Social Change Features as Part of Walden University’s Curriculum

The following high-level learning and skill features are elements within Walden curricula that we seek to provide at the program level. These research-based features, which focus on the skills and knowledge needed to be effective agents for positive social change, help support Walden’s formal University Level Learning Outcomes, where are measured within Walden’s rigorous learning outcome assessments processes.

**Scholarship**—The ability to employ trustworthy, effective research strategies that could be used to find answers to significant questions along with the ability to locate and assess the research findings and claims of others.

**Systems Thinking**—The ability to analyze a set of inter-related causes and effects which can be applied to finding solutions to complex social problems.

**Reflection**—The ability to examine and assess one’s own skills, strengths, weaknesses, and contributions and to similarly evaluate one’s team and partners in ways that can contribute to improved efficacy.

**Practice**—The skills needed to plan, execute, manage, and evaluate a practical project to improve conditions or seize an opportunity that would advance the common good.

**Collaboration**—The ability to identify and connect with stakeholders, resources, experts, useful networks and potential partners combined with the personal skills needed to work with others on joint projects.

**Advocacy**—The ability to deploy strategies and actions appropriate to raising awareness in others around an issue or opportunity that calls for a response from them.

**Civic & Political Engagement**—The skill to work with policy-makers at various level in government, professional organizations and institutions to bring about improvement in rules, laws, policies, or practices.

**Ethics**—The development of and commitment to a personal set of values, principles, attitudes and personal responses in relating to one’s own responsibilities, to others and to the wider world.

**Leadership**—The skill to guide, empower, facilitate and assess the work of others along with the ability to inspire and motivate their efforts toward the common good.