

PLC DRESS CODE

WHY A DRESS CODE?

Per our leadership development competencies, professional and academic excellence are practiced and honed throughout your time in PLC. Learning and practicing dressing professionally will prepare you for job interviews, professional work environments, etc. Our dress code promotes respect for yourself and respect for the guest speakers and industry leaders that present to PLC throughout the semester. Research also shows that dressing up changes your way of thinking - you think more globally when dressed more professionally.

PLC scholar attire should reflect professionalism, respect for those who support the PLC program, respect for fellow students, self-respect and confidence. You should dress in business professional attire at PLC guest lectures and special events unless otherwise announced.

Business professional attire can be equated to an "interview outfit." Business casual attire is expected at all other PLC First-Year lectures. Please ask a professional staff what is and what is not appropriate to wear for PLC. You are not expected to invest in a large business wardrobe. Wearing the same one or two outfits during the year is perfectly acceptable. PLC students, however, have many opportunities to meet with community leaders and attend special events off-campus where business professional attire is a must, so a limited investment in attire will have an impact on your success. We feel it is crucial that you realize the importance of representing yourself in the best way possible and are familiar with attire appropriate for different professional situations.

*** You should contact the PLC staff right away if you do not think you can meet the PLC Dress Code requirements for various reasons (this does not include style preference). The staff will help you meet the requirements.***

Business professional attire is defined below. **Business casual attire** is defined on the following page and is a slight step back in formality. Though you may leave your tie and jacket at home for business casual, you must look professional, respectful, and modest/appropriate when attending any PLC lecture. **When in doubt, dress up.**

Guest Lectures, Presentations, PLC Events

BUSINESS PROFESSIONAL

- A full suit (matching coat and pants/skirt/dress) in a neutral color (black, navy, tan, brown, white).
- Pants need to be full length (no capri pants) and skirt/dress hems must hit **no shorter** than three inches above the knee.
- A tie is expected with a button-down shirt. Ties can express more personality but should not be distracting.
- All shirts must be pressed and must have sleeves (no tank tops or camisoles). All shirts must cover both the mid-drift and cleavage. T-shirts, polos, tank-tops, halter-tops, short sleeve button downs, **are not acceptable**.
- Shoes should be polished (or have a new appearance) and should be conservative. No tennis shoes or casual sneakers, no strappy heels/sandals, no stilettos, no flip flops, no snow boots. Loafers, wingtips, low heels, or flats are appropriate footwear in a business setting.
- Any accessories should be modest. This includes all jewelry, tie-pins, lapel pins, hair accessories, etc.

If you would wear the outfit, or parts of it, to go out with friends, to a club, on a date, etc. - you are not dressed appropriately for class.

Regular Lecture, Experiential Weekends, etc.

BUSINESS CASUAL

- Dress pants/slacks/skirt/dress, preferably in a neutral color (black, navy, tan, brown) and coordinating coat/sweater/top. Though you are not wearing a suit, you need to dress respectfully.
- **No jeans, no khakis, no cargo pants, no shorts, no sun-dresses, no leggings.**
- All the rules above under **business professional** apply here for pant/skirt hem length, appropriate shirts, footwear, and accessories.

If you would wear the outfit, or parts of it, to go out with friends, to a club, on a date, etc. - you are not dressed appropriately for class.

All staff and faculty reserve the right to dismiss you from class or an event and request a change of clothing in accordance with the PLC dress code. Violating the dress code is considered a violation of the PLC conduct policies and will be handled accordingly.

BUSINESS PROFESSIONAL

- Trimmed, well-groomed hair, no hat
- Tie that complements your suit
- Matching jacket and trousers, dark, solid colors
- Long-sleeved button-down collared shirt
- Dress socks/belt that match your suit
- Cleaned and polished dress shoes



- Neat, well-groomed hair
- Matching jacket and pants/skirt
- Briefcase instead of handbag/purse
- Conservative hosiery at or near skin tone
- Closed-toe, sensible heels or flats



BUSINESS CASUAL

- Trimmed, well-groomed hair
- Tie is optional
- Collared button-down shirt or a sweater
- Dress socks that match your slacks or khakis
- Boat shoes or loafers



- Neat, well-groomed hair
- Cardigans, sweaters, blouses, or knee-length dresses
- Khakis, slacks, or knee-length skirts
- Closed-toe, sensible heels or flats

