

# SCHOOL OF LEADERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Marguerita DeSander, Director  
Gary A. Ransdell Hall 3086  
(270) 745-4890

The School of Leadership and Professional Studies offers programs designed to prepare school personnel for effective leadership in P-12 schools. The curricula meets professional certification standards in school administration. The department also provides educational foundations courses that give graduate students a greater understanding of their roles and the function of educational institutions in society.

Course work associated with degree programs at Western Kentucky University may be used to meet certification requirements established by the Commonwealth of Kentucky; however, the Commonwealth may institute changes in certification requirements at any time. When the Commonwealth initiates such changes, students seeking certification may be required to modify their courses/experiences to meet the new certification requirements.

Students wishing to pursue one of the non-degree programs must make application to Graduate Studies. Upon completion of the program, individuals must contact the Office of Professional Educator Services in the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. That official then certifies to the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board that rank requirements have been met.

## Programs

- Certification Only, Education Leadership (131) (<http://catalog.wku.edu/graduate/education-behavioral-sciences/slps/cert-only-ed-leadership/>)
- Educational Leadership, Doctor of Education (0010) (<http://catalog.wku.edu/graduate/education-behavioral-sciences/slps/ed-leadership-edd/>)
- Instructional Leadership, School Principal, MAE (0499) (<http://catalog.wku.edu/graduate/education-behavioral-sciences/slps/instruct-leader-school-principal-mae/>)
- Organizational Leadership, Certificate (1723) (<http://catalog.wku.edu/graduate/education-behavioral-sciences/slps/org-lead-certificate/>)
- Organizational Leadership, MS (0505) (<http://catalog.wku.edu/graduate/education-behavioral-sciences/slps/org-lead-ms/>)
- School Administration, Rank 1 (121) (<http://catalog.wku.edu/graduate/education-behavioral-sciences/slps/school-admin-rank1/>)

## Faculty

### Professor

Marguerita K. Desander PhD (Ed Policy/Plan/Ldsp), College of William and Mary, 2005  
Gary W. Houchens PhD (Educational Leadership & Organizational Development), University of Louisville, 2008

### Associate Professor

Lester A. Archer PhD (Educ Leadership/Research), Louisiana State University & A&M College, 2017  
Stacy R. Leggett EdD (Educational Administration), George Washington University, 2015

### Assistant Professor

Tanja N. Bibbs PhD, University of Kentucky, 2019  
Nicholas L. Brake PhD (Educational Administration), University of Louisville, 2003  
William W. Cottongim EdD (Educational Leadership), Western Kentucky University, 2012  
Laura M. Hudson EdD (Curriculum and Instruction), Liberty University, 2015

### Pedagogical Assistant Professor

Anne L. Heintzman PhD (English Rhetoric and Composition), University of Louisville, 2010  
Wren A. Mills PhD (Educational Leadership & Organizational Development), University of Louisville, 2010  
Will R. Perry EdD, Lipscomb University, 2017  
Rheanna P. Plemons EdD (Educational Leadership, Organizational Leadership), Western Kentucky University, 2014

### Instructor I

Frank L. Coffey MAE (Middle Grades Education), University of Kentucky, 1998