FLP is a living/learning community geared to instilling leadership principles from various leadership models into its participants. Through a year-long program, Ignatian tradition is infused via the following five program components: fall retreat, community activism, weekly service, seminar, and the portfolio.

Fall Retreat
Each fall, the incoming freshmen and the eleven executives attend a weekend retreat at Creighton’s retreat center in Griswold, Iowa. The Freshman Leadership Program emphasizes the importance of relationships, both with others and with self; after all, it is through thorough understanding and personal connections that optimize one’s leadership potential. One cannot give of themselves if they have nothing to give. The retreat focuses on the needs of self and how one can receive themselves in the eyes of others. It is from there that personal talents and gifts arise, and it is from there where such talents begin to flourish the beauty of our community and our world. The retreat is a weekend of genuine emotion and it unifies seventy-one individuals into one FLP.

Weekly Service
Freshmen in FLP attend one of eight service sites weekly around the Omaha-Metro area with their mentor group of five other freshmen, two sophomore mentors, and an FLP executive. Students predominately work with children in after-school or extended-care programs. These programs are located in ethnically and socio-economically diverse areas around the Omaha Metro area. Many children that FLP students work with at their service sites live below the poverty line. Oftentimes, the after-school, daycare, or extended-care programs that these children attend are safe, nurturing environments that are vital to a child’s growth and development along with going to school.

When FLP students attend service, many have the opportunity to tutor and help students with homework. Other students lead group activities and play sports and other gym activities with the students; still other students do activities with mentally and physically handicapped students. FLP students form strong relationships with those they serve; many are considered to be active role models and sources of inspiration. The service sites that FLP students attend are: Precious Memories Daycare, Kids Can Community Center, South Omaha Boys & Girls Club, Completely Kids at Liberty Elementary, Jesuit Academy, Holy Name Elementary School S.T.A.R.S Program, Children’s Respite Care Center and Hope Center for Kids.

FLP’s Board of Directors includes a tour of Lannon Rodkin, president; Dr. Robert Dornsife, professor or English, & Gerry Kuhlman, senior academic advisor. Other seminars featured Gary Rodkin, CEO of ConAgra Foods; Susan Jacques, former CEO and President of the Gemological Institute of America; and a tour of the Omaha World-Herald Freedom Center.

Seminar
Every Tuesday evening, FLP attends seminar. Seminar consists of a mixture of workshops and speakers from the Creighton and Omaha community. The Freshman Leadership Program focuses seminar around leadership theories and tangible skills that will help members grow as leaders. Throughout the first semester of seminar, members will hear many speakers from the Creighton community, including some familiar faces to Creighton: Father Lannon, president; Dr. Robert Dornsife, professor or English, & Gerry Kuhlman, senior academic advisor. Other seminars featured Gary Rodkin, CEO of ConAgra Foods; Susan Jacques, former CEO and President of the Gemological Institute of America; and a tour of the Omaha World-Herald Freedom Center.

Seminar is a fantastic tool that allows members of FLP to learn first-hand the advice and charisma of inspirational leaders. Speakers often stress the importance of discernment and the listening to one’s own heart; it is often the journey of honing these simple, yet complex, Jesuit values that have allowed such individuals to become the people they are.