

COURSE OUTLINE **Exploring Leadership**

Course Description

LS 150. Exploring Leadership. 3 hours credit. This course will enable the student to understand the history and development of leadership. The student will examine his or her values, goals, and leadership potential. The student will understand the ethical responsibilities of leadership and learn how, as leaders and followers, to actively engage in change to create a better community or organization.

Course Relevance

The concepts learned in this course give the student skills that will enhance his/her roles as leaders and followers in his/her community or organization.

Required Materials

LS 150 Textbook:

Durbin, A. J., (2006). *Leadership: Research findings, practice and skills (5th ed.)*,
Houghton Mifflin.

Learning Outcomes

The intention is for the student to be able to

1. Understand basic leadership theories, concepts, and principles
2. Develop a personal leadership philosophy
3. Apply critical thinking skills in leadership situations
4. Understand the role that leaders and followers play in creating changes for the collective and common good

Primary Learning PACT Skills that will be DEVELOPED and/or documented in this course

Through the student's involvement in this course, he/she will develop his/her ability in the following primary PACT skill areas:

1. Leadership
 - Through written assignments and other activities conducted in class, the student will recognize the importance leadership plays in groups, organizations, communities, and societies.
 - Through a variety of in-class activities, readings, Grizzly Adventure Challenge course experience, and a service learning project, the student will be able to recognize, identify and explain the key concepts, elements and purposes of the leadership process.
2. Valuing Diversity
 - Through written assignments, class activities, readings, and a service learning project, the student will recognize the value of diversity and learn positive ways of dealing with diverse populations.

Secondary skills (developed but not documented):

- Self-Concept
- Coping with change
- Ethical Conduct
- Historical Interpretation

Major Summative Assessment Task(s)

These learning outcomes and the primary Learning PACT skills will be demonstrated by

1. Completion of a leadership book review
2. Completion of a group leadership project that identifies a need on campus or in the community. The group will give a presentation that will be evaluated on the structure of the project, content, creativity, teamwork, and how the group incorporates elements of the relational leadership model
3. Completion of a leadership action plan that reflects what the student learned during the semester about leadership, with a focus on using theory to enhance practice

Course Content

- I. Themes – Key recurring concepts that run throughout this course:
 - A. Concept of the importance leadership plays in groups, organizations, communities, and societies
 - B. Concept of change and how it is essential to the process of leadership
 - C. Concept that leadership is a relational process
- II. Issues – Key areas of conflict that must be understood in order to achieve the intended outcome:
 - A. Change process, innovation and stress
 - B. Conceptions of leadership styles
 - C. Conceptions of the role of the leader
 - D. Leadership processes
- III. Concepts – Key concepts that must be understood to address the issues:
 - A. The seven values of the social change model of leadership development
 - B. Relational leadership model
 - C. Leadership terminology
- IV. Skills/Competencies – Actions that are essential to achieve the course outcomes:
 - A. Apply leadership models to real world situations
 - B. Apply oral, written, and listening skills
 - C. Develop computer literacy
 - D. Develop analytical thinking
 - E. Compare and contrast leadership theories
 - F. Understand key leadership terms

Learning Units

- I. Evolution of leadership theory
 - A. The changing nature of leadership
 - B. Contemporary theories and models
 - C. The social change model of leadership development
- II. Exploring your potential for leadership
 - A. Understanding yourself

B. Understanding others

III. Relational leadership

- A. Relational leadership model
- B. Interacting in teams and groups
- C. Understanding complex organizations
- D. Creating ethical environments

IV. Leadership and renewal

- A. Group and organizational renewal
- B. Self renewal

Learning Activities

Independent and collaborative activities will be assigned within and outside the classroom to assist the student to achieve the intended learning outcomes. Class discussions, lecture, group study, student journal, challenge course, field trips, library research, various audio/visual aids, case studies, service-learning project, guest speakers, and student presentations will also contribute to the learning process.

Grade Determination

The student will be graded on satisfactory completion of assessment tasks, research papers, tests, daily work, group exercises, class participation, attendance, out-of-class assignments and other methods of evaluation at the discretion of the instructor.