NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP (NPLD)

NPLD 510 Social Innovation
This is a class focused on understanding how innovation plays a central role in public problem solving. We will explore how social entrepreneurs develop their ideas, define intended impact, market their solutions, understand competition, and collaborate with other actors. At the end of the course, students will have mastered a set of conceptual tools that will allow them to be effective problem solvers in diverse settings throughout their careers. The course has five core objectives: 1. To introduce students to the concepts and practices of social entrepreneurship; 2. To introduce students to the components of a successful social enterprise; 3. To equip students with the tools to be able to accurately identify and assess innovation and impact in social enterprises; 4. To train students to view the world from a perspective of social innovation; and 5. To empower students to develop their own innovative solutions to difficult social problems around the world.
Taught by: Frumkin
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
Notes: Open to graduate and undergraduate students

NPLD 561 Nonprofit Branding
This course will provide the tools and framework for helping to understand the role that marketing and brand building can play in the non-profit sector. As such, we will create a shared understanding of the key concepts that help define branding and the classic elements of marketing that will serve as a foundation for discussion and analysis throughout the semester. We will identify the fundamental differences that non-profit organizations face in building their brands and how those challenges differ from tradition/for profit brand building. We will identify tools and frameworks that brands/organizations can use to help design and implement marketing strategy. We will utilize current and relevant case studies that help demonstrate the core concepts of this course.
Taught by: Rhode
Activity: Lecture
0.5 Course Units
Notes: half credit course; Fall 2017 course dates: Mondays 9/18, 10/9, 10/23, 11/6, 11/27, and 12/4; 5-8pm

NPLD 562 (Almost) Everything You Need to Know About Nonprofit Law
This half credit course will provide a basic understanding of the law that applies to nonprofit organizations, with an emphasis on the law affecting 501(c)(3) public charities. It will focus on ways to obtain and maintain federal tax exempt status, including issues of private inurements and private benefit, limits on advocacy, lobbying and electioneering, unrelated business income tax, and excess benefits taxes. It will show how legal structure and governance procedures affect the answer to the questions "Whose Organization Is It?" Students will review bylaws of multiple organizations to see how differences in structure reflect the great diversity of nonprofits and why "one size does not fit all" within the sector. They will learn how to avoid bad legal drafting that can create problems for dysfunctional organizations. The course will explain the fiduciary duty of officers and directors, explore the extent of potential personal liability, and review necessary insurance and indemnification. It will review Form 990 publicly available tax returns of multiple nonprofits to see why a tax return may be a nonprofit's most important public relations document. It will also review the basics of charitable giving through a mock meeting of university development officers, outline the concepts of planned giving, and discuss the requirements for charitable solicitation registration at the state level. It will explain the legal requirements for maintaining endowments and discuss a series of ethical issues that can face nonprofit executives and their lawyers.
Taught by: Kramer
Activity: Lecture
0.5 Course Units

NPLD 563 Raising Philanthropic Capital
Americans gave more than $350 billion to nonprofit organizations last year, the highest total ever recorded. Now, more than ever, it is crucial that nonprofit leaders master the art and science of raising philanthropic capital. Participants in this innovative class will: 1) acquire an understanding of the nonprofit funding landscape; 2) learn proven and creative strategies to secure investments; 3) gain the experience of giving and motivating charitable commitments; and 4) receive peer evaluation and professional consulting feedback. This experiential and interactive learning course will provide students an opportunity to evaluate a nonprofit organization endeavoring to attract voluntary support, and coach students to think through and develop the ideas, skills, and tools required to participate personally in today's philanthropic market.
Taught by: Hagin
Activity: Lecture
0.5 Course Units

NPLD 564 Social Entrepreneurship at the Bottom of the Pyramid
This half credit course will offer a broad and pragmatic perspective on social impact at the Bottom of the Pyramid. The early part of the course will focus on geneal characteristics, challenges, and opportunities of resource-poor settings and high-uncertainty environments. The bulk of the course will focus on tools and frameworks designed to operationalize such Social Impact initiatives. The course is aimed at students with no to moderate experience in entrepreneurship/international development. Students with extensive work experience in for-profits, nonprofits, NGOs, or development work are most welcome.
Taught by: Thompson
Activity: Lecture
0.5 Course Units
NPLD 565 Financial Management of Nonprofits
The half credit class will provide students with the ability to use the financial tools of cash flow, budgeting and forecasting models to assist in strategic thinking as it relates to a nonprofit organization. In addition, the class will provide tools that can be used to follow implementation of such strategies including: personal cash flow; basic financial statements; supplemental schedules; and cash flow, budgeting, and forecasting.
Taught by: Boylston
Activity: Lecture
0.5 Course Units

NPLD 580 Effective Governance Practices for Nonprofits
Effective governance relies upon consistent and ethical board leadership, yet nonprofit organizations that exemplify truly model governance are few and far between. This course introduces students to broad frameworks of governance, but will focus most deeply on the human dimensions of board leadership. In particular, we will examine real examples and cases of moral and ethical dilemmas faced by nonprofit boards and executive leaders, and the nuanced practices required to achieve effective board governance. This will involve a careful look at several real cases, as well as guest lectures from 3-4 different nonprofit board and CEO leaders. The invited leaders will use their own experiences to guide students through some of the most challenging ethical and managerial situations that can be encountered, with the goal of providing a practical grounding for students who expect to contribute to nonprofit leadership in their careers - either as executive staff or as board members.
Taught by: Shmavonian
Course usually offered in fall term
Activity: Lecture
0.5 Course Units
Notes: .5 cu course; Fall 2017 class dates: Mondays 9/25, 10/2, 10/16, 10/30, 11/13, 11/20; 5-8pm

NPLD 582 NGOs and International Development
The course will offer a broad perspective on international development, aid, and the roles of NGOs and social enterprises. The latter half of the course will focus on issues in NGO management: fundraising, staff (expatriate and local), monitoring, and evaluation (including randomized controlled trials). The course is aimed at students with no to moderate experience in international development, but students with extensive work experience with NGOs or development work are also welcome.
Taught by: Thompson
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

NPLD 587 Interpersonal Dynamics In Nonprofits That Thrive
This course is designed for interdisciplinary students with an enthusiastic interest in cultivating flourishing organizations, engaged stakeholders, and inspiring leaders across sectors and especially within nonprofits. Over the past several years, the field of Positive Organizational Scholarship (POS) has proliferated, yielding a compelling body of knowledge on how and when people thrive at work. This course focuses on both the theoretical and practical insights that can be gained from cutting-edge POS research and applied to help practitioners enrich people's experiences at work. Special attention is placed on how this wisdom applies not only across sectors but also specifically to the nonprofit organizational context. The course is built upon a foundation of experiential learning, such that students can expect to experiment and apply course concepts in their own lives throughout the semester. In other words, students will start with themselves as the first site of learning and development. The experiential community is enhanced further with team projects where students assess and consult with local nonprofit organizations. These team projects culminate in students presenting to their actual nonprofit organizations their recommendations for enhanced strategy and practices. In particular, the learning objectives of the course provide students with: 1) Techniques and real-world experience in using positive leadership concepts to enrich one's own career, relationships, and life; 2) Ability to identify opportunities to use positive leadership practices in the workplace to enhance stakeholder engagement, individual and organizational performance, and collective impact; 3) Tools for applying positive leadership concepts in nonprofits, as well as all other organizational domains (e.g. business, government, coaching, the family etc.); 4) Research and consulting experience with a local non-profit organization.
Taught by: Myers
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

NPLD 589 Ethics and the Pursuit of Social Impact
Leaders of organizations must often make difficult decisions that pit the rights of one set of stakeholders against another. Having multiple stakeholders or bottom-lines brings with it challenges when conflicts arise, with the perennial question of whose rights/benefits prevail? What trade-offs need to be made between multiple bottom lines? Does the mission of the organization prevail over the privileges of employees/clients? To what extent can large donors influence the mission of the organization? What is an appropriate social return on investment? This course will introduce the factors that influence moral conduct, the ethical issues that arise when pursuing social goals, and discuss the best ways to promote ethical conduct within such organizations. The course will use specific case studies, real and hypothetical, to analyze a variety of ethical issues that arise (including finance, governance, accountability, fundraising, labor (paid and unpaid), client groups, and service provision) among the multiple stakeholders. This course is offered in the fall semester and will conclude by discussing ways that organizations can prevent and correct misconduct, develop a spirit of ethical behavior and institutionalize ethical values in the organization's culture.
Taught by: Handy
Course usually offered in fall term
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
NPLD 590 Social Finance
Economic analysis and financial accounting are like languages: fluency comes with practice. In-class review of case studies (including in-person discussions with the representatives of diverse agencies and organizations featured in the case studies) will enable students to test and develop their capacity for applying conceptual tools and analytical methods to sometimes messy and always complicated, real-life situations. The course objective is to develop theoretical understanding, critical judgment, and practical skills for sensitive and effective engagement with financial and economic matters of significance. Students will learn: (a) different ways of thinking about the economic foundations of social policy, (b) the basic terminology, tools, and methods for analyzing the financial statements of a wide range of organizations, and (c) accounting procedures for integrating business, government, and organizational operations, policies, and practices.

Taught by: Lamas
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: NPLD 790
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
Notes: The course is open to students across the University. All graduate students who take this course must register under NPLD 790. All undergraduate students must register under NPLD 590.

NPLD 591 Change Making: Personal Traits and Professional Skills
Over the past decade, researchers have identified some of the key skills that people need to succeed in their work and in their lives. These are skills that anyone can develop with practice. In this class, we will teach three of the key skills: resilience (the ability to thrive in difficult times); creativity (the ability to come up with innovative solutions to problems); and productivity (the ability to make the best use of your time and find life balance). This summer session will take place through dynamic, interactive workshops. During the first session we will learn the key skills. Over the course of the next three weeks, we will practice these skills to see significant improvement in important areas of our daily lives. By the final day of class, we will talk about how to sustain these gains in our personal and professional lives long after the course has ended.

Taught by: Sherman
Course usually offered summer term only
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

NPLD 593 Design Thinking for Social Impact
Thinking like a designer can transform the way people and organizations develop products, services, processes, and strategy. This approach, called design thinking, brings together what is desirable from a human point of view with what is technologically feasible and economically viable. It also allows people who aren’t trained as designers to use creative tools to address a vast range of challenges. Design thinking is a deeply human process that taps into abilities we all have but get overlooked by more conventional problem-solving practices. It relies on our ability to be intuitive, to recognize patterns, to construct ideas that are emotionally meaningful as well as functional, and to express ourselves through means beyond words or symbols.

Taught by: Lidgus
Course usually offered summer term only
Also Offered As: SWRK 593
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
Notes: for exact meeting days and course times, please check the website: http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/npl/course-schedule

NPLD 720 Data Analysis for Social Impact
Practitioners, leaders, and researchers need to engage with the latest cutting-edge research findings in their field. In this class you will develop an understanding of the quantitative methods that underpin social impact research, in an applied lab-based context. Theoretically, we will focus on developing your working statistical knowledge, and practically we will develop your data analysis skills by introducing you to a range of approaches for analyzing and handling large-scale secondary quantitative data that capture social impact. This applied course covers the fundamental elements and approaches to handling and analyzing quantitative survey data. The emphasis is on developing an adequate understanding of basic theoretical statistical principles, descriptive and exploratory methods of analysis, graphical representation, operational procedures and interpretation of statistical results using STATA. The course will cover a wide range of statistical techniques from basic descriptive statistics to more advanced multivariate statistical techniques, such as OLS regression and logistic regression. You will also be introduced to a number of important topics, including theory testing and development; philosophy of science and research judgement; and replication in social impact research.

Taught by: Bennett
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

Notes: Undergraduates need permission

NPLD 750 Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR): Partnerships and Practices
Businesses performing philanthropic activity often use their platform of CSR activities to engage with society, directly, via a corporate foundation, or through partnerships with nonprofit organizations. Although such philanthropic activities are not directly related to profit-making ventures, they may boost their reputation, be used in marketing their products, talent recruitment, increase employee engagement and commitment, and thus contribute to the profit indirectly. Many businesses undertake their CSR related philanthropic activities using strategic partnerships with nonprofits or public sector organizations to meet their goals. This provides opportunities to nonprofit and public sector leaders in achieving social and sustainable change.

Taught by: Handy
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
NPLD 782 Small Group Processes
Studying the behavior of groups and the actions/inactions of people within groups provides a doorway to deeper understanding of ourselves, our families, our friends, our colleagues, our organizations, and our communities. This .5 credit course is designed for Penn Graduate students eager to generate constructive group processes when chairing a committee, managing a work group, teaching in a classroom, conducting a support/therapy group or facilitating strategy formulation. It is easy to look back and see what went right or wrong in a group or when observing what others are doing. But tuning into and gaining a comprehensive grasp of these processes when they are happening and learning how to take constructive actions in the here and now when it can have a meaningful impact, requires a high level of cognitive capability combined with a special form of relational artistry. This weekend course is an amalgam of experiential activities and energizing ways to internalize the rich concepts developed during a hundred years of research. Participants are required to be fully present and fully engaged for the whole weekend, read the equivalent of a book's worth of material, and write an 8-page (double spaced) paper. Taught by senior groups instructors, including those who have worked in the Small Group Process workshop in the Wharton Leadership Ventures.
Activity: Seminar
0.5 Course Units
Notes: see website for course dates/times: http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/npl/course-schedule

NPLD 783 Field Exercise in Social Impact Measurement
The twofold purpose of social impact measurement is to assess and improve the impact of nonprofit programs, and to inform grantmaking practice and effectiveness. In addition to accounting for funds spent and reporting on the actual work carried out, social impact measurement is an essential learning opportunity for grantmaker and grantee. However, choosing an appropriate methodology of measurement is critical. This course will offer an overview of leading social impact measurement methodologies and tools, and an impact measurement field exercise. During the field exercise, student teams will develop an evaluation plan and associated instruments for a local nonprofit using one or more of the methodologies. Teams will present their evaluation plans and offer recommendations for implementation. Lectures will be complemented by class time devoted to field exercise team meetings and off-site field work.
Taught by: Hargro
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

NPLD 784 The Nonprofit Sector: Concepts and Theories
Can you imagine a world without the vitality and diversity of the nonprofit sector? What would it be like? Everything from health care to education, from serving the disadvantaged to protecting and restoring the environment, nonprofit organizations seem to have become an inseparable part of every aspect of our lives. So often they are taken for granted that we seldom pause and reflect on the roles and functions of these vital organizations in our community. This course will introduce you to the various roles that voluntary, philanthropic and nonprofit organizations play in American society. It will cover the theory, size, scope and functions of the sector from multiple disciplinary perspectives including historical, political, economic, and social views. The course also has a "hidden agenda." Take this class to see and discover what this agenda is!
Taught by: Guo
Course usually offered in fall term
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit

NPLD 785 Group Dynamics and Organizational Politics
This intensely experiential course, offered in the fall semester, is designed for those providing group and institutional leadership at any level of a human enterprise, managing work groups, serving on special task forces, chairing committees, teaching in classrooms, conducting support groups, facilitating groups in clinical settings, etc. Students will focus on two topics: (1) an in-depth understanding of group dynamics while they are in action, and (2) the organizational relationships between groups with power, groups that experience themselves as powerless and those caught in the middle. With group and inter-group relations it is easy to see what went right or wrong in hindsight, or when observing from a distance, but tuning into these dynamics when caught up in them and taking constructive actions when it can have a meaningful impact, requires complex cognitive and emotional processing and use of multiple logics simultaneously. This educational format also explores the mysteries of counter-intuitive principles, such as "to grow, cut back," and "to strengthen self, augment other," are examined. The experiential events that are at the center of this learning occur over two full weekends, one in October and one in November.
Taught by: Smith
Course usually offered in fall term
Prerequisite: Enrollment in NPLD program or permission of the instructor
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
Notes: See website for course date and times: http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/npl/course-schedule

NPLD 786 Strategic Management and Leadership of Nonprofits
This course is about doing good and doing well. It is designed to introduce you to the fundamental issues in accountability and governance and the administration and management in nonprofit organizations. Through research and analysis, you will understand multiple structures of accountability and the various stakeholders in nonprofits, understand the duties and dynamics of boards of directors in conjunction with other mechanisms of governance (e.g. chief executive officers, advisory boards, etc.), and develop an understanding of management techniques and leadership skills for enhancing the effectiveness of nonprofit organizations. You will be asked to think about the challenges of running nonprofit organizations in a comparative context, with cases drawn from both the U.S. and abroad. The emphasis of this course is on acquiring operational skills. The course is designed for those who may have had years of experience managing other people and programs in the nonprofit sector but who want to develop a more systematic mastery of this challenge, as well as students from other sectors who aspire to a nonprofit leadership role.
Taught by: Guo
Course usually offered in fall term
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
NPLD 790 Social Finance
Economic analysis and financial accounting are like languages: fluency comes with practice. In-class review of case studies (including in-person discussions with the representatives of diverse agencies and organizations featured in the case studies) will enable students to test and develop their capacity for applying conceptual tools and analytical methods to sometimes messy and always complicated, real-life situations. The course objective is to develop theoretical understanding, critical judgment, and practical skills for sensitive and effective engagement with financial and economic matters of significance. Students will learn: (a) different ways of thinking about the economic foundations of social policy, (b) the basic terminology, tools, and methods for analyzing the financial statements of a wide range of organizations, and (c) accounting procedures for evaluating business, government, and organizational operations, policies, and practices.

Taught by: Lamas
Course usually offered in fall term
Also Offered As: NPLD 590
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
Notes: The course is open to students across the University. All graduate students who take this course must register under NPLD 790. All undergraduate students must register under NPLD 590.

NPLD 791 Leadership: Designing the Future
This experiential, highly interactive seminar is for those eager to serve in managerial/leadership positions of human systems that create/maintain the organizational and fiscal viability of public, non-profit or private enterprises, including their partnerships. Candidates in all Penn graduate programs are welcome, whether one’s ambition is to generate sustainable livelihoods, renewable energy, wealth, clean water, viable environments, robotics, or quality services in fields such as education, health care, AI, or criminal justice. Course Participants are members of decision-making groups that run a computer-based, data-driven, future-creating, socio-economic simulation while synchronously studying the intra and inter-group dynamics inherent in all leadership actions.

Taught by: Smith
Course usually offered in fall term
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
Notes: See website for course date and times: http://www.sp2.upenn.edu/npl/course-schedule

NPLD 792 Social Entrepreneurship
Social entrepreneurs are individuals with innovative vision seeking to accomplish important public purposes through the creative and aggressive mobilization of people and resources. Using academic theory and research on social entrepreneurship as a framework, student innovators learn to design, develop, and lead social change organizations of their own invention. Students turn their passion for changing the world into concrete plans for launching a venture. Over the course of the semester, we will cover a broad array of topics associated with social innovation and entrepreneurship, including defining the problem/opportunity, refining the mission/vision, developing market research and industry analysis, defining a financial and operating structure, assessing results and progress, and scaling an enterprise. This course is neutral on sector. Graduate students in any of Penn’s graduate and professional schools who want to create social value through either nonprofit or for-profit ventures are invited to take the class and develop their ideas. The class will expose students to the process of getting an organization - regardless of sector - off the ground and running. While this is a class on innovation and entrepreneurship, students do not need to be committed to starting a venture upon graduation. The skills and tools contained in the course have wide applicability in the workplace. Being able to develop a coherent venture plan is great training for anyone who wants to work in government, philanthropy, or the business sector funding or managing existing organizations. The course attempts to convey a picture of what a well-considered and well-executed venture plan looks like with the goal of developing in students an appreciation for clear thinking in the pursuit of the creation of public value.

Taught by: Frumkin
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit

NPLD 796 Philanthropy and Fundraising Tools for Managers
This course will review the everyday tools that nonprofit managers and development officers need to raise funds from individuals and other sources of private philanthropy. Last year, Americans gave approximately $300 million and 83% of it was from individuals. The fundraising profession has created a body of knowledge in the past twenty years that can guide effective fundraising programs so that charitable organizations can support their mission. The sessions will review the theory and practical techniques that development professionals use every day in large and small organizations including annual giving, major gifts, planned giving, cultivation of donors, making your case for support, the Seven Faces of Philanthropy, special events, and prospect research. There will also be discussions of philanthropic trends and current giving patterns. For those who are interested in nonprofit administration, these will be critical tools to understand.

Taught by Heisman
Course usually offered in spring term
Activity: Lecture
1 Course Unit
Notes: Undergraduates need permission
NPLD 797 Philanthropy and the City
This course will focus on how urban communities are shaped by the nonprofit sector and the billions of philanthropic dollars that fuel their work. By bridging theory and practice, the class explores what dynamics are at play to deliver vital services or programs in healthcare, education, the arts, community development, and other issues. The course will also focus on these important questions: (1) Whose responsibility is the public good? How is that responsibility shared by the public, private, and nonprofit sectors? and (2) Given that responsibility for the public good, which individuals and groups make the decisions about how to serve the public good? How are these decisions made, and who benefits from these decisions? Students will consider these questions in an interdisciplinary context that will bring a historical and philosophical perspective to the examination of the values and institutions that characterize the contemporary philanthropy and the nonprofit sector.
Taught by: Bauer/Goldman
Course usually offered in spring term
Also Offered As: URBS 404
Activity: Seminar
1 Course Unit