minor graduates will persuasively communicate synthesized knowledge, research, and action/public research through written products targeted to appropriate audiences. (Skills)
- Civic Engagement Minor graduates will demonstrate the skills of interdisciplinary research and analysis of real-world issues in order to generate productive outcomes through their coursework assessments and summative projects in the program. (Skills)
- Civic Engagement Minor graduates will demonstrate the mastery of the theories and strategies of community-based organizing and community leadership through their coursework assessments and summative projects in the program. (Knowledges)
- Civic Engagement Minor graduates will be motivated by creating more democratic, just, and sustainable communities and demonstrated these values through their coursework assessments and summative projects in the program. (Values)
- Civic Engagement Minor graduates will respectfully acknowledge diverse perspectives and traditions, attentively listen, thoughtfully comment, and always enable and demonstrate these attitudes and dispositions through their coursework assessments and summative projects in the program. (Attitudes/Dispositions)

Civic Engagement Minor Course Plan and Curriculum Map

The Civic Engagement Minor consists of 18 units, 9 units of which may be earned in courses that also confer Liberal Studies Distribution credit:

**FS 111, 121,
131, or 141**

with Action
Research Team
(ARTs) component

**First Year
Seminar topics
course (3 units)**

**FS 211, 221,
231, or 241**

with Action
Research Team
(ARTs) component

**Second Year
Seminar topics
course (3 units)**

CCE 220

**Community
Leadership and
Peer Mentoring
(3 units)**

In addition, there are Minor-specific courses offered by the Community, Culture, and Environment Program and a Capstone course for the Minor. See the following Civic Engagement Course Plan, below, and the Minor's Curriculum Map on the following two pages.

Civic Engagement Minor Course Plan

Courses	Title	Prerequisites	Units
FS 111, 121, 131, or 141 with Action Research Team (ARTs) component	First Year Seminar topics course	No more than 45 units completed	3
FS 211, 221, 231, or 241 with Action Research Team (ARTs) component	Second Year Seminar topics course	No more than 75 units completed	3
Minors will take either one FS 111-141 and one FS 211-241 or two FS 111-141 or two FS 211-241 to fulfill this 6 unit requirement			
CCE 220	Community Leadership and Peer Mentoring	FS 111-141(w ARTs) or FS 211- 141 (w ARTs)	3
CCE 320	Civic Engagement in a Global World <i>Focus on relationships among local, regional, national, and transnational modes of engagement in context of national and transnational political and economic institutions and powers. Varieties of cosmopolitanism. Engagement with transnational focused ngo or social movement.</i>	FS 111-141(w ARTs) or FS 211- 141 (w ARTs) & CCE 220	3
CCE 330	Civic Engagement and Formal Democratic Institutions <i>Focus on the interrelationship between informal and formal institutional practices of democracy; analysis of insider-outsider relationships and socio-political change. Weekly observation of City Council, County Commissioners, FUSD, and administrative meetings as well as discussions with representatives of nongovernmental organizations that seek to influence them.</i>	FS 111-141(w ARTs) or FS 211- 141 (w ARTs) & CCE 220	3
CCE 450C	Capstone: Internship <i>Engagement and major writing project</i>	FS 111-141(w ARTs) or FS 211- 141 (w ARTs) & CCE 220, 320, 330	3
TOTAL units in Minor			18

Civic Engagement Minor	Curriculum Map
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		FS 111, 121, 131, 141 First Year Seminars	FS 211, 221, 231, 241 Second Year Seminars	CCE 220 Community Leadership and Peer Mentoring	CCE 320 Civic Engagement in a Global World	CCE 330 Civic Engagement and Formal Democratic Institutions	CCE 450C Capstone: Internship
Civic Engagement Minor graduates will:							
demonstrate peer mentoring and group leadership skills among diverse constituents and stakeholders through their coursework assessments and summative projects in the program.	Skills						
persuasively communicate synthesized knowledge, research, and action/public research through written products targeted to appropriate audiences.	Skills						

<p>demonstrate the skills of interdisciplinary research and analysis of real-world issues in order to generate productive outcomes through their coursework assessments and summative projects in the program.</p>	<p>Skills</p>						
<p>demonstrate the mastery of the theories and strategies of community-based organizing and community leadership through their coursework assessments and summative projects in the program.</p>	<p>Knowledges</p>						
<p>be motivated by creating more democratic, just, and sustainable communities and demonstrated these values through their coursework assessments and summative projects in the program.</p>	<p>Values</p>						
<p>respectfully acknowledge diverse perspectives and traditions, attentively listen, thoughtfully comment, and always enable and demonstrate these attitudes and dispositions through their coursework assessments and summative projects in the program.</p>	<p>Attitudes/ Dispositions</p>						

****Shaded areas indicate that course addresses Program Outcome***