

Partner with CPRL to enhance professional education while revitalizing public education

We invite your graduate program and students to join with the Columbia University Center for Public Research and Leadership (CPRL) to develop the next generation of public sector leaders while helping solve some of K12 education's biggest challenges.

Each semester, CPRL convenes graduate students in law, education, policy, business, and data science from universities across the U.S. to channel theory, rigorous research, skill-building, and professional service experiences into social impact.



What CPRL Offers Your Students

Intensive one-semester experiential learning opportunity

Many U.S. graduate programs have a small set of students interested in careers in public leadership with a focus on public education and related spheres such as child welfare services and juvenile justice. Established at Columbia in 2011 as a course combining seminar and real world projects, CPRL offers these students the chance to explore their interests while building important skills, knowledge, and mindsets applicable to any career. The program includes conceptual coursework, skill-building, and projects tackling complex, transdisciplinary systemic challenges with innovative client school systems and education sector support and advocacy organizations nationwide. **Students learn:**

Application of theory and law to advance systems change

concepts and models of public-sector legal arrangements, governance, regulation, organizational design, and democratic accountability to understand and transform public systems.

Fast-paced knowledge ramp-up

rapidly developing expertise in new subject areas by learning from and with team members', clients', and communities' diverse knowledge and by identifying knowledge gaps and filling them through structured academic and policy research and consultation.

Strategic thinking and problem solving

multi-dimensional analytic skills professionals need to represent stakeholders effectively and to navigate ambiguous and changing conditions, including quantitative analysis, qualitative evaluation, system and design thinking, and team-based norming and disciplined problem-solving.

Client and project management

managing organizational clients and projects that are complex, constantly changing, and consequential.

Cultural and racial literacy and fluency

communicating across disciplines and lines of difference and cultivating broad and consequential democratic participation in decision making.

Dynamic teamwork, producing high-quality work product

working effectively and efficiently with others to produce work product of the caliber expected of top-notch leaders throughout their careers.

Learning from and with a diverse cohort of graduate students

A recent cohort of 32 students exemplifies the diversity of backgrounds, experiences and interests CPRL attracts: They joined us from 10 different graduate programs, hailed from several different countries, and had backgrounds as educators, consultants and business leaders, and in philanthropy and community service.

What CPRL Offers Your Students

Lifelong network

Students join a supportive network of 600+ CPRL alumni helping to lead:



Ongoing career support and opportunities

Our interdisciplinary team of faculty and project-support professionals provide ongoing mentoring, coaching, and advanced learning opportunities to our students and to our alumni throughout their careers. We also offer our alumni opportunities to work with CPRL as teaching assistants after completing the program.

What CPRL Offers Your Professional School and University

Join a growing university community committed to developing the next generation of dynamic leaders, rebuilding public institutions, and collaborating to expand student learning opportunities.

Since its inception in 2011, CPRL has expanded its network of graduate and professional schools, now including:

Columbia Business School, Law, QMSS, SIPA,
and Teachers College
CUNY Law
Dartmouth Tuck School of Business
Duke Law
Fordham Law
Howard University Law
University of Maryland Law

Michigan Law
NYU Law, Stern, Steinhardt, Wagner
Penn Law
Princeton Policy
Rice Jones Graduate School of Business
Stanford Law
UC Berkeley Law

UC Irvine Law
UCLA Law
UNC Law
USC Law
Vanderbilt Peabody
Yale School of Management

Enhance and expand your experiential learning offerings

Partner schools approve CPRL's curricular offerings for inclusion in their course of study and grant their own credit for them, as clinics, externships, policy labs, capstone experiences, etc. Student work qualifies for major-writing and 8 units of ABA-compliant experiential credit. Students pay tuition to their home university. Student scholarships based on need and merit are available and paid to their home university to reduce tuition costs.

What CPRL Offers the K12 Education Sector

Our students, under the leadership of our interdisciplinary professional staff, partner with school systems and organizations supporting K12 education to help them devise solutions to complex systemic challenges. Since 2011, we have completed hundreds of consulting projects across 30 states.

[Learn about some sample projects ▶](#)

How the University Partnership Works

Course Location

In person at Columbia University in New York City.

Student Status

Students from outside Columbia have full visiting-student status.

Credits and Workload

Full semester's credit load as calculated by partner schools (typically 12 - 14 credits). Workload is approximately 40 hours per week.

Student Course Admission Process

Students who have completed at least one semester of graduate school may apply. CPRL uses a selective admissions process designed in consultation with the partner graduate school, which typically includes a brief written application and interview. Partner schools may nominate and limit the number of participating students.

Housing

Housing assistance up to \$2,500 is available for visiting students.

Become a Partner School

1

Discuss partnership value
and terms with CPRL

2

Enter into an MOU

3

Facilitate student recruitment through regular
course-information channels, including course
catalogs and information sessions

[Explore our Syllabus ▶](#)