Leadership, You and Your Community
EdPA 3302 / PA 3961, Section 1
Fall 2008

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Time, Room and Dates: Tuesday and Thursday, 9:45-11:00, Peik Hall Room 215

Office Hours: By appointment.

Course Credit: This class is offered as a 3-credit course.

Course Description: This course will examine leadership and leadership capacities within the context of social change and public work. Students taking this course will have the opportunity to examine their own views of leadership and social change, learn about leadership theory and core concepts of Public Achievement, and apply knowledge to practice utilizing the Public Achievement model. Particular attention is given to group leadership and the effectiveness of groups and organizations to accomplishing change.

Content Delivery: There are a few aspects to the content of this course which make it unique when compared to traditional collegiate and leadership instruction:

As a method of examining leadership capacities within a social change movement, this class will utilize the timeline, history, current status, and stories of the HIV/AIDS pandemic as a context. As the theme for the course, many portions of the class content and discussion will explore the HIV/AIDS pandemic. This method is meant as an example of public leadership happening within the intricacies of a social movement and issue.

Another major content component of this course is the Public Achievement model. A little less than half of the assigned class days will be dedicated to working within smaller groups (encompassing about 1/3 of the students in each) on a Public Achievement project. For these projects, the instructor—in addition to the teaching assistants—will be assigned as a coach for one Public Achievement group. More information about Public Achievement is available in the subsequent pages of this syllabus.

Course Texts: All course readings will be available in the Coffman Bookstore:


Expectations:

Students are expected to attend class, arrive on time, be prepared with completed readings and assignments, and actively participate in class discussions and activities. We utilize writing in this class as a significant tool for learning about the materials we will discuss. In addition, students are expected to honor the academic integrity standard of the University of Minnesota. Students who are physically or otherwise challenged should contact the instructor to discuss teaching strategies that might best facilitate their learning.

Learning Objectives:

(a) Enhance developmental and interpersonal skills
(b) Expand the awareness of various leadership frameworks
(c) Increase understanding of societal, cultural, and philosophical issues
(d) Increase awareness of leadership relating to various and surrounding communities (education, business, government, and local)
(e) Develop personal theory of leadership integrating experiences and new knowledge
(f) Engage in public work through the Public Achievement model as a context for social change

Writing Assistance:

Assistance is available from the Center for Writing, 15 Nicholson Hall and satellite locations, visit http://writing.umn.edu, or call 612-625-1893 for more information.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is described by the Regents as follows: “Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; or altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying of data, research procedures, or data analysis.”

Plagiarism or academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. Any student who violates this policy will automatically receive no points for the assignment in question.

Grading Policy:

According to the college-wide policy determined by the University’s faculty senate
http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/policies/gradingpolicy.html

A - Achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.
B - Achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.
C - Achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.
D - Achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.
S - Achievement that is satisfactory, which is equivalent to a C- or better (achievement required for an S is at the discretion of the instructor but may be no lower than equivalent to a C-)

F (or N) - Represents failure (or no credit) and signifies that the work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an F (see also I).