Midwestern State University
MWSU 1333 – Leadership MSU
Spring Semester 2011

Instructor:  Mr. Matthew Park
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Course Details:  Mondays
6:00 – 8:50 P.M.
CSC Cheyenne

Required Materials:  StrengthsQuest passcode (available at the MSU Bookstore)

Recommended Textbooks:

Course Purpose and Objectives:
Through this class, students are introduced to leadership concepts and develop an increased awareness of individual interests and abilities. This class will rely heavily on student involvement and is designed to encourage challenging and stimulating interaction. The primary belief upon which this class and the entire Leadership MSU program is based is that leaders are not born; they are made. The skills and knowledge that contribute to effective leadership are teachable and learnable, and thus provide the premise for this course.

The course will focus on creating “hands-on” experiences, wherein students can develop an understanding of how to be a more effective, self-aware, and knowledgeable student leader.

The course requires active participation and fulfillment of class requirements. The following represents major objectives of class activity:

- An introduction to leadership theories, styles, and paradigms
- A development of both critical and creative thinking abilities
- A greater understanding of leadership and organizational concepts
- Increased knowledge of the characteristics and dynamics of groups and teams
- An awareness of self in relation to leadership style, abilities, strengths, weaknesses, etc.
- An emphasis on both written and oral communication skills.

Course Topics:
Leadership characteristics, styles, & theories  Group Dynamics & Team Building
Relational Leadership & the Leadership Challenge  Conflict Resolution
StrengthsQuest & Self-exploration  Ethical Decision Making
Critical and Creative Thinking Skills  Leadership Across Cultures
Organization Theory & Management  Service Learning

Attendance:
Attendance is part of your grade. Roll will be taken at the beginning of class. Students are allowed 2 unexcused absences. After 2, each absence will lower the final course grade by a half letter. Tardiness is considered to be arriving at class more than 10 minutes late. Three tardies equates to one absence. A student
with excessive absences may be dropped from the course. See the 2010-11 MSU Student Handbook, page 37, for CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY and AUTHORIZED ABSENCES.

**Grades:**
The basis for your final grade will be the average of your class projects, papers, presentations, exams, participation, and homework. In other words, everything you do in and for class counts towards the final grade. Grades will be as follows: 90-100 (A), 80-89 (B), 70-79 (C), 60-69 (D), and 59 and below (F). There are 100 total points possible in the course.

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Midterm Exam = 10
Journals = 10
Service Learning Project = 10
Theory/Model Review = 10

Ethical Case Study = 10
Team Presentation = 10
Leadership Action Plan = 10
Final Exam = 10

Book Report = 10
Leadership Biography = 5
Homework = 5
Participation = 5

**Due Dates:**
All assigned work will be due on dates specified. No late work will be accepted unless specific arrangements have been made with the instructor.

**Paper Format:**
Unless otherwise instructed, all written work should be submitted in typed, double-spaced format using a font size of 12 or 14 point.

**Submission Format Policy:**
You may not submit a paper for a grade in this class that already has been (or will be) submitted for a grade in another course, unless you obtain the explicit written permission of both instructors in advance.

**Students with Disabilities:**
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. In accordance with state and federal law, MSU provides academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Support Services in Room 168 of the Clark Student Center, 397-4140. The instructor is under no obligation to offer special assistance for students with disabilities who are not registered with the Office of Disability Support Services.

**Safe Zones Statement:**
The instructor considers this classroom to be a place where you will be treated with respect as a human being - regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, political beliefs, age, or ability. Additionally, diversity of thought is appreciated and encouraged, provided you can agree to disagree. It is the instructor’s expectation that all students consider the classroom a safe environment.

**Plagiarism Policy:**
Plagiarism is the use of someone else's thoughts, words, ideas, or lines of argument in your own work without appropriate documentation (a parenthetical citation at the end and a listing in "Works Cited")-whether you use that material in a quote, paraphrase, or summary. It is a theft of intellectual property and will not be tolerated, whether intentional or not.

**Other Policies:**
Cell phones are not permitted during class time, with the exception of during breaks.

**Student Honor Creed** *Written and adopted by the 2002-03 Student Government Association*
"As an MSU Student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, steal, or help anyone else do so."

As students at MSU, we recognize that any great society must be composed of empowered, responsible citizens. We also recognize universities play an important role in helping mold these responsible citizens. We believe students themselves play an important part in developing responsible citizenship by maintaining a community where integrity and honorable character are the norm, not the exception.

Thus, We, the Students of Midwestern State University, resolve to uphold the honor of the University by affirming our commitment to complete academic honesty. We resolve not only to be honest but also to hold our peers accountable for complete honesty in all university matters.

We consider it dishonest to ask for, give, or receive help in examinations or quizzes, to use any unauthorized material in examinations, or to present, as one's own, work or ideas which are not entirely one's own. We recognize that any instructor has the right to expect that all student work is honest, original work. We accept and acknowledge that responsibility for lying, cheating, stealing, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty fundamentally rests within each individual student.

We expect of ourselves academic integrity, personal professionalism, and ethical character. We appreciate steps taken by University officials to protect the honor of the University against any who would disgrace the MSU student body by violating the spirit of this creed.

**Overview of Course Assignments and Graded Materials (in no particular order):**

**Midterm Exam (10 points):** Students will complete an in-class, written examination which covers materials and content from the first half of the course.

**Journals (10 points):** Weekly online posting by each student using WebCT/Blackboard in response to the question or issue posed by the instructor. Students should also review their classmates journals in preparation for classroom. Journal postings are due by 12:00 PM each Monday before class.

**Service Learning Project (10 points):** As a class, students will plan and implement a community service project at some time during the spring 2011 semester which both benefits the local community and relates to leadership qualities covered in class. Students will write a reflection following the completion of the project not to exceed 3 pages.

**Theory/Model Review (10 points):** Each student will research a different leadership or organizational theory or model and share their findings with the class via an oral, powerpoint presentation of not more than 10 slides and 10 minutes. The theory/model selected by each student must be pre-approved by the instructor.

**Ethical Case Study (10 points):** Students will prepare written responses to two different ethics cases/scenarios using an ethical-decision making model covered in class. Responses for each case should not exceed 2 pages (4 pages total).

**Team Presentation (10 points):** In teams of 3-5 people, student will prepare a 30 minute class session (workshop, seminar, lecture, etc) on a leadership topic of the teams' choosing. Topics must be pre-approved by the instructor.

**Leadership Action Plan (10 points):** Students will prepare a written reflection of fundamentals learned throughout the course and how those materials can enhance practice. In addition, students will share personal goals related to leadership over the next couple of years. Not to exceed 4 pages in length.

**Final Exam (10 points):** Students will take an individual, oral examination with the instructor to demonstrate knowledge gained over the course of the semester and interpersonal communication skills. This assignment includes the preparation and submission of a personal resume with emphasis on leadership experience, skills, and characteristics.

**Book Report (10 points):** Over the course of the semester, students will read a book related to leadership, after which, they will write a 2 page summary/critique. Book titles must be pre-approved by the instructor.

**Leadership Biography (5 points):** Students will write a short biography about a real person they consider a strong leader or role model, with emphasis on sharing specific leadership-related qualifications and characteristics possessed by the respective individual. Not to exceed 2 pages.

**Homework (5 points):** There will occasionally be homework during the semester which will be due the following class period. Completion of homework assignments will be verified by the instructor.

**Participation (5 points):** The classroom for Leadership MSU is an active learning environment. Students should contribute to discussion, share information with and support/challenge peers (when appropriate) and come to class prepared and ready to participate.