



ELP Mission Statement & Core Competencies

The UCLA Educational Leadership Program (ELP) is committed to promoting innovative and change-oriented educational leaders. We fully embrace the public service mission of UCLA as a leading public research university and the social justice vision of the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies. What distinguishes ELP from other leadership programs is its unique melding of theory, practice, and experiential learning. The program combines a commitment to PreK-16 expertise, access and equity, and rigorous student-focused teaching and learning. ELP's collaborative, cohort-based model embodies the theory that knowledge is constructed not imparted.

ELP is guided by a nationally acclaimed faculty who not only develop theory but also work in the multicultural urban settings close to UCLA. The ELP faculty believe the following skills and dispositions are critical to today's educational leaders:

- a. Commitment to merging theory and practice to address leadership challenges in educational organizations
- b. Commitment to advancing social justice
- c. Appreciation and understanding of diversity
- d. Intercultural understanding and communication ability
- e. Ability to persuade using logical and data-supported arguments
- f. Advanced professional and scholarly writing ability
- g. Ability to critically analyze research
- h. Ability to conduct rigorous empirical inquiry and to use the data to understand complex issues
- i. Ability to build teams and work collaboratively in complex organizations
- j. Self-reflection and self-appraisal skills

ELP promotes these skills and dispositions through cohort experiences that build educational leadership holistically. Intimate, one-on-one and small group exchanges with faculty allow these competencies to grow in a supportive community, to create a cohort of leaders prepared to change organizations from within.