CMS 342 Leadership Communication
BUS 415 Leadership in Organizations

Instructor: Betsy Gomez
Email: betsy.gomez@doane.edu
Phone number: 402-321-5190 (cell)
Office Hours: by appointment (ask in person, call or text to schedule)

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.

Required Texts:


Optional/Recommended Readings:


Course Objectives (By the end of the course, students will...)
Analyze current leadership styles/levels.
Gain an understanding of one’s own personal leadership style.
Understand the role of leaders in power and their influence.
Differentiate between ethical and unethical leadership behavior.
Explain how leaders influence/function within groups, organizations, etc.
Apply leadership strategies and experiences shared in class to your life or work environment.

Learning Strategies
Discussions
Cooperative learning strategies
Professional readings
Reflective writing
Video clips
Guest speaker(s)
Online resources
Presentation
Grading Scale
98-100 = A
95-97 = A
90-94 = A-
87-89 = B+
83-86 = B
80-82 = B-

Grading:
1. Exit Tickets-Each week a different question will be posed on Blackboard. Students will have time in class to complete the exit ticket prior to leaving class. (5 points each)

2. Weekly Journal Entry-Weekly journal entries should be highly reflective in nature. Topics can include (but are not limited to): your thoughts about key concepts from class, ah-ha moments from assigned readings, how you relate what you are learning in class to the real world, questions that you have in relation to class topics, etc. (10 points each entry)

2. Professional Interview-Students will interview someone in a leadership position. More specifics will be provided in class. Students will be expected to write a 1-2 page analysis on the person they interviewed, their leadership style and how it has contributed to a positive environment. (40 points)

3. Oral presentation-Students will present a brief presentation to their peers about two irrefutable laws of leadership. More details will be provided in class and specific grading criteria will be provided. Students may choose the method in which they present. (30 points)

4. Film Communication Analysis Paper-Students will choose a movie from the list to watch or request a movie for preapproval. See separate paper for grading criteria. (50 points)

5. Contribution-This class will require active participation, reflection of ones own life/working experiences, sharing of ones own ideas and contribution to group activities each week. (10 points each week)

Academic Integrity Policy
The Doane College Academic Integrity Policy will be adhered to in this class. All projects and tests will represent your own work. Any use of others’ ideas and words without proper citation of sources is plagiarism and will result in penalties to be determined by the instructor and/or the dean of undergraduate studies. Err on the side of caution and cite or acknowledge work of others. If you have any questions, please contact the instructor.

Attendance/Participation
Since the term is short, it is expected that all students will be in attendance to all classes. Attendance and active participation is essential to learning and understanding new concepts, as well as gaining insight from peer sharing. Students are required to read the assigned textbook readings and other materials that are assigned. It is expected that all classwork assigned for the week be completed prior to class, in order to actively participate and contribute to engaging discussions. Please adhere to all deadlines, if a situation arises please be proactive in communicating with the instructor ahead of time.