

# HIGHER EDUCATION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Master of Arts



[wmich.edu/leadership/academics/ed-leadership/master/hesa](https://wmich.edu/leadership/academics/ed-leadership/master/hesa)



## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The higher education and student affairs (HESA) concentration in the Educational Leadership program emphasizes a practitioner-scholar model. The curriculum combines a student development and leadership theory core, diversity and inclusion electives, and individualized field experiences. Curriculum and experiences highlight intercultural development and advocating for historically marginalized and underserved student populations in all areas of professional practice. Complete your leadership portfolio emphasizing professional competencies, in lieu of thesis or exams. Graduate assistantships (GA) are available in multiple areas.



**HESA has provided me with the education, skills, and practical experience to be successful in my role.**

■ Fareed Y. Shalhout, alumni



The HESA program at WMU is **one of the oldest student affairs graduate programs in the nation**. This ensures that the program has a rich history and large alumni network.



HESA emphasizes the CAS standards and ACPA/ NASPA Professional Competency Areas.

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**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**  
College of Education and Human Development  
Educational Leadership,  
Research and Technology

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## WHY WMU?

HESA is a cohort-based program providing you an individualized experience that includes:

- High-quality education at a research university
- Accessible faculty, focused on student success
- Emphasis on intercultural development through coursework and co-curricular engagement
- Choice of diversity cognate courses with advisor support
- Personal coaching in the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI)
- Global engagement opportunities through courses and study abroad focused on higher education in Malaysia, Singapore and Canada
- Choices of experiences such as co-teaching, research, or presenting at conferences
- Meet administrators and intern at several local public, private and community colleges
- Create your HESA leadership portfolio for future employers, highlighting competencies and transferable skills
- Integrative learning projects offered through the WMU Signature, which includes special designation on your diploma
- Funding sources available to attend conferences and support research

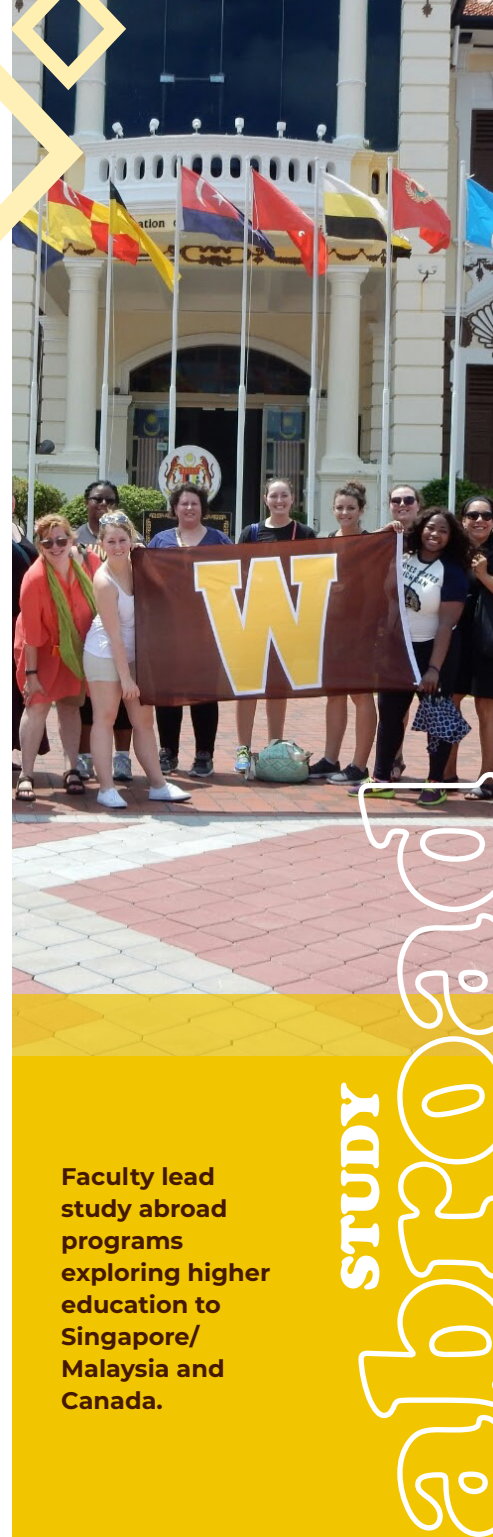
## REAL WORLD EXPERIENCE IN HESA AT WMU

Fuel your student affairs passion as you grow into a practitioner-scholar in the experientially based program by applying what you are learning at work, in internships and classes. You will complete two individually designed supervised, field-based internships. Additionally, HESA fosters connections and supports you in securing financially competitive graduate assistantships (GA).

## ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

HESA welcomes full-and part-time applicants and students of all majors to complete an application, which requires official transcripts, resume, written statement, and recommendation forms, with one letter of recommendation encouraged.

- An overall GPA of at least 3.0 in the last two years of undergraduate work is required.
- GRE scores are not required
- Priority application deadline is January 15 in order to start the following fall
- If admitted by February 1 you are given the opportunity to participate in HESA Info & Interview Days, which connects you to WMU departments hiring graduate assistants (GA)



Faculty lead  
study abroad  
programs  
exploring higher  
education to  
Singapore/  
Malaysia and  
Canada.

study  
abroad



**Dr. Ramona Lewis**  
HESA Program Coordinator  
[elrt-hesa@wmich.edu](mailto:elrt-hesa@wmich.edu)  
269-387-3883

In addition to the department's full-time faculty, HESA is proud to partner to with senior level leaders in higher education across Southwest Michigan who teach in and contribute to the program.

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