



Graduate Studies *at* AUGSBURG

Master of Arts in Leadership

I came for a master's degree.
I gained new perspectives on leadership.

Liberal arts perspective

Flexible choice model

Supportive learning community

Engaging faculty

Weekend or evening schedule

A wide-angle photograph of the Augsburg College campus. In the foreground, a paved walkway leads from the bottom left towards the center, where a person is walking away from the camera. The walkway is flanked by large, mature trees with green and some autumn-colored leaves. To the right of the walkway is a green lawn with scattered fallen leaves. In the background, several brick buildings are visible. One building has a sign that reads "AUGSBURG COLLEGE". To the right, a modern building with large glass windows is partially visible. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.

You are already a leader.

You want a degree that builds on your skills.

The Augsburg College Master of Arts in Leadership provides a liberal arts perspective on leadership. The program features classes taught by engaging faculty from multiple disciplines and a flexible choice model that allows you to select courses that focus on your goals and interests. You will learn in a community with other leaders from diverse career fields, and throughout the program you'll find support from faculty, staff, and students who value the insight you bring to the program.



Liberal arts perspective on leadership

Flexible curriculum, broad choice
of courses

Supportive learning community

Responsive, engaging faculty from
multiple disciplines

Weekend or evening schedule

Multiple completion options

Graduate Studies
at AUGSBURG

A degree. And so much more.

A master's degree created by you

The MAL program offers a **flexible curriculum** with courses based in a **variety of disciplines** including English, social sciences, religion, economics, communication, and literature. You will take the Visions of Leadership course as an entry to the program and then choose your courses based on your interests and the desired completion option.

Coursework can be completed in less than two years.

To complete the program, select one of three options: a Thesis/Leadership Application Project (LAP), a Non-Thesis Plan with two major papers, or the Comprehensive Examination seminar option and one major paper. Each alternative requires a total of 11 courses.

Classes meet every other weekend on the Minneapolis campus or in the evenings in a flex open cohort in Bloomington. Talk with an admissions expert about the option that will best fit your schedule and goals.

Find more information on the curriculum, completion options, and schedule at www.augsburg.edu/mal.

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KEVIN CHEATHAM '07

A community of learners

Both the MAL faculty and the students bring a variety of perspectives to the classroom. The diversity of experiences contributes to the richness of the program and helps students find creative ways to meet the leadership challenges in their own lives.



WENDI WHEELER, MAL STUDENT



Master of Arts in Leadership Students

Lori Higgins '94 BA, '11 MAL

Lori Higgins believes that everything happens for a reason.

Before she made the decision to go to graduate school, Lori was working in the private sector as a project manager. "I enjoyed the team I worked with, but the culture had changed." So she started the MAL program, with the encouragement of her husband, hoping to find both personal and professional fulfillment.

Then while she was taking a course on self-identity, her employer was reducing its workforce and came to her department looking for volunteers to leave the company. Lori took that as a sign. "I felt like this was the time for me to move on," she says. "It was difficult, but it couldn't have happened at a better time."

Now Lori serves as president of the MetroNorth Chamber of Commerce. She is also active in the lives of her two daughters as a Girl Scout leader and member of the PTA. For her, managing a career and family life isn't about balance—it's an integration. "The fact that I'm in grad school shows my daughters that I value education. Finding time to fit it all in is an interesting challenge, but you just do it," she says.

Lori has found that every class in the MAL program has been valuable. "You pick up different things depending on where you are in life," she says. She says today she's applying lessons from her course on building places to shine at work to her role as a leader and making positive, sometimes unexpected changes.

"This program is helping me lead the organization forward," she says.

**I came for a master's degree.
I gained insights I can use every day.**



John Daniels '10

Going back to school wasn't about getting a promotion for John Daniels—it was about the desire to learn and improve. "I'm not satisfied unless I'm working on ways to be better and helping others reach their potential. It's important for me to always be learning."

After taking eight semesters of courses at the college where his wife works, John says he got back into learning and excited about earning a master's degree. So he enrolled at Augsburg at the same time his oldest son began a master's program at the University of Minnesota. And they both graduated at the same time as well.

While John learned a lot from his professors, he says the greatest value of the program was learning from his classmates. "Everyone brings a different perspective," he says. "I was impressed with the level of expertise the students brought to the classroom."

As a vice president for one of Minnesota's largest garden retailers, John has more than 20 years of experience as a leader. He hopes that his experience in the MAL program will help him be a mentor and role model to emerging leaders in his company. That way, he'll help ensure the company's continued success.

"I have come to appreciate that all of the principles of leadership apply not only to our professional lives, but also to virtually all facets of life. My family, friendships, and other activities all benefit from many of the principles important to strong leadership."

And for John, that is what getting his master's degree was all about.

**I came for a master's degree.
I gained skills I can use in all areas of my life.**



Seeing work in a new way

Deb Mitchell '07

Before Deb Mitchell started the MAL program at Augsburg, she was a vice president with a large financial services firm. Today, Deb has her own consulting company.

Deb says two words come to mind when she thinks about her experience at Augsburg. The first is accessibility. "The different experience that faculty bring to classroom is really important. And I always felt that if I had questions or wanted to explore a question further, I was never denied that opportunity."

The second word is perspective. She says the integration of multiple perspectives which she found in her graduate studies is important to her work today. "That's how my clients are, and that helps me look at my work from a more holistic perspective."

"As a consultant, most everything I do is about problem-solving," Deb says. She adds that the focus of the MAL program and the variety of perspectives on leadership helped her become a better problem solver and consultant. "For each of the courses I took, I could tell you how the lessons I learned are now integrated into my practice."

I came for a master's degree.
I became my own boss.



MORE THAN A DEGREE

Meet our faculty



Norma Noonan, PhD

Professor of Political Science

MAL Program Director

Courses: Colloquium on Contemporary Theories of Leadership,
Women in Leadership, Spirituality and Leadership in the Workplace

I believe that the MAL program opens new vistas for all of us who engage in the learning process, whether as students or instructors. As a result of the MAL program, students report that they see issues in a broader perspective and have new insights into the world around them. We often hear that the program is a life-changing experience. It is an absolute delight to teach in the program. It is a program that offers you both direction and choice. Seize the opportunity to join us!



Kathy Swanson, PhD

Professor of English, Adviser for Augsburg Writing Lab

Courses: Visions of Leadership, World Literature

I believe the MAL faculty really tries to provide experiences that students request and are eager to receive, such as a variety of courses, study abroad opportunities, workshops, and academic support. The writing lab, for example, is busy with MAL students, and writing workshops are available to help students who are unsure of their writing skills.



Thomas Morgan, PhD

Professor of Business Administration

Executive Director, Augsburg Center for Faith and Learning

Courses: Dynamics of Change (with Diane Pike)

Students in the MAL program bring varied backgrounds to class, and this makes possible the rich interchange of ideas and perspectives originally envisioned for the program. Organizations exist and need to function in a diverse and interdisciplinary world. The characteristics of the leadership required, therefore, are familiarity with different and differing perspectives, commitment to continuous learning, and the capacity to adapt to rapidly changing environments, all of which are more effectively developed and enhanced by the multidisciplinary learning environment offered by our Master of Arts in Leadership program.



Diane Pike, PhD

Professor of Sociology

Courses: Dynamics of Change (with Tom Morgan),
Comprehensive Exam Seminar

I would recommend the MAL program because it offers an opportunity for growth that can be tailored to interests and challenging at the same time; it can provide a terrific opportunity to think and reflect with better information. After all, we are what we know!



John Schmit, PhD

Professor of English

Courses: Visions of Leadership, Communication Skills for Leadership, and Language of Leadership

MAL students consistently demonstrate their fascination with the liberal arts and their ability to apply a wide variety of ideas to their own leadership practice. They prove the value of the liberal arts in their daily professional activities. Nothing is quite as satisfying to me as that knowledge.



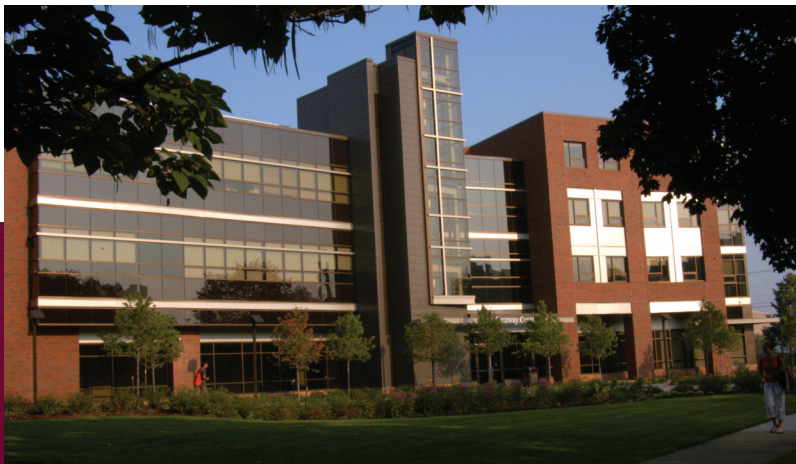
Velma Lashbrook, EdD

Assistant Professor of Leadership

Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning

Courses: Self-Identity, Values, and Personal Growth; Coaching and Consulting; Positive Psychology and Leadership; Organization Theory and Leadership; Popular Music and Leadership; Research Methods

What I love about MAL students is their passion for learning, service orientation, and diversity. They don't enter this program simply to get a degree; they genuinely want to learn how to be more effective leaders. Whether they are in the public or private sector, they have an interest in serving the common good; they want to help create a better world. They represent different cultural backgrounds, different types of work experiences, and different generations. This diversity enriches our classroom and online experiences by exposing us to different perspectives on critical leadership issues.



To find out more about MAL faculty,
go to www.augsburg.edu/mal and
click on "Meet our Faculty."

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Life after grad school

**I came for a master's degree.
I discovered many new opportunities.**

Often a graduate degree leads to new career opportunities, but for many students the MAL program is also a means for personal growth and accomplishment. For more than 23 years, the Augsburg MAL program has opened minds and led the way to new opportunities. Here is one example of how our program has changed students' lives.

Lieutenant Ed Frizell '05

As an officer in the Minnesota Army National Guard, Ed Frizell had a lot of leadership training. But he says the Master of Arts in Leadership program at Augsburg took that training to a whole new level. "It was an intense program, but I excelled," he says.

As an undergraduate student, Ed says he never really realized his potential. "In the MAL program, everyone came prepared, and I had to meet that challenge." And meet it he did. Ed even completed a class while he was deployed in 2004 in a combat zone.

Ed adds that the MAL accelerated his career, moving him up two ranks in the National Guard and gaining him promotion as a commander in the Minneapolis Police Academy. As a direct result of the leadership training he received at Augsburg, he was also selected to attend the FBI national academy. He credits his success in the MAL program to classmates who pushed him to perform to the best of his ability and the supportive faculty, several of whom are still mentors to him. "This program is nothing short of outstanding."

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Go online to register to attend an information session held throughout the year, or call or e-mail to schedule an individual appointment.

augsborg.edu/mal 612-330-1101 malinfo@augsborg.edu

About Augsburg

Established in 1869

Graduate programs since 1987

Graduate programs

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Master of Arts in Education

Master of Arts in Leadership

Master of Arts in Nursing

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies

Master of Social Work

Locations

Minneapolis—All graduate programs are offered on Augsburg's main campus on Riverside Avenue near downtown Minneapolis.

Downtown Minneapolis—The MBA program is offered at Thrivent Financial for Lutherans™.

Bloomington—The Leadership and MBA programs are offered at St. Stephen Lutheran Church, I-494 and France Avenue.

Downtown Rochester—The Nursing, Education, and MBA programs are offered at Bethel Lutheran Church.

Tuition and financial aid

Financial aid is available for graduate students enrolled in a degree-seeking program.

Learn more

Go to www.augsburg.edu/admissions/mal for more information including application process and requirements.

Apply

Free online at augsburg.edu/grad.

See our website for admission requirements.

A degree.
And so much more.

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