LEAP ELECTIVES FAQ

Need an elective for your MALCM degree? Read this information to help you select and to facilitate the process. Please read all the information below before making selections and before contacting your advisor.

LEAP courses provide you with skills in the areas of arts management, arts leadership, arts entrepreneurship, arts policy/advocacy, and arts-based public engagement. You may elect to take additional courses in these areas, but it is useful to find out what you will cover in your LEAP courses. Since you pay tuition for each credit you earn, use your available credits wisely to select coursework in topic areas not covered in LEAP courses.

Suggestions for courses that are outside of LEAP coursework include:
- Communications
- Organizational Behavior
- Research Methods
- Human Resources
- Working with Multicultural Populations
- Tourism

Other topic areas may also be useful. Given that you are earning a degree that will prepare you for leadership positions, think creatively about what you may need.

How many electives do I need to take?
To fulfill your degree requirements, you must take 9 credits of electives. Typically, that translates into 3 courses of 3 credits each. Although you can take more courses for fewer credits each (1 credit or 2 credit courses) keep in mind that you must take 32 credits of coursework to graduate.

Where can I find electives that I can take?
Both residential and online students have a list of pre-approved courses that can be found on the LEAP website. NOTE that you ARE NOT limited to these choices. They are offered as suggestions to you. Selecting one of these requires no other action than enrolling in the course. Additionally, there is a list of suggested course codes to search under for electives based on potential career paths in the creative industries, attached to this document. NOTE see next page for questions about courses outside of the pre-approved list.

What level classes are electives?
Courses are numbered to indicate the level of the course. 300 and 400 level courses are undergraduate courses (sophomore and junior/senior level respectively). You may take only a limited number of undergraduate courses to count toward your degree.

It is much preferred that you take only graduate level courses as electives (500 and 600 level courses). Only take an undergraduate course if there is no comparable graduate course that you can take.
What if I want to take something outside of the pre-approved electives?
If none of the pre-approved courses is of interest, you can choose from any course at CSU that adheres to the following criteria:

- Is 500 level or above (except in limited circumstances)
- Provides learning in one or more of the following:
  - Leadership
  - Management
  - Entrepreneurship
  - Arts Policy or Advocacy
  - Public Engagement
- Does not require a prerequisite from the department offering it.
- Permits students outside of the major to enroll in the course.

I have found a course that is not pre-approved that I want to take. What do I do next?
If you select a course that is not pre-approved, you must get approval to take the course from your academic advisor. Contact your advisor and provide the following information:

- Your name
- Whether you are a residential, distance, or Denver student.
- Up to 4 choices of courses you would like to take.

For each course, give the course name, number, credits, a brief description, and an explanation about why the course would benefit you.

Once you receive approval, you can register for an elective course.

Please note that elective courses offered in other departments are under the jurisdiction of those departments. Contact the relevant department for information on the course, when it is offered, wait lists, and other information.

Still need assistance?
Your advisor can also help you think through the possibilities.