

Summative Reflective Essay
Leadership Minor ePortfolio Requirement
August 23rd, 2016

The Summative Reflection Essay is an accommodation for Leadership Program Students at the discretion of their Program Directors; instead of writing three separate essays for each elective, students can complete one summative reflection for ALL the courses taken before Fall 2015. After Fall 2015, each course (or set of courses) for each elective category requires an individual ePortfolio submission. Separate ePortfolio submissions are also due for courses taken after Fall 2015.

Word length: 750 - 1500 words

Deadline: The essay must be completed before the first day of class for LEAD 4000. Students are encouraged to complete it as soon as possible.

The purpose of this reflective essay is for you to articulate a coherent synthesis of key learnings and experiences from your introductory and elective courses in the Leadership Studies Minor (LSM). The essay should be written to reflect upon:

- What you have learned about leadership in your elective courses and leadership experiences.
- How has your thinking changed from the start of your Leadership Program until now.

Note: The strongest reflective essays will be grounded in specific examples and ideas from your courses. If the courses were completed several years ago and you have difficulty recalling texts or concepts from those courses, we prefer you focus on experiences that are more “live” for you rather than make them up. In that case, please speak about experiences beyond the elective classes that have shaped your leadership perspective, the skills you have developed, and how your approach to leadership has changed over time.

Writing should meet the following criteria to receive credit:

- Essay reflects a critical examination of ideas rather than merely describing events or summarizing experiences;
- Strong essays will make connections between coursework and co-curricular activities (leadership activities and experiences outside of classes);
- Writing should be suitable for an academic/professional audience;
- Sentence construction, organization, and word choice should be polished, with few sentence level errors (grammar, spelling & punctuation).

The Summative Reflective Essay should take a “page” of your ePortfolio, similar to what is required for individual courses.

See the Leadership Minor Webpage for more information on your ePortfolio:

<http://www.colorado.edu/lsm/coursework/leadership-eportfolio>