



GRADUATE PROGRAM
IN HIGHER EDUCATION
LEADERSHIP

**HIED 567: Professional Seminar
Application**

This completed form is due to the Higher Education Program Director December 1st for Spring semester, April 1st for Summer semester and June 1st for Fall semester.

This form provides the Messiah University Higher Education Leadership program director and Professional Seminar Faculty member with the necessary information to approve the seminar. Once approval has been granted you will be instructed to register for the course.

Professional Seminar Overview:

This course provides an opportunity for students to use the tools and knowledge acquired during the program to address a challenge or opportunity specific to the administrative area or institution in which they are employed full time. Students will identify a challenge, analyze research related to the issue, and develop actionable recommendations for responding to the issue and share those recommendations with others within their institutional context in both written form and oral presentation. *Prerequisite: 15 credit hours completed.*

Course Objectives (with related GLOs) (See COE Handbook 1.14.1)

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and analyze a challenge within an institutional context;
2. Develop and communicate actionable recommendations for responding to that issue with others within their institutional context;
3. Apply the tools and knowledge acquired during the program to address a challenge or opportunity specific to the administrative area or institution in which they are employed full time.
4. Demonstrate the ability to reflect upon professional practice for the purposes of improving one's understanding of and ability to serve within professional contexts;
5. Explore and define vocation, identity, and faith as it pertains to professional roles and responsibilities.

Professional Seminar Project:

Students will identify a problem or need that is currently unworkable, unavoidable, urgent, or underserved. This problem may exist in the student's current institution of employment or an outside institution the student would like to work with/support. Additionally, a student may leverage an existing project he/she completed in their program and build/expand upon that work (e.g., strategic plan). However, the project must be commensurate with graduate level work and integrate theories, models, concepts, and tools the students has learned during his or her program. This does not mean students must

use content from every course, but rather leverage the appropriate tools from their “toolbox” to address the problem/need sufficiently.

Once an area of focus for the professional seminar project has been approved, students will design and conduct a research project to understand the underlying causes of the problem/need and provide recommendations for improvement. Both the design of the project, the research investigation, and the proposed solutions should apply best practices in higher education. The advising professor will review and provide feedback on the student’s research design.

Upon completion of the project, students will report out the results to their institution and their professor independently. The report should follow the format desired by the institution, which may take the form of a presentation, white paper, etc.

Additional requirements for successfully completing the professional seminar may be found in the syllabus.

Student Name Date

Student email

Academic Advisor

List the term in which you intend to enroll:

1) Within 250 words, give a brief description of the nature of the project, how it relates to your program of study, why it constitutes as master’s level work, and why you selected this project.