

Title: Building Leadership
Institution: Sweet Briar College
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Executive Summary

Sweet Briar College's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) aims to *build students' leadership capacity* through integrated academic and co-curricular programming.

Part of our mission has always been to prepare women...to lead with integrity, and for generations our alumnae have demonstrated that a Sweet Briar education instills extraordinary leadership ability in many of our graduates. Through our QEP, we will become more deliberate in how we infuse leadership development into our academic and co-curricular programs, and we will create vibrant campus programming around themes of leadership.

Two components of the QEP focus on students' academic experience.

- We will shape four of the ten courses in our Leadership Core curriculum (our general education program) into a leadership scaffold. These courses (CORE 110: Design Thinking, CORE 130: Women and Gender in the World, CORE 210: Contemporary Ethical Questions, CORE 300: The Consequential Citizen) are taken in a specific order across at least two years. Leadership content will be developed collaboratively by the course instructors through a curriculum workshop, so that there are connections and a clear progression across the courses. Because each of our five student learning outcomes will be addressed in at least two courses, our assessment will be able to track progress towards the outcomes.
- Sustaining the Leadership Core scaffold will require us to enlarge the pool of faculty members who are able to teach these courses. The QEP, therefore, includes a faculty development plan to build the capacity for faculty to infuse the core with design thinking, leadership development and ethics.

The third component of the QEP is the creation of the two-year ROSE co-curricular leadership program. Students in the program will meet regularly as a cohort with a staff or faculty mentor, developing leadership competencies in the first year and practicing their competencies in the second year. The culmination of their program will be participating in the planning and implementation of the fourth QEP component, a campus wide leadership event.

The ROSE Leadership Event will be a new, all-campus fall semester event, connecting with the Leadership Core and involving ROSE program students. The format of the event will vary from year to year, so that across her four years a student will experience a range of opportunities for involvement. Potential events include hosting leadership conferences for area colleges, holding campus debates on pressing national and global issues and community service projects.

Through our QEP, by the end of her Sweet Briar experience a student will be able to *develop, articulate and put into practice a personal philosophy of leadership, in which she navigates the ambiguity and complexity that comes with understanding multiple perspectives.*