

April 2020

DEAR WAKE FOREST SENIORS AND YOUR PARENTS OR SPONSORS,

In just a few weeks you will have met one of the biggest challenges in your life so far – you will earn your undergraduate degree from Wake Forest University. Congratulations! As you think about the future, have you considered an advanced degree? Things have changed considerably this Spring and the economy we knew before Covid-19 may not be the economy we emerge with. This is one of many reasons to think about the prospect of continuing your education.

What employers from all types of businesses and organizations look for first and foremost in people they hire are abilities like critical thinking, writing, oral communication, capacity to see the organization as a whole in its context, problem-solving, and a work ethic – as well as skill relevant to the product of the company or organization. In short, the **practices central to the liberal arts** are what everybody wants, particularly in cultivating potential **leaders** in their organizations.

Most college graduates would probably say that their current employment doesn't have all that much to do with what they majored in in college. But their overall liberal arts studies have everything to do with how they approach their work, how they work with others, how they balance work with family and community, how they express what they want for themselves and their families, how they understand what's going on in the world, how they relate to their neighbors, in short, what kind of person they are.

Surveys of current leadership in various kinds of organizations from business to government to non-profits reveal that most people in leadership positions have a liberal arts education. The Liberal Arts Studies Master's degree is your chance to **take your formation in liberal arts practices to another level**. We hope you'll check us out at www.mals.wfu.edu.

Stay safe and well and best wishes for your road ahead.

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