The mission of the Rice Center for Engineering Leadership (RCEL) is to educate and develop and inspire Rice Engineers to become ethical leaders in technology who will excel in research, industry, enabling (non-engineering) career paths, or bold entrepreneurship. RCEL programming enhances traditional undergraduate education by developing skills that are not expressly covered by the traditional curricula from the School of Engineering. Ultimately, the goal of the Certificate in Engineering Leadership is to equip engineering students with the critical technical, communication, and leadership skills necessary to succeed and excel professionally.

The Certificate in Engineering Leadership is designed to familiarize undergraduate students with key leadership concepts and allow them to practice the skills necessary to function effectively in a variety of leadership roles in a global and national economy within a workplace, which is often increasingly diverse and multi-cultural. Through coursework, extracurricular activities, internship support, and community events, the Certificate in Engineering Leadership lays a foundation for leadership advancement within 3-5 years of graduation while also teaching students to envision their career impact beyond the 10-year horizon. RCEL programming covers a range of important competency domains, including such topics as creative problem solving, conflict resolution, developing self-awareness, setting goals, project management, oral/written communication, and teamwork.

Certificate
- Certificate in Engineering Leadership (ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/engineering/engineering-leadership/engineering-leadership-certificate)

Engineering Leadership does not currently offer an academic program at the graduate level.

Faculty Director
C. Fred Higgs, III, John and Ann Doerr Professor of Mechanical Engineering

Executive Director
Kazimir I. Karwowski

Professors in the Practice
James P. Hennessy
Sergio D. Kapusta

Lecturers
Janice Hewitt
Kazimir I. Karwowski
Gayle M. Moran
Elizabeth O'Sullivan
Tina Peterson
Germaine Porche
Cesare Wright

For Rice University degree-granting programs:
To view the list of official course offerings, please see Rice’s Course Catalog (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat?action=cata)
To view the most recent semester’s course schedule, please see Rice’s Course Schedule (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat)

Rice Center for Engineering Leadership (RCEL)
RCEL 100 - SELF-AWARENESS AND THE ENGINEERING LEADER
Short Title: SELF-AWARENESS & THE ENGINEER
Department: Center Engineering Leadership
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 2
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: The purpose of this course is to prepare students to become future leaders. Engineering leadership is an emerging innovation in both education and practice and our course will prepare students to being their development journey toward this goal. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for RCEL 100 if student has credit for ENGI 140/ENGI 218.

RCEL 200 - PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE ENGINEERING LEADER
Short Title: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT ENG LEADR
Department: Center Engineering Leadership
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hours: 2
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Prerequisite(s): RCEL 100
Description: The purpose of this course is to prepare students to become future leaders. Engineering leadership is an emerging innovation in both education and practice and our course will prepare students to being their development journey toward this end. This is the second half of the initial RCEL leadership course. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for RCEL 200 if student has credit for ENGI 140/ENGI 218.
RCEL 238 - SPECIAL TOPICS
\begin{itemize}
  \item Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS
  \item Department: Center Engineering Leadership
  \item Grade Mode: Standard Letter
  \item Course Type: Laboratory, Seminar, Lecture, Internship/Practicum
  \item Credit Hours: 1-4
  \item Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
  \item Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
  \item Description: Topics and credit hours may vary each semester. Contact department for current semester's topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.
\end{itemize}

RCEL 241 - INTERNSHIP PRACTICUM FOR ENGINEERING LEADERSHIP
\begin{itemize}
  \item Short Title: INTERNSHIP PRACTICUM FOR ENGI
  \item Department: Center Engineering Leadership
  \item Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
  \item Course Type: Internship/Practicum
  \item Credit Hours: 0
  \item Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
  \item Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
  \item Description: RCEL 241 is an applied practicum and internship course that provides guided career and professional development for engineering students in a real-world industrial, academic, research, or other professional context. It prepares students to assimilate quickly and to exceed employer expectations during their internships. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for RCEL 241 if student has credit for ENGI 241. Repeatable for Credit.
\end{itemize}

RCEL 300 - DEVELOPMENT OF HIGH PERFORMING ENGINEERING TEAMS
\begin{itemize}
  \item Short Title: DEVELOPMENT OF HIGH PERFORMING
  \item Department: Center Engineering Leadership
  \item Grade Mode: Standard Letter
  \item Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
  \item Credit Hours: 2
  \item Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
  \item Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
  \item Prerequisite(s): RCEL 200
  \item Description: The purpose of this course is to prepare students for engineering leadership and followership roles in engineering contexts. This course is required for our school's certificate engineering leadership and includes a focus on practical skills and how these skills can be learned, developed, and applied in team situations. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for RCEL 300 if student has credit for ENGI 219/ENGI 315.
\end{itemize}

RCEL 400 - LEADING HIGH PERFORMING ENGINEERING TEAMS
\begin{itemize}
  \item Short Title: LEADING HIGH PERFORMING ENGINE
  \item Department: Center Engineering Leadership
  \item Grade Mode: Standard Letter
  \item Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
  \item Credit Hours: 2
  \item Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
  \item Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
  \item Prerequisite(s): RCEL 300
  \item Description: This course develops skills that are required for enterprise wide leadership positions. Topics include: managing and leveraging diversity, creative problem solving through intersectional thinking, ethical issue identification and resolution, risk management, performance management, development and communication of an enterprise wide vision, and development of a change management plan. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for RCEL 400 if student has credit for ENGI 219/ENGI 315.
\end{itemize}

RCEL 410 - ENGINEERING LAUNCH PAD-RESEARCH
\begin{itemize}
  \item Short Title: ENG LAUNCH PAD-RESEARCH
  \item Department: Center Engineering Leadership
  \item Grade Mode: Standard Letter
  \item Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
  \item Credit Hour: 1
  \item Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
  \item Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
  \item Prerequisite(s): ENGI 100
  \item Description: RCEL 410 is one of four RCEL courses intended to jump-start the next steps for aspiring engineering leaders. The other courses deal with industry, Alternative Pathways, and Entrepreneurship, while RCEL 410 is focused on developing an understanding of leadership principles applicable in a Research environment. Students will gain insights into managing ethical dilemmas, developing communication strategies, creating a vision and goals, and project management in either an undergraduate or graduate student level engineering discipline. Research in academia, government labs, and industry will be compared and contrasted.
\end{itemize}

RCEL 420 - ENGINEERING LAUNCH PAD-INDUSTRY
\begin{itemize}
  \item Short Title: ENGINEERING LAUNCH PAD-INDUST
  \item Department: Center Engineering Leadership
  \item Grade Mode: Standard Letter
  \item Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
  \item Credit Hours: 2
  \item Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
  \item Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
\end{itemize}
RCEL 430 - ENGINEERING LAUNCH PAD-NON-ENGINEERING PATHWAYS

Short Title: ENGINEERING LAUNCH PAD-PATHWAY

Department: Center Engineering Leadership

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory

Credit Hour: 1

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level

Description: RCEL 430 introduces students to the concept of entrepreneurship and the development of non-engineering pathways. It focuses on areas such as policy, law, medicine, industry consulting, and other viable career options beyond industry and research. Students will identify a focus career track and complete a series of assignments designed to increase familiarity and competency in that discipline.

RCEL 440 - ENGINEERING LAUNCH PAD-ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Short Title: ENGINEERING LAUNCH PAD-ENTERPR

Department: Center Engineering Leadership

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory

Credit Hour: 1

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level

Description: This course will focus on identifying the value proposition a potential venture has for a specific customer segment, and who those customers are and why. Students will be forced to “get out of the building” and interview potential customers to help refine their assumptions based on data. The goal is to help the teams create a scalable and repeatable business model for their venture.

RCEL 450 - ENGINEERING PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP ACTION LEARNING

Short Title: PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND LEADERS

Department: Center Engineering Leadership

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory

Credit Hours: 2

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level

Description: This course will focus on identifying the value proposition a potential venture has for a specific customer segment, and who those customers are and why. Students will be forced to “get out of the building” and interview potential customers to help refine their assumptions based on data. The goal is to help the teams create a scalable and repeatable business model for their venture.

RCEL 477 - SPECIAL TOPICS

Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS

Department: Center Engineering Leadership

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Internship/Practicum, Seminar, Lecture, Laboratory

Credit Hours: 1-4

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level

Description: Topics and credit hours may vary each semester. Contact department for current semester’s topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.

RCEL 610 - ETHICS FOR ENGINEERS

Short Title: ETHICS FOR ENGINEERS

Department: Center Engineering Leadership

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture

Credit Hours: 3


Course Level: Graduate

Description: This course will focus on identifying the value proposition a potential venture has for a specific customer segment, and who those customers are and why. Students will be forced to “get out of the building” and interview potential customers to help refine their assumptions based on data. The goal is to help the teams create a scalable and repeatable business model for their venture.

Description and Code Legend

Note: Internally, the university uses the following descriptions, codes, and abbreviations for this academic program. The following is a quick reference:

Course Catalog/Schedule

• Course offerings/subject code: RCEL

Center Description and Code

• Rice Center for Engineering Leadership: RCEL

Undergraduate Certificate Description and Code

• Certificate in Engineering Leadership: CEL

CIP Code and Description

1 Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) 2010 Codes and Descriptions from the National Center for Education Statistics: https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/