

# Course Descriptions

## **CENG 701 Seminar in Community Engagement (3)**

The Seminar in Community Engagement is designed to introduce students to an overview of the body of knowledge to be studied, paying particular attention to community engagement theory, and the practice of community engagement through observation and study along with a discussion on the definition of communities and community engagement including topics such as conflict management, community needs assessment, sustainability, leadership, and communication

## **CENG 702 Comparative Organizational Systems (3)**

In the study of organizational systems, leaders, researchers, and consultants are taking a comprehensive approach to understand the complexity of our work and living environments. Leaders are examining the interrelationships of people and the organizational structures with attention to how structures catalyze behaviors that determine events, outcomes, growth, and the alignment of human and organizational needs and interests. This multilevel, comparative approach to the study of organizational systems will give students the opportunity to examine and critique organizational system design (OSD) models, organizational sub-systems, and the internetwork dynamics engaged throughout the meta, macro, meso, and micro domains. Students will focus on the application, alignment, and development of OSD and the interdependent networks and integral models for implementation in a variety of domains. Students will identify and map the mindset, competencies, and approaches taken by *intrapreneurs*—i.e., internal change agents that challenge the structures and concomitant systems that bely organizations and people. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to identify, analyze, understand and deftly serve on an OSD and implementation effort.

## **CENG 703 Leadership, Ethics and Social Responsibility (3)**

In this course, students explore the reverberation of leadership, good governance that embodies moral symmetry, and ethical as well as unethical practices imbuing our communities. Students examine the concept and application of moral symmetry, the needs and expectations of the citizen sector, and the complexity of leadership as governance. Community-centric leadership will be studied through the lens of stewardship, servant-leadership, and spiritual leadership frameworks. Community-centric leadership will be studied through the lens of stewardship, servant-leadership, and spiritual leadership frameworks. Topics including conflict management, program failure and restructuring and human resource management will be discussed.

## **CENG 704 Public Policy, Advocacy and Social Justice (3)**

This course addresses the formulation and implementation of public policies that seek to end diverse inequalities. The course will examine relevant historical issues, theories, and empirical data, emphasizing critical analysis and application of knowledge. Specifically, this course will explore definitions of equality and their implications for public policy, the role of issue definition, and agenda setting in policymaking. This course will also address current advocacy tools and help students to imagine how to utilize advocacy in own practice of creating social change.

## **CENG 705 Program Design, Implementation and Evaluation (3)**

Practical skills will be learned regarding the creation and implementation of programs related to community building, health initiatives/services, and non-profit organizations. The course will include necessary knowledge of local and federal restrictions and support, coalitions, technical assistance and local community partnerships. Program evaluation and assessment skills will be taught.

## **CENG 706 Social Entrepreneurship (3)**

Throughout this course, students will explore the breadth of social entrepreneurship and the resonance of innovation, co-creating change. This course gives students the opportunity to examine the human ecosystem and community frameworks that inform and catalyze the change-maker: *the social entrepreneur*. Students will delve into the work of the social entrepreneur and compile a contemporary profile of a recognized change-maker. Students will determine and offer a reflective account discussing the wave, or stage, in which he or she is entering this conversation. The course is designed as a social lab, with student teams addressing complex social challenges at the local, regional, national, or global level. The social labs in this course can focus on, however are not limited to: equity, justice and social inclusion, poverty and homelessness, empathy initiatives, sustainability and economic citizenship, health and nutrition, health and human services, quality of living initiatives, transforming the media, climate and ecological sustainability, social innovation, social investment and resource development, social entrepreneurship peer-groups and mentor programs. Teams will develop and submit a case-study/meta-analysis of their social lab work and experience

### **CENG 709 Quantitative Research Methods I (3)**

This course will provide the doctoral candidate with the fundamental knowledge and skills in quantitative research methods in educational research that are used to conduct the doctoral dissertation. Course content will prepare candidates for the tasks of: a) formulating theory and research-based hypotheses; b) developing a quantitative research design related to the hypotheses; c) developing a research plan that provides a detailed description of the proposed study including the sampling plan, instruments, and data collection techniques; and, d) analyzing data using statistical software (SPSS, EXCEL). Upon the successful completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the skills of specifying testable hypotheses and then designing a proposed methodology that identifies how the research design will be implemented. Prime emphasis will be placed on hypothesis testing, examining relationships between constructs and/or the advancement of educational theory using the scientific method. Specific focus will be given to examining the methodology of survey research, experimental design and quasi-experimental design. Attention will also be given to the analysis of quantitative data using statistical software packages that are well-suited to social scientific research.

### **CENG 710 Quantitative Methods II (3)**

This course will provide advanced study of applications of quantitative methods. This course is designed as a continuation of Quantitative Methods I. It will contain advanced study of techniques appropriate to analysis of data from tests and surveys; group-experimental and quasi-experimental design; selected multivariate procedures and factor analysis. Students will learn through a combination of text reading assignments, critical analysis of professional journal articles, and hands-on experience in using a computer program for data analysis, and application activities. Students will be expected to identify and report on quantitative methods used in published research, to analyze data using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences. (SPSS) and to provide written reports of methodology and results.

### **CENG 711 Qualitative Research Methods I (3)**

This course will provide the doctoral candidate with the fundamental knowledge and skills in qualitative research methods in educational research that are used to conduct doctoral dissertations. Course content will prepare candidates for the tasks of: a) specifying an initial set of research questions for the qualitative study based on theory and prior research; b) formulating a qualitative research plan related to the set of research questions; c) developing a qualitative research plan that identifies the overall approach that will be used in the dissertation; d) developing a research plan that provides a detailed description of the methodology including the proposed site and sample selection, instruments, data collection techniques; and, d) qualitative data analysis. Upon the successful completion of this course, the student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the types of problems for which qualitative methods are well suited and the skills needed to design and conduct a high quality dissertation using qualitative research methods.

### **CENG 712 Qualitative Research Methods II (3)**

This course will broadly introduce students to the theories, methods, and interpretive skills of qualitative research. Specifically, students will learn participatory, action research including community identification, empowerment theory, participant criteria selection and retention, organization evaluation and assessments as well as creating partnerships and action plans in the identified community. Students will be trained in ethnography including creation of protocols and field notes, knowledge of interviewing skills as well as the identification of gatekeepers and key informants. Students will gain knowledge of critical discourse analysis, which will include the collection of relevant archival data and subsequent genealogical analysis. Finally, an understanding of the Point Park University institutional review board process will be offered, including confidentiality, de-identification and safety of participants.

### **CENG 713 Community Engagement Practicum (3)**

This field-based mentor-led practicum is designed to give the prospective leader practice working within a community leading a social change project. The practicum should cover a broad range of administrative responsibilities including, but not limited to: leadership, program development, advocacy, legal issues and responsibilities, the role of the leader in building community relations, and professional development. Collaboration with community members is considered vital and necessary for the student's professional development during the practicum experience. The on-site mentor will assist the student by providing opportunities that coincide with the student's identified objectives and goals.

### **CENG 714 Theoretical Perspectives in Community Engagement (3)**

In this course, students will survey different aspects of social theory from its classical roots to contemporary branches. Students will be encouraged to view theories as ideas that 1) are able to explain, and predict social phenomenon and 2) may be integrated and expanded upon to explain, understand, and predict social phenomenon. Upon the successful completion of this course, students

will be able to identify and discuss the thoughts and ideas of major theorists who inform our understanding of community. Students will be able to articulate and evaluate the importance of classical and contemporary theories for the understanding, research, and explanation of contemporary social issues. Specific focus will be placed on coherently describing, discussing, critiquing and applying social theories to contemporary social issues.

### **CENG 720 Assessment and Evaluation of Decision Making Methods (3)**

Examines individual and organizational decision-making processes drawing upon decision-making theory. Cognitive aspects of decision processes will be addressed as well as the role of more irrational dynamics such as emotion, conflict, incentives, power, and ambiguity. The course will explore models and methods for assessing and evaluating personal and organization decisions.

### **CENG 725 Business Leadership (3)**

This course focuses on four major areas of Business Leadership, including Law, Economics, Finance and Accounting. In the Law area, students will explore laws as they pertain to not-for-profit and government agencies with an emphasis on compliance. In the Economics area, students will explore economic principles that are applicable to community engagement. In the area of Finance and Accounting, students will analyze financial reports and interpret financial data with an emphasis on budgeting.

### **CENG 730 Fundraising and Development (3)**

This course introduces the distinguishing qualities of American philanthropy and examines the roles and responsibilities of a professional fundraiser in a nonprofit organization. Students will investigate the fundamental theories behind designing and implementing a robust fundraising plan including the development of a case statement, effective data management and leading and building a fundraising team. Students will explore the motivations of individual donors, ascertain the sources of contributed funds, discern the internal and external forces affecting fundraising, and survey new and emerging fundraising techniques. Students will also gain practical experience in writing an annual fund appeal, researching foundations, composing a grant proposal and developing a fundraising plan.

### **CENG 735 Strategic Communications Methods (3)**

Students will explore the various communications tactics and media that government, social service and corporate entities employ to aid in accomplishing mission goals and growth objectives. A major emphasis will include the exploration of communications programming that integrates direct communications with traditional and social media that permeate a complex, interrelated society. Students will gain the ability to research and evaluate media choices and match these choices to attain time and cost efficient strategic management. Areas of study will include public relations (public affairs), direct communications (events, interpersonal), advertising (paid and public service) and integrated marketing promotions. Throughout the course students will examine the impact of mass media on society, culture and major issues that impact all organizations. Grant proposal research and follow up will be addressed. Frequent presentations by successful professional communications directors and news media professionals will engage students with key players in the communications world and best practices for communications management.

### **CENG 740 Sustainability and Community Development (3)**

This course will examine the ecological (scientific), economic, legal and ethical aspects of sustainability as it applies to community development.

### **CENG 745 Psycho/Social Community Engagement (3)**

A phenomenological account of community recognizes community as an experience; a welcoming of all others and as a moment of responsibility and action for others without automatic recourse to reified missions, rules of engagement, ideologies and values. Further, community as a phenomenon (*communitas*) avoids making others into the same (assimilation) or simply tolerating or reveling in our differences. Community then becomes co-munis, with service and solicitude to the common. This course will search for the common as defined as our shared and willing burdens, which bring us together. With the shared burdens of community as resolute and not absolute, students will discover an engaged, ethical place to stand with and on behalf of others.

### **CENG 750 Cultivating Networks and Community Development (3)**

Examines how networking can contribute to the well-being of communities and civil society. Identifies ways that community development can utilize networking as a skilled and strategic intervention, and criteria for building and evaluating networking practices in order to enhance community engagement and empowerment.

### **CENG 755 Community Engagement in the Arts (3)**

This course will examine the social, cultural, artistic, philosophical and ethical content and context of community engagement in the arts. The course will focus on relationship building between communities and arts organizations/individuals, and through a community art project or arts/arts education programming, develop a systemic process that motivates both sides to take social action and experience change. Students will utilize research, analysis, lectures, assigned readings, group discussions, consistent interaction with community/arts leaders and members, and local and cultural resources to contribute to a mutually satisfying vision and develop artistic projects/programming that will benefit the community.

### **CENG 790 Dissertation Seminar (3)**

The Dissertation Seminar will prepare the student for the dissertation process by allowing them the opportunity to do individualized, directed research in their area of interest with their dissertation committees. The student will develop and refine research problems, reviews of literature that justify the research problem, and methodologies that best address the research question(s). During the individualized seminar course, students will write several drafts of various parts of the dissertation document. The student's committee members will provide critique and feedback.

### **CENG 795 Special Topics in Community Engagement (3)**

### **CENG 796/797/798 Dissertation Writing I, II, and III (3)**

Each candidate will work with a Dissertation Chair and at least two other committee members, to finalize and defend the first three chapters of the dissertation, which had been developed during the Dissertation Seminar: Statement of the Problem; Literature Review; and Methodology. The proposal will be submitted to the Point Park University Institutional Review Board (IRB), and after IRB approval, the candidate will conduct the research and write the final two dissertation chapters: Findings and Analysis; and Discussion and Recommendations for Future Research. The final defense will be held before the Dissertation Committee (the voting members), but be open to the academic community and any members of the larger community who may have relevance in the dissertation topic. The Dissertation Committee will deliberate privately immediately following the defense and announce findings to the candidate.

### **CENG 799 Dissertation Writing IV (3)**

This course will serve as a continuation of Dissertation Writing III. Students will complete their research and writing and be guided in the completion of edits required by their dissertation committee. Students will prepare to defend their investigations. Candidates will also prepare future presentations and publications as well as present their ongoing dissertation research in either a poster or panel format at the annual Community Engagement Research Symposium.

### **CENG 800 Continuing Dissertation (3)**

This course will serve as a continuation of Dissertation Writing IV for students who have not yet completed and defended their dissertation. Students will complete their research and writing and be guided in the completion of edits required by their dissertation committee. Students will prepare to defend their investigations. Candidates will also prepare future presentations and publications. Prerequisites: CENG 796, CENG 797, CENG 798, CENG 799