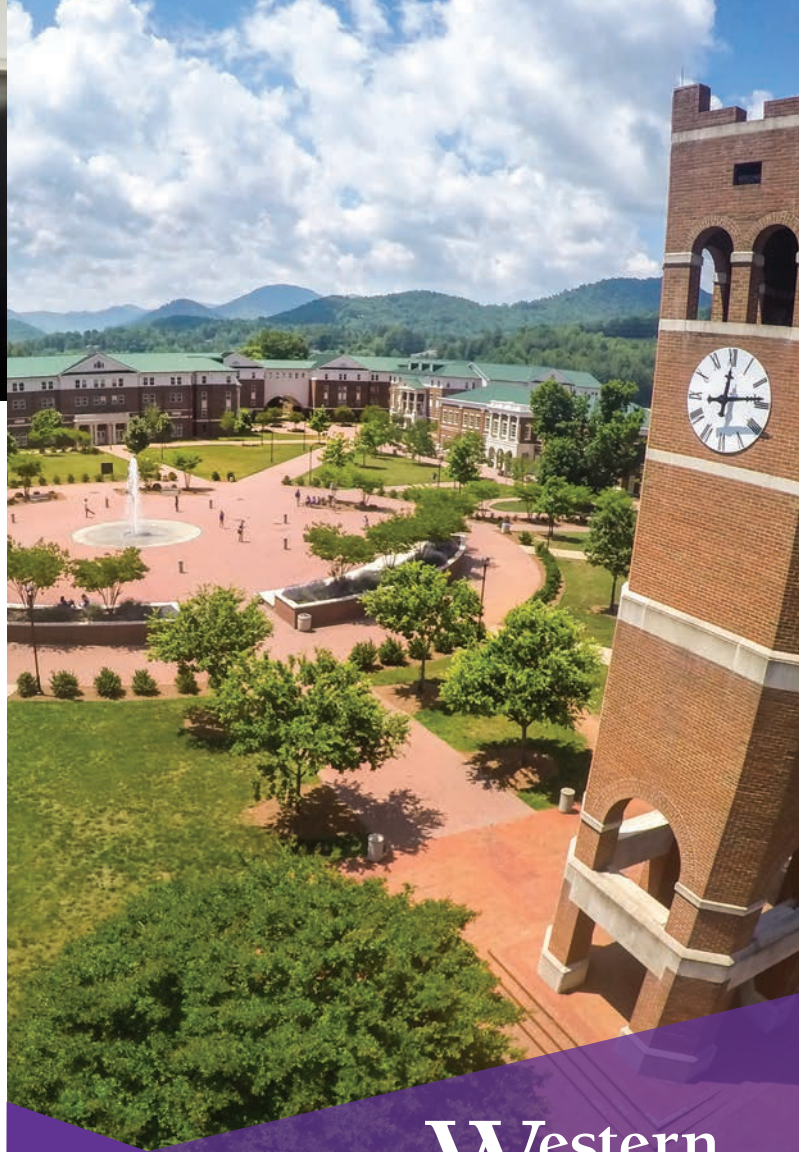


HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT AFFAIRS GRADUATE PROGRAM



ADMISSIONS TIMELINE

- Admissions deadline: March 1. To be considered for funding, scholarships, financial aid, and graduate assistantships, a completed application must be received by March 1.
- Admissions Review Process (offers and waitlist): March 1-April 1 (cohort size limited to 15 full-time students).
- Graduate Assistant Interview and Selection Period: April 1-May 1.
- Occasionally, students are admitted who do not meet the priority deadline. Contact the program director for details.

“The most useful thing I learned during my time at WCU is the ability to apply theories and concepts into practice. This field requires much more than being able to rattle off some theorist’s name and the steps in his/her theory; but understanding how those theories help to shape the student affairs professional you want to be as well as how they shape your actions and impact on your students.”

– Winston Bland, 2014 Graduate

April Perry, Ph.D., Program Director
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What is Student Affairs?

Student affairs is a critical aspect of the higher education experience. The work done by student affairs professionals helps students begin a lifetime journey of growth and self-exploration. Student learning doesn't just happen in a classroom. Opportunities for teaching and development exist everywhere and at all times on campus, and it's our job to foster and promote these experiences. Encouraging an understanding and respect for diversity, a belief in the worth of individuals, and supporting our students in their needs are just some of the core concepts of the profession.

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A M.ED IN HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENT AFFAIRS?

Graduates of our program can work in a wide variety of settings in higher education student affairs, and some include the following:

- Academic & Career Advising
- Admissions & Recruitment
- Financial Aid
- Greek Life
- Multicultural Programs
- Orientation
- Residential Living
- Service Learning
- Student Leadership & Involvement
- Tutoring & Disability Services

Our graduates are also prepared with a solid background to enter PhD/EdD programs in higher education/student affairs.

WHAT MAKES OUR PROGRAM DIFFERENT?

WCU's HESA Graduate Program is student-centered. Just as we teach the importance of holistic student development to aspiring student affairs professionals, we practice what we teach by facilitating meaningful classroom experiences and engaging out-of-classroom professional experiences (Internships and Graduate Assistantships). We are an intentionally small program (cohort-based) designed to:

- Maximize faculty-student interaction
- Foster significant scholarly learning experiences for students
- Offer guaranteed paid Graduate Assistantships (professional experience) to all qualified, full-time students

"I had the absolute best experience in the program at WCU because we were taught by professionals in the field at that time. ... The faculty and advisors included vice chancellors, presidents, directors...people who were able to take their daily work and show us the true picture of what they do every day. It doesn't get more real life than that!"

– Leigh Prouty, 2006 Graduate

"WCU taught me to utilize the resources available to me in order to truly help students. I consistently put students first, which is definitely something I learned from my classes and assistantships at WCU, and I'm so thankful I was taught that."

– Melissa Boles, 2014 Graduate

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