



EXPLORE ENGAGE ELEVATE

The University of Connecticut offers a comprehensive, unique, and ‘cutting edge’ approach to the leadership development of its students. The OAK Leadership Agenda reflects the Areas of Emphasis identified in the University’s Academic Plan, seeks to integrate itself into the University’s academic programs and services, and prepares students to be engaged, forward thinking, and global citizens.

The components of the OAK Leadership Agenda are grouped into three primary areas:

**EXPLORE**

- DISCOVERY Leadership Series
- Leadership Seminars
- Leadership Learning Community

**ENGAGE**

- FUTURE Leaders
- Engaged Leaders Series\*
- HOLDUP!
- Student Trustee Account Leadership Training

**ELEVATE**

- Peer Leadership Instructors
- Leadership Legacy Experience
- Omicron Delta Kappa\*
- Senior Year Leadership Experience\*

\*Note: Some components are still under development.

Division of Student Affairs  
Office of Leadership Programs

860.486.6588  
www.leadership.uconn.edu



University of Connecticut  
Department of Student Activities  
Unit 3008  
Storrs, CT 06269-3008

Leadership Programs  
University of Connecticut

# Peer Leadership Instructor Program

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Peer Leadership Instructor



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# Peer Leadership Instructor Program



## What is a PLI?

Peer Leadership Instructors are experienced student leaders who are trained in leadership theories and principles as well as techniques for effective facilitation and instruction. PLIs then actively participate in the design, development, and co-facilitation of a 1-credit Leadership Seminar introducing first-year students to the theories, principles, and opportunities for leadership on campus. This unique peer mentoring opportunity provides PLI's with the public speaking and facilitation skills necessary to lead a class and guide their fellow students on the beginning of their leadership journey here at UConn.



## Program Components

Peer Leadership Instructors earn 3 academic credits for their participation in this program. This is earned through their active participation in the key components of the program including:

**Co-Facilitation of a Leadership Seminar (INTD 1820):** PLI's will be assigned co-facilitation partners as well as a Graduate Assistant and will help lead a 1-credit Leadership Seminar to first- year students.



**Meet Regularly with Leadership Advisor:** PLI's will work closely with their Leadership Advisor, who is a graduate student in the Higher Education Student Affairs (MA) program. PLI's will meet with their Leadership Advisor on a weekly basis to prepare for class.

**Participation in EDLR 3263:** PLI's will enroll and actively participate in EDLR 283, which meets for two hours every week throughout the semester. This course will combine theory and practice of instructing students in the area of leadership.

**Attend PLI Training Session:** At the beginning of the semester, all PLI's are expected to attend a training session that will prepare them for their role as a Peer Leadership Instructor.

## What are the Benefits of Being a PLI?

- Enhance personal knowledge and understanding of leadership principles and characteristics.
- Further development of peer facilitation and leadership skills in an experientially based environment.
- Co-facilitation and public speaking experience.
- Gain knowledge and expertise about transitional issues of first and second year students.
- Lesson planning and implementation experience.

## How Do I Become a PLI?

Selection for PLIs takes place every semester. Visit the PLI website and download an application for the position. Follow the instructions to submit the application via e-mail or drop it off in person to the Involvement Office (SU 302).

**[www.leadership.uconn.edu](http://www.leadership.uconn.edu)**

(click on Peer Leadership Instructors)

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