

## LEADing News

M.A. in Leadership Program Newsletter

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

LEAD Courses Spring 2026	1
LEAD Program Updates	2
Sports Leadesrhip Concentration Update	3
Spring 2026 Elective Courses	4-6
Summer 2026	7

**Elective Courses** 

# Practical and Applicable LEAD COURSES FOR THIS SPRING 2026

We are excited to offer these required and concentration/ elective courses this Spring '26, particularly as we introduce the **Global Entrepreneurship** concentration with its signature course, **LEAD 627** Global Entrepreneurship: *Launching a Missional Enterprise*. This course will focus on helping you set up a business enterprise in an **overseas location** as you seek to exemplify being Christ's **salt and light** in the world, you're serving with your entrepreneurial organization.

Other popular concentration/elective courses returning this Spring '26 are Entrepreneurial Marketing (LEAD 615), Theology of Work (LEAD 627), and Fundraising (HDI 686). *Please see pages 4-6*.

COURSE	MODE	CRN	FACULTY
LEAD 512 Leadership and Spiritual Formation (4)	Online: 1OL	13495	Junias Venugopal
LEAD 559 Organizational and Change Leadership (4)	Online: 1OL	13180	Yulee Lee
LEAD 615 Entrepreneurial Marketing (2)	Online: 1OL	13788	Dave Pederson
<b>LEAD 627</b> Global Entrepreneurship: Launching a Missional Enterprise (2)	Online: O	13799	Kevin Sandahl
<b>LEAD 643</b> Theology of Work: Equipping God's People to Flourish in their Calling (2)	Online: O	13837	Andy Bilhorn
LEAD 652 Strategic Management	Online: 1OL	13492	Todd Wilson
LEAD 662 Leading Multicultural Teams	Online: 1OL	13768	Junias Venugopal
HDI 686 Fundraising in Nonprofit Organizations and Congregations	Online: 1OL	13499	Jamie Goodwin

Students taking LEAD 512, LEAD 652, and LEAD 662 in the **Euro LEAD partnership cohort**; BITH 565 and other specific courses can get the CRN#s from the Manager of Student Support, Wendy Larson: **wendy.larson@wheaton.edu**. And as these are offered in a hybrid/modular mode which will involve travel, please confirm dates with Wendy Larson before you make any travel plans or buy tickets.

For additional details and information for Spring 2026 course offerings, please contact LEAD Office Coordinator **cassidy.larson@wheaton.edu.** 

## LEAD PROGRAM UPDATES





Our **Euro LEAD cohort** admitted 18 students to the program this fall, who were joined by 6 from last year to the **LEAD 557 Foundations of Leadership for a Globalized World** course with Dr. Paul Lee, our co-Program Director in October '25.

This course was offered as a hybrid with online study and a modular-intensive portion which included 3-days in Prague, where they sported LEAD swag and enjoyed fellowship after the class and over food.





The LEAD program is intentional about its experiential teaching methodology as shown in this picture where Dr. Dave Sveen is giving students in his **LEAD 655 Leading Effective Organizations:** *Structural*, *Financial*, *Legal Foundations* course a field visit to Cedarstone, a company that provides back-office efficiencies to nonprofit organizations in the Wheaton area.

# SPORTS LEADERSHIP CONCENTRATION UPDATE

LEADs newest concentration saw the admissions of several star athletes, some of whom had eligibility to join various Wheaton's collegiate teams. We'll feature others in future issues, but wanted to note Jack Krahel's accomplishments in soccer: Jack Krahel of Wheaton was voted CCIW Goalkeeper of the Year after leading the conference in goals-against average (0.62), saves percentage (.886) and shutouts (five). The graduate student from Mableton, Ga. played all 720 CCIW minutes for the league champs, allowing only five goals and tallying 39 saves.

## 2025 CCIW Goalkeeper of the Year

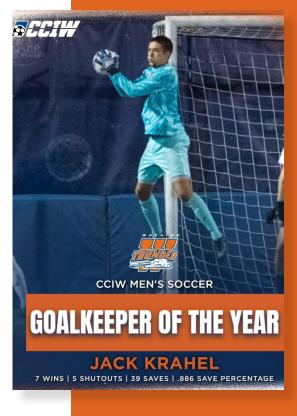
Jack Krahel, Wheaton

## 2025 CCIW Men's Soccer Student-Athletes of the Week

#### Defensive

Oct. 21: Jack Krahel, Wheaton Oct. 14: Jack Krahel, Wheaton Oct. 7: Jack Krahel, Wheaton

Sadly, we lost in the semi-finals, but not before Jack brilliantly saved a penalty taken during the game.



## **ELECTIVE LEAD COURSES SPRING 2026**

At its core, our **LEAD** program seeks to embody that God never intended the use of our gifts through professional vocations to be separated from our walking with Him in His purpose to redeem all of creation. As leaders, we have the opportunity to grow in an even deeper relationship with God as we learn to work together with Him in His businesses, organizations, nonprofits, and ministries to lean on His leadership, wisdom, and direction.

We are launching our Global
Entrepreneurship concentration
(create, scale, and lead global ventures
with holistic Kingdom impact) with the
introductory course, LEAD 627 Global
Entrepreneurship: Launching a Missional
Enterprise taught by a practitioner, Kevin
Sandahl, who is a Wheaton alum and well
known in this discipline.

Global Entrepreneurship provides tools to help students evaluate and develop new business ideas into effective missional enterprises. It explores the intersection of living intentionally with God is His missio Dei while building and operating scalable businesses that provide access to unreached peoples while also seeking to create jobs, enable human flourishing, and transform communities. We explore best practices in entrepreneurial business development in the context of the two biblical commissions to fruitfully and creatively manage God's creation and to take the gospel to the ends of the earth.

Successful business ventures contribute to the flourishing of communities by improving

customers' lives, providing financially for workers, indirectly supporting vendors and suppliers and, through taxes, supporting the local infrastructure and government.

Entrepreneurial ventures of any kind are inherently risky and the journey to a healthy, scalable business can be long and hard. But business have the potential to create access, transform communities, and build leaders in ways that other approaches to missions cannot. 80% of business startups fail within the first 5 years. Many missionaries return home from the field within 5 years.

This course aims to teach business practices that have shown to reduce startup failure and combine them with Kingdom-driven mindset that allows us as business leaders to walk closely with God and align ourselves with His goals and purpose in venture knowing that He will "work all things for good." We teach to improve the success rate of missional enterprises by equipping students with proved business practices combined with the wisdom of Kingdom-minded entrepreneurs who have gone before them.



### Kevin Sandahl

Kevin is the founder and CEO of Covalience, a global technological services company. He has a passion for leading and coaching high-performing global software delivery teams. He combines his experiences walking with Jesus, growing up on the mission field, working in the global marketplace, and living cross culturally to steward Covalience in its vision to "develop transformative relationships through highly effective global technology teams."

Kevin has lived and worked in over 40 countries and has travelled extensively. He has his Engineering degree from Illinois Institute of Technology and Wheaton College as well as an MBA in International Business and Entrepreneurship from DePaul.

Kevin regularly speaks on Business as Mission, Business for Transformation, Global Leadership, and issues impacting crosscultural work and virtual teams across the US, India, and Latin America. He currently resides in Southeast Asia and splits his time between South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the US.

In his free time, Kevin enjoys playing with his kids, being active outdoors (soccer, mountain biking, hiking, camping), exploring new places and playing guitar.



### Andy Bilhorn

The course, LEAD 643 Theology of Work: Equipping God's People to Flourish in their Calling, looks at the narrative of Scripture beginning with God creating the universe as a worker, how sin marred God's design for work, and how God calls a people out of 400 years of forced labor and shaped them through liturgical practices to recreate them in accordance with the example of his son Jesus, who himself was a builder for the first three decades of his life. In tandem with the review of Scripture as an intentional reflection on the work of our lives. This includes what has brought us meaning and frustration in our work, reflecting upon our current commitments and priorities, and a framework for discerning how our unique calling can be answered in our lives today in the communities in which we find ourselves.

Andy Bilhorn and his family live in West Town and he works as a management consultant where he consults with Fortune 500 C-suite executives and government leaders at the intersection of strategy, technology, and people operations. He currently serves as a Senior Director at Gartner leading in their Digital Talent and Organization consulting practice. Prior to his return to the marketplace, Andy served as a college pastor with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at Northwestern University for 8 years.



Jamie Goodwin

Jamie Goodwin, who serves as a Wheaton College faculty member will be teaching HDI 686 Fundraising in Nonprofit Organizations and Congregations as an elective course or as a concentration course in either the Managing Nonprofit or the Sports Leadership concentrations.

As leaders in nonprofits, NGOs and congregations, we seek to cultivate the virtue of generosity, both in our own lives, and in the communities we lead. We accept responsibility to raise the necessary resources to pursue our missions. Evidence-based fundraising practices within nonprofits and congregations will be reviewed and this will be useful for executives in organizations that accepts donations and is accountable to these donors

This course will teach students logics, values, and techniques of fundraising from a Christian perspective. It is designed for leaders, either those who anticipate leading a fundraising effort in a nonprofit or congregation, as well as those who are in the middle of such a program. Projects are designed to be extremely practical and can be tailored to the real-world goals students are pursuing. Finally, this class works from a comparative perspective, considering the many ways that people encourage generosity throughout the world.



Dave Pederson

Join Dave Pederson who serves in the Litfin Divinity School here as he wants to ignite your passion for innovation and AI by teaching **LEAD 615 Entrepreneurial Marketing**. It's a dynamic, online 2-credit course being offered this Spring 2026 term.

This class blends the best of entrepreneurship and marketing teaching you to create, communicate, and deliver value through innovative, real-world strategies. We want you to master key digital marketing tools, craft a complete digital strategy for an organization (you are encouraged to do this where you serve), and dive into inspiring books like *Made to Stick* and *Start Something That Matters*.

Explore how marketing can honor God and love your neighbors as you reflect theologically on today's digital challenges. Learn how AI is transforming digital marketing. This course is perfect for aspiring leaders, entrepreneurs, and kingdom-minded marketers. Don't miss your chance to learn from proprietary content from Chris Lesner, entrepreneur and founder of Project World Impact.

\* This course may be taken as an elective and also serves as a concentration course for Managing Nonprofits and Global Entrepreneurship.

## SUMMERS AT WHEATON COLLEGE



The LEAD program hosts modular-intensive courses in June in a very special Summer Elective series, where you can live on campus (or affordable Air-bnb) and have challenging conversations with your classmates and faculty as we seek to be salt-and-light leaders in this world. More details in the next issue of LEADing NEWS.

Announcing on June 22 – 24, 2026, another course in our special summer series: LEAD 692 Spiritual Maturity for Leaders: Living and leading from spiritual wholeness.

This course will give you perspective on God's purposes for your life and leadership - laying out a theological framework for your journey as a disciple for a lifetime of impact. You will be challenged to step out of your personal and cultural paradigms and come face to face with what many of the New Testament writers call 'teleios' (maturity). Leaders with this perspective will enjoy a life connected to calling and the ultimate purposes of God and His kingdom.

Neil Hart remains inspired to see creativity as a redemptive force for God's kingdom. He has observed leadership from diverse vantage points with experience in entrepreneurship, leadership, ministry and organizational management. Neil founded and led creative brand agency, *Boomtown*, for 20 years where he helped develop strategy for a number of universities and large corporations across South Africa. After that Neil took over the leadership of missions and church planting organization, *All Nations*, from founder Floyd McClung where he served on the international leadership team and worked amongst unreached people groups in 20 countries. Neil now serves as the executive director of *Mergon Foundation*, a catalytic resource partner to incredible kingdom-minded ministries working across Africa and the Middle East.

Interestingly, Neil wrote a speech for Nelson Mandela, he speaks three languages, he is an author and exhibited artist, he loves woodworking, playing the guitar, cooking and growing bonsai, but most of all, Jesus.

#### OTHER COURSES IN THIS SERIES IN SUMMER '26:

**LEAD 647** The Best and Worst of Christian History: *Key Insights for Today's Leaders* (2) taught by John Dickson **6/15-17**.

**LEAD 645** Mental Health and the Leader (2) taught by David VanDyke 6/18-20.





#### **CONTACT US**

wheaton.edu/graduate-school wendy.larson@wheaton.edu 501 College Ave., Wheaton, IL 60187 630-752-5000