The President’s Leadership Program is designed for students who are interested in exploring and developing their potential for leadership. Individuals accepted into the program experience a focused curriculum of courses, personal and leadership development experiences, service learning, internships, as well as the opportunity for international study and travel—all designed to supplement the major of each student’s choice. For additional information go to presidentsleadership.cnu.edu.

Program goals
As a program we expect each PLP graduate will develop the capacity to be:
- An actively engaged citizen committed to enhancing the community.
- Of strong character and integrity developed through personal accountability, cultivation of meaningful relationships and strong work ethic resulting from a rigorous liberal learning experience.
- An effective leader who can synthesize self-exploration, critical reflection and leadership theory within an ever-changing global society.

Program objectives
Understanding leadership relationships, processes, and competencies is essential to success, not only in University life, but also in private, public, and community sectors. The President’s Leadership Program offers opportunities for students to:
- Study and apply leadership theory and principles
- Understand the responsibilities and commitments for ethical leadership and purposeful change
- Develop self understanding and self leadership
- Broaden and deepen world perspectives
- Strengthen oral and written communication
- Strengthen interpersonal competencies
- Develop the ability to enlist others in a common purpose
- Strengthen personal and organizational responsibility
- Develop an orientation toward positive risktaking
- Develop the ability to manage and resolve conflict
- Develop strong work ethic and high standards of excellence

Community Service
Students in the President’s Leadership Program must complete a minimum of 100 hours of service under the supervision or approval of the President’s Leadership Program staff. Service develops students’ self efficacy, engages them in the practice of servant leadership, exposes them to social problems and empowers them to become part of the solution. Students may volunteer in a vast array of service organizations in the Newport News area or in program-sponsored group service projects, such as building a Habitat for Humanity House, conducting a middle school leadership program, coaching community athletic teams and visiting local retirement communities.

Internships
Having become acquainted with leadership theory, process, and practice through the President’s Leadership Program curriculum, each student will enhance his/her leadership competencies through supervised internships in business, government, and nonprofit organizations. By developing and improving leadership qualities in a sustained program of courses, mentoring, public service, and internships, the President’s Leadership Program provides students with the academic and experiential foundation needed to succeed in academic studies, professional careers, and in their personal lives.

Eligibility
Students apply to the leadership program during their Senior year in high school through an application process separate from the CNU Admission process. At the end of the each academic semester, students are reviewed for program continuation in accordance with the standards outlined in the PLP student contract. Students accepted into the program are required to live on campus. Applications are available in the Admission Office, the President’s Leadership Program Office, or on the web at presidentsleadership.cnu.edu. This program is separate from the Honors Program and the leadership studies minor.

Scholarships
Students selected for the President’s Leadership Program receive a $500, $1000, or $2500 scholarship (depending on the award) each semester that will be applied to the student’s account over four years at CNU. This scholarship is renewed each semester if the student lives on campus and meets requirements as outlined in the PLP Student Contract.
Study Abroad

Students are encouraged to apply for study abroad stipends ranging from $500 to $2000 (depending on various criteria). Several incoming students will be awarded a $3,500 scholarship to participate in a special study abroad program at Oxford University in Cambridge, England during the summer following their second year. These special awards will be given to top academic candidates who meet requirements as outlined in the PLP Student Contract.

President’s Leadership Speakers Series

Christopher Newport University students have opportunities to hear leadership perspectives from an array of leaders from the public and private sectors. These leaders share insights and responses to today’s leadership challenges through formal presentations and opportunities to meet with students. Presentations are open to all CNU students, faculty and staff.

Student Life in the President’s Leadership Program

The President’s Leadership Program is more than an opportunity to develop personally and academically. The PLP community is also the foundation for lifelong relationships. Beginning with the Summer Leadership Adventure Program, PLP first-year students bond with each other, the PLP staff, and upper class facilitators.

President’s Leadership Program Requirements

Minor in Leadership Studies

(See separate listing)

First Year:

Fall: LDSP 210*
Spring: LDSP 230*
Fall and Spring: Speakers series, community service, personal and leadership development experience, campus involvement.

* A grade of (C) or better is required to maintain membership in good standing.

Second and Third Years:

Fall and Spring: Personal and leadership development experiences, speaker series, coursework in the minor, community service, campus involvement.

Fourth Year:

Fall or Spring: LDSP 491 and the supervised internship in the major or an appropriate alternate upon approval. The internship must be completed within 12 months prior to taking LDSP 491. Other appropriate courses for the leadership minor.

Fall and Spring: Speaker series, coursework in the minor, community service, campus involvement.

Optional: International Study - Study abroad through a CNU-sponsored summer course or spend a semester abroad through a University approved exchange program.