

ACSI Eastern Canada *Leadership Courses and Certificate Overview*

A. Program Overview

ACSI Eastern Canada *Leadership Courses* are designed for school principals and emerging leaders who would like to foster their leadership skills. The initiative incorporates stand-alone courses, each of which is a total of six hours in length, completed online and facilitated through learning tools such as collaborative documents, discussion forums, and video-conferencing. Courses will generally have a maximum of 12 participants. Most courses will use a case study method and be delivered over a 2-3 week period including:

- independent reading and reflection,
- online discussion forum, and
- two scheduled video-conferencing blocks

Courses will be led by Dr. Steve Sider, Associate Professor at Wilfrid Laurier University, and former ACSI school administrator. Participants who complete six courses, will receive a *Leadership Certificate*. The first six courses will be for Leadership I Certificate, the next six will lead to a Level II Certificate and so on. The certificate is facilitated by ACSI Eastern Canada.

B. Depth and Breadth of Courses

The courses have been designed to align with standards that are present in Canada for university degree programs. The following are key conceptual areas that are reflected in the leadership courses and which align with Ontario Universities Council on Quality Assurance Undergraduate and Graduate Degree Level Expectations (<http://oucqa.ca/framework/appendix-1/>):

Area	Description, Evidence
1. Depth and Breadth of Knowledge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General knowledge and understanding of many key concepts, methodologies, theoretical approaches and assumptions in a discipline 2. Critical thinking and analytical skills inside and outside the discipline
2. Knowledge of Methodologies	<p>An understanding of methods of enquiry or creative activity, or both, in their primary area of study that enables the student to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems using well established ideas and techniques; and 2. devise and sustain arguments or solve problems using these methods.
3. Application of Knowledge	<p>The ability to use a basic range of established techniques to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. analyse information; 2. evaluate appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems related to their area(s) of study; and 3. propose solutions
4. Communication Skills	<p>The ability to communicate accurately and reliably, orally and in writing to a range of audiences.</p>
5. Awareness of Limits of Knowledge	<p>An understanding of the limits to their own knowledge and how this might influence their analyses and interpretations.</p>
6. Autonomy and Professional Capacity	<p>Qualities and transferable skills necessary for further study, employment, community involvement and other activities requiring:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the exercise of personal responsibility and decision-making; 2. working effectively with others; 3. the ability to identify and address their own learning needs in changing circumstances and to select an appropriate program of further study; and 4. behaviour consistent with academic integrity and social responsibility.
7. Application to Context	<p>The ability to understand local contexts and to take into consideration the socio-cultural and political contexts to most effectively provide relevant instruction and leadership.</p>

C. Assessment, Course Completion

Each course includes current effective formative assessment practices including peer and instructor feedback but no summative evaluation is completed. A participant who completes all of the course requirements, including participating in the scheduled video-conference meetings, will be considered to have satisfactorily completed the course and will be recommended to ACSI EC for course completion. ACSI EC will recognize those who complete courses via a certificate program.

D. 2016-2017 Proposed Courses

Course	Anticipated Time Frame
Making Hamburger: What are your biggest leadership beefs and what can we do about them?	November (F2F + online)
Making Hamburger: What are your biggest leadership beefs and what can we do about them? (Repeat from Fall, 2016)	January
Intentionally Shaping School Culture	January
Parent Involvement: Moving to Engagement	February
Budgeting and Financial Management	March
Key Aspects of Staffing	April
Emerging Issues: LGBTQ	April
Managing Transitions for Students Between Schools and Systems	May

E. How do I register and what technology is required?

Registration information will be provided by Ginny Kennedy (ginny.kennedy@sympatico.ca). Course questions can be directed to Dr. Steve Sider (ssider@wlu.ca).

COST: ACSI Members \$100 per course Non-Members \$180 per course

After you have registered, and one week before the course begins, you will receive an email with log-in information for the video-conferencing system as well as any instructions for reading that needs to be completed. Any computer or tablet with high speed internet connectivity should suffice.

