

LEADERSHIP COMMUNICATION (3 credits)

BUS 415/CMS 342

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COURSE DESCRIPTION: An examination of historical and contemporary theories of leadership, exploring the uses, abuses and meaning of power in leadership situations and relationships. The course develops an understanding of the role of communication in facilitating or hindering leadership, identifies the tensions between individuals and communities in a variety of contexts, and applies conflict management principles to those tensions. Students successfully completing this course will become aware of their own leadership styles, develop the ability to improve communication in conflict situations, develop collaborative skills, synthesize information from a variety of sources and apply that information to ethically improving leadership in contextually appropriate ways.

IN A NUTSHELL: We will focus our efforts on developing awareness of self and others in order to communicate more effectively through an individualized range of leadership/relationship styles. We will leverage our strengths to develop aspects of emotional intelligence.

READINGS: Emotional Intelligence 2.0, Bradberry and Greaves, 2009, TalentSmart, ISBN 978-0-9743206-2-5
online assignments and handouts given in class.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: At the end of the course, students will

- 1 - Recognize and respond to resonant and dissonant leadership styles in self
- 2 - Recognize and respond to resonant and dissonant leadership styles in others
- 3 - Possess increased self-knowledge about specific leadership competencies and deficiencies
- 4 -Develop learning plan for achieving desired leadership style
- 5 -Be able to develop and communicate vision, including the transformation of vision into measurable goals, strategies for achievement and methods to measure results

LEARNING STRATEGIES INCLUDE

- Brief lectures
- Collaborative discussion of topics in the context of personal experience
- Simulations
- Guest speaker

- Invention of simulations and other exercises
- Presentation on independently chosen book, approved by instructor, highlighting leadership themes

Leadership builds on the informed experience of leading. Following exposes a person to some aspects of leadership; active practice in leading is essential to learning to lead. I challenge members of the class to practice leadership skills by leading. Changes of direction are welcomed.

EVALUATION IS BASED ON

- Application of objectives in writing, presentation, and class participation (which includes listening and the other communication skills along with talking)
- ten minute small group presentation exploring leadership in a fictional, biographical, or historical work.
- self and group appraisal of contribution to group efforts.
- final paper, demonstrating understanding of leadership communication concepts in relation to student's self-awareness.

THE CLASS HAS THE POTENTIAL TO MOVE TOWARD REDESIGN BY PARTICIPANTS AS THE TERM PROGRESSES.

Attendance counts. First absence costs 3 points out of 100. Second costs 7. Third costs all.