

Nonprofit Management & Social Entrepreneurship Certificate

SPRING 2019

I had the wonderful opportunity of participating in the USU 2160 course during the Spring 2019 semester. During this course I was able to really think about what I wanted to do for my capstone project. After many attempts, idea, and countless hours I was able to find my final project of creating the Nonprofit Management and Social Entrepreneurship Certificate. This certificate is the most sustainable way to help students who want to pursue a career or even, learn more about the nonprofit sector. I was able to work with Matthew Sanders, Associate Dean and Professor of the Communication Studies Department, who was also passionate about creating this certificate.



SUMMER - FALL 2019

After I confirmed with different department heads, community engaged scholar directors and professors throughout USU that the certificate would be successful, I was able to start the long research journey with the direction and guidance of Matt Sanders. The process began by meeting with professors from all colleges on campus, different advisors, and different department heads in each college. I spent many hours meeting with these individuals, taking notes and asking questions. I also spent a lot of time researching different colleges throughout the states that have nonprofit programs at their universities.

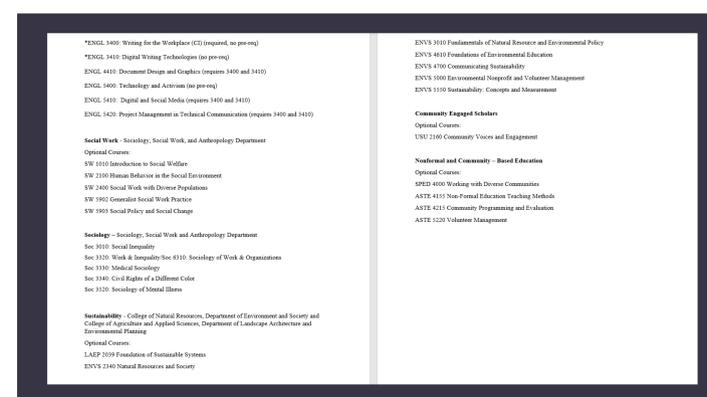


FALL 2019

The research went throughout the summer and into that following semester of Fall 2019. As I continued to research and understand more of what would be wanted in the certificate, I was then able to begin outlining the certificate and its required/optional courses. I looked at every course offered at Utah State to see what courses were already being taught that could be brought into the certificate. I spent hours emailing professors and advisors getting approval of these courses, along with getting confirmation from professors and departments that they were on board with the certificate. The biggest reason for having this program not be a minor, but a certificate, was so that all students from all colleges would be able to receive it. Additionally that students would be able to use courses they had already taken for their majors, count for certificate credit.

FALL 2019 Cont.

I was able to create the entire outline for the certificate and receive documented proof from departments and professors to list their courses. I also was able to write the rough draft certificate proposal that would be given to the USU Administration who would decide whether to approve the certificate. After I finished all this work, I turned it over to Matt Sanders who then put it all together to present. (Some of my work shared below.)



SPRING-FALL 2020

As Matt Sanders was able to get everything to the USU Administrations, we have been patiently waiting for the paperwork to go through. Currently, we were just made aware that the Administration approved the certificate and we are now just waiting for the Board of Regents to approve. Once this is completed, the certificate should be available to students the semester of Fall 2020. I am so happy with the certificate and throughout this journey I have felt great fulfillment. I am grateful for the time and effort I was able to spend to help move this program forward. (Final copy of the proposal that was revised and reorganized by Matt Sanders.)

