

COMM 460: Communication and Leadership

Fall 2015

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TEXTBOOK:

Hackman, M. Z., & Johnson, C. E. (2013). *Leadership: A communication perspective* (6th ed.). Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:

This course introduces theories of leadership in organizations and the role that communication plays in this leadership. It also includes a critical analysis of the social, cultural, psychological, and emotional dynamics that shape leadership. The course prepares students to deal with problems encountered by leaders, and the behaviors, attributes, and communication skills needed to lead effectively. Upon completion of the course, you should be able to:

1. identify and differentiate among the major theoretical approaches to leadership;
2. explain the common communication styles used by leaders and followers;
3. identify cultural differences in leadership;
4. recognize your personal approach to leadership and communication strengths, and develop a plan for their effective use and further development through the integration of theory and practice.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Weekly Journal (20%). Students will engage in a thoughtful journey that demonstrates analysis of their communication and leadership from the perspective of each topic covered in the course through entries in a weekly journal. Weekly writings should build on previous writings and show evidence of a progression of thinking and learning across the semester. Each weekly assignment should be typed and be no more than 300 words.

2. Discussion Leadership (20%). This is a 400-level, discussion-based course. As such, students will take responsibility for much of their learning throughout the semester. During the course, teams of 3 students will be assigned the formal class leadership role and will be responsible for leading the learning experience for half of a class period. Each team will be responsible for mastering the content, establishing the learning goals for the day, and leading the class in an active learning process that is designed to meet those goals. Teams, topics, and presentation days will be assigned on the second day of the course.

3. Organizational Leadership Analysis (20%). This assignment requires that you identify an organization and, using the theories from our course as your framework, analyze the leadership processes they employ. You will then create a presentation explaining those processes, your analysis, and the implications. *This assignment takes the place of a midterm exam.*

4. Personal Policy of Leadership (20%). During the semester you will demonstrate your analysis and understanding of communication and leadership from the perspective of each topic covered in the course through your weekly journal. For your final assignment you will write a paper reflecting your personal policy of leadership that you have derived through your experiences this semester. You should include an action plan (your commitments) for things you wish to develop or improve upon personally as a communicator and leader. Your full weekly journal log will be included as an appendix. *This assignment takes the place of a final exam.*

5. Participation (20%). This is a discussion-based class. Your participation will be noted in each class session. In addition to participation in the class discussions, we will have various in-class activities that will contribute toward your course participation grade. These activities cannot be made up if you are absent from class. If reading quizzes become necessary, they will comprise part of the participation grade.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Week	Topic	Reading	Assignments Due
1	Introduction to course		
	What is Leadership? <i>Select DL Groups</i>	Syllabus	Policy on Originality of Student Work
2	Leadership and Communication	HJ Ch 1	
	Leadership and Communication		Weekly Journal
3	Leadership and Followership	HJ Ch 2	
	Leadership and Followership		Weekly Journal
4	Traits, Situational, Functional, and Relational Leadership	HJ Ch 3	
	Traits, Situational, Functional, and Relational Leadership		Weekly Journal
5	Transformational and Charismatic Leadership	HJ Ch 4	
	Transformational and Charismatic Leadership		Weekly Journal
6	Leadership and Power	HJ Ch 5	
	Leadership and Power		Weekly Journal
7	Leadership and Influence	HJ Ch 6	
	Leadership and Influence		Weekly Journal
8	Leadership in Groups and Teams	HJ Ch 7	
	Leadership in Groups and Teams		Weekly Journal

9	Leadership in Organizations	HJ Ch 8	
	Leadership in Organizations		Weekly Journal
10	Leadership and Diversity	HJ Ch 10	
	Leadership and Diversity		Weekly Journal
11	<i>Organizational Leadership Analysis presentations</i>		
	<i>Organizational Leadership Analysis presentations</i>		
12	Ethical Leadership and Followership	HJ Ch 11	
	Ethical Leadership and Followership		Weekly Journal
13	Leader and Leadership Development	HJ Ch 12	
	Leader and Leadership Development		Weekly Journal
14	Leadership in Crisis	HJ Ch 13	
	Leadership in Crisis		Weekly Journal
15	Final Examination Week <i>Personal Policy of Leadership</i>		