

Nonprofit and NGO Studies



Are you looking to make a difference in the world? Look no further than Northern Illinois University!

NIU's Nonprofit and NGO Studies is a one-of-a-kind undergraduate program that explores "what" the nonprofit and NGO (non-governmental organization) sector does along with "why" it is done. The program is interdisciplinary, meaning you will be exposed to a wide variety of topics spanning sociology, public administration, communication, political science and anthropology. You can customize the degree to your particular area of interest by taking elective courses.

Make a difference. Become a global citizen and a leader of this new generation.

Degree Opportunities

You can pursue your passion for service in addition to other interests!

*** Major**

(Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science)

*** Minor** (six classes)

Our minors pursue majors in diverse areas such as Communications, Political Science, Pre-Nursing, Public Health, Sociology, Business and Psychology

*** Certificate of Undergraduate Study in Nonprofit and NGO Studies**

(four classes)

A certificate provides a focused overview of nonprofits and public service, along with the work done in and careers available in the sector.

Real World Experience

Through hands-on class projects, research opportunities, internships, and study abroad programs, you will apply classroom concepts to practical, real world situations. Use these experiences to gain firsthand knowledge of how and why community organizations operate and make a lasting impact while building your resume and earning course credit.

You can supplement those experiences by becoming involved in more than 20 community service student organizations on campus -- including Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity, Engineers without Borders, Circle K, We Care 4 NIU, UNICEF Campus Initiative and the NNGO Student Ambassadors. Service events take place throughout the school year.

Why Nonprofit and NGO Studies?

Young people are launching social-impact careers with a single goal in mind: to make a difference in their community and world. Careers in the nonprofit sector bring a steady paycheck as well as an opportunity to use talent and creativity to tackle some of the world's most pressing social issues. Nonprofits span a wide range from small neighborhood soup kitchens to large healthcare organizations with billions of dollars in assets.

The nonprofit sector offers a place for everyone to make a difference.



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Center for Nonprofit and NGO Studies

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

B.A. or B.S. in Nonprofit and NGO Studies

The Nonprofit and NGO Studies major requires core NNGO courses plus interdisciplinary requirements toward a B.A. or B.S. degree. You can then customize your degree by selecting elective courses that closely connect with your interests and career goals.

Contact Information

Center for Nonprofit and NGO Studies
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DeKalb, IL 60115
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niu.edu/nonprofit



Core Requirements in Center

NNGO 100 Community Leadership and Civic Engagement
NNGO 302 Introduction to Research in NGO's & Communities
NNGO 350 Community Organizations in a Digital World
or
NNGO 390 Special Topics in Nonprofit and NGO Studies Engagement
NNGO 410 Nonprofits and Community Engagement
NNGO 429 International NGOs and Globalization
or
ANTH 429X International NGOs and Globalization
or
SOCI 329X International NGOs and Globalization
NNGO 495 Capstone Seminar in Nonprofit and NGO Studies

Core Requirements outside Center

ANTH 220 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology *
or
ECON 160 Contemporary Economic Issues
or
HIST 171 World History II: Problems in the Human Past
or
PHIL 231 Contemporary Moral Issues
or
POLS 260 Introduction to Comparative Politics
or
SOCI 170 Introduction to Sociology
or
SOCI 270 Social Problems
ANTH 329 Anthropology and Contemporary World Problems
POLS 100 American Government and Politics*
PSPA 301 Philanthropy and Fundraising
PSPA 326X Nonprofit Management
or
POLS 326 Nonprofit Management
SOCI 379 Collective Behavior and Social Movements

* denotes gen ed requirement

Students choose five elective classes to customize their learning experience while finishing the degree requirements. Sample elective classes include:

ANTH 464X Disasters Without Borders
COMS 305 Argumentation and Debate
HIST 492 Introduction to Public History
NUTR 406 Global Food and Nutrition Issues
PSPA 331X Introduction to Public Administration
POLS 383 International Political Economy
SOCI 386 Peace and Social Justice

Career Opportunities

Students often ask "What jobs are available?" Typical graduates pursue rewarding careers in the public and nonprofit sectors in the fields of management/administration, program design and delivery, fundraising and development, volunteer management, human resources and communications.

The nonprofit sector is one of the fastest growing job sectors in the United States, accounting for 10% of overall employment. The U.S. nonprofit sector accounts for 5.3% of the gross domestic product (GDP) -- according to World Bank data, if the nonprofit sector were a country, this would put it just shy of Australia in terms of GDP!

#CommunityLeadership
#CivicEngagement
#MakeADifference



Northern Illinois
University