

# Social Responsibility and Ethics Certificate

Offered by the Center for Ethics and Social Responsibility

## Business Coursework (9 credits)

Students must complete **nine credit hours** by selecting from the following courses. All courses have the minimum prerequisites of 52 credits completed and the completion of BASE 2104; some courses have additional prerequisites.

- **ORGN 3030 Critical Leadership Skills (3)**  
Offered in fall and spring. Provides opportunity to learn about and practice skills required of all managers: leadership, negotiation, performance appraisals, delegation, communication, interviewing and making hiring decisions, and managing employees with problem behaviors. Emphasizes experiential learning through group work, role-plays, and case analysis.
- **CESR/ORGN 3040 Fundamentals of Ethical Leadership (3)**  
Offered in fall and spring. Techniques used by current business leaders and seminal leadership scholars to prepare students to handle various leadership situations will be explored.
- **CESR 3050 Sustainable Space Governance (3)**  
Offered in spring. This course introduces students to core principles of institutional design revealed through the study of natural resource governance and surveys existing international law governing outer space. Students will consider the distinction between private (commercial) and public (government) actors in space, and how the rise of private actors will influence space activity and governance for better and for worse. Students will consider prospective questions in space governance.
- **CESR 4000 Leadership Challenges (3)**  
Offered in fall. Highly selective course delivered via interactive model that brings high-level executives into the classroom to present an ethical dilemma they have faced professionally, to which students prepare a solution for the executive to evaluate. **Students must be pre-approved by the instructor to register.**
- **CESR 4005 Business Solutions for the Developing World (3)**  
Offered in fall and spring. Explores business opportunities to meet the needs of those at the base of the economic pyramid. By partnering with organizations and businesses with a social mission, students will learn how businesses (for-profit, social business, NGOs, social entrepreneurs, etc.) can meet the needs of those in poverty and operate sustainably. **Additional prerequisites: 90 credits completed**
- **CESR/MGMT 4130 Sustainable Operations (3)**  
Offered in fall and spring. Strategic perspective on improving environmental performance across the value chain. Conceptually grounded in "eco-efficiency" and "life-cycle thinking," the course helps students to understand costs and benefits (financial, environmental, and social) when deploying business capital to maximize business performance.
- **CESR/ORGN 4300 Leading Diversity and Inclusion in Organizations (3)**  
Offered in spring. Understanding diversity from both the individual and organizational perspectives allows us to explore how we as business leaders can leverage diversity to create opportunities for organizations while navigating common challenges that diversity can bring if mismanaged in organizations.
- **CESR 4430 Corporate Boards (3)**  
Offered in fall. Allows students from any functional area of business to appreciate the difficulties modern boards and management face. Issues addressed include financial strategy; board composition; executive succession, tenure, and compensation; management through crisis; sustainability and corporate social responsibility; the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization and international governance issues.
- **ESBM 4830 New Venture Creation (3)**  
Offered in fall and spring. This course content is relevant to the student who wants the entrepreneurial toolkit, start a new venture, is interested in working in the startup world, would like to effectively evaluate the probability of success for a new venture and/or develop a methodology for entrepreneurial thinking that provides benefits for big and small ventures. The final deliverable is a professional pitch to a group of seasoned investors and the submission of a complete business plan. Project must be pre-approved and related to social responsibility and/or sustainability.
- **CESR 4850 The Sustainable Firm: ESG Strategies and Practices (3)**  
Offered in spring. This SRS Capstone course equips students with first-hand experience in applying emerging best-practices in sustainability reporting and performance to specific business problems. Companies increasingly recognize the critical need for employees with the knowledge and skills to utilize ESG reporting tools that serve to improve the company's sustainable management practices and/or sustainability reporting.

- **ACCT 4828 ESG Reporting: Accounting for a Changing World (3)**  
This course introduces students to the current state of corporate sustainability reporting through the lens of accounting and financial reporting concepts. The course has three basic elements. We will cover (1) data and measurement issues associated with corporate sustainability reporting, (2) current disclosure frameworks and the evolving regulatory landscape, and (3) other accounting-related topics including the intersection of sustainability and US GAAP and ESG Assurance
- **FNCE 2280 The Sustainable Firm: Understanding the Role of ESG in Investment and Management (3)**  
Motivated by internal goals, as well as those from various stakeholders, including governments, companies and their investors are increasingly examining approaches to limit their adverse impact on society and the environment. These forces have led to growing expectations for firms to prioritize environmental, social, and governance (ESG) considerations in their business strategies and operations. This course will focus on investor and managerial practices that consider a broad array of stakeholders.

## Experiential Learning Requirement

Service-learning courses such as CESR 4005, CESR 4850, and ESBM 4830 (with pre-approved SRS-related project) may count toward the experiential learning requirement or toward the business coursework requirement, but not both. Examples include:

- **Internship (for-profit or non-profit)**  
Acceptable internships are characterized by substantive work that adds value to the organization and contributes to the student's learning. Internships must be approved for SRE credit.
- **Related Coursework**  
CESR 4005, MGMT 4140 and advisor-approved courses may count toward the experiential learning requirement or toward the business coursework requirement, **but not both**.
- **Service Learning through Study Abroad Office**  
The Office of International Education offers study abroad programs focused on service learning, generally spanning one academic quarter or semester in a host country, during which the student will gain credit for study in a school of higher education partnered with work for local institutions and non-governmental organizations on service projects that promote community development.

## Personal Reflection and Exit Interview

Before graduating, students synthesize their academic and experiential experiences and set goals for their future. Students write a short essay (2-3 pages), reflecting on their experience and setting out the values that will guide their conduct and their careers. Students then meet with a staff or faculty member associated with the certificate program for their exit interview.

## Program Entrance Requirements

1. Register online at [leeds.ly/sre](https://leeds.ly/sre) and then meet with CESR's Program Coordinator.
2. Maintain a 3.0 grade point average or higher.



Dare to do business differently.

