

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF POLITICAL MANAGEMENT

PMGT 206.13 (CRN 47304)
Spring Semester 1/15/09-4/23/09
(no class on 3/19)
Thursdays 7:10pm – 9:40pm;

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Location: 2020 K St., NW, room 21

POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

COURSE OVERVIEW

The purpose of this course is to provide you with a sound understanding of your leadership skills and potential, and how to most effectively put them to use in the political arena. Each of us has unique talents, skills and passions that have motivated us to become involved in politics. By identifying and understand those traits, you can effectively communicate those qualities to others and more easily move along your political path as an effective leader.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

WHO: Who am I?

- ❖ What are my unique leadership skills and strengths?
- ❖ How can I use them effectively in the political arena?
- ❖ What is the most effective way for me to work with others?

WHAT: What do I want to change?

- ❖ What changes do I want to make in the political arena?
- ❖ What do I want to be different in the world as a result of my leadership efforts?

WHERE: Where can I be most effective?

- ❖ At what level of government do I want to focus my activities?
- ❖ In what particular arena do I want to be involved, i.e., legislative, executive, advocacy, campaigns, etc.?
- ❖ Where in the country, or world, do I want to work?

WHEN: When can I begin leading?

WHY: Why do I want to be involved in politics?

- ❖ What is my passion?
- ❖ What can I do better than most people?
- ❖ What gives me the greatest pleasure in my political work?

HOW: How am I going to accomplish my leadership goals?

- ❖ How do I create a plan?
- ❖ How do I most effectively implement the plan?
- ❖ How do I ensure balance in my life to keep me focused on what matters most to me?

REQUIRED READING

- Buckingham, Marcus & Clifton, Donald. (2001) *Now Discover Your Strengths*. New York, Simon & Schuster.

- Gergen, David. (2001) *Eyewitness to Power*. New York. Simon & Schuster.
- Keirse, David and Bates, Marilyn. (1998) *Please Understand Me II: Character and Temperament Types*. Del Mar, California: Prometheus Nemesis Book Company.
- Greenstein, Fred I. (2004) *The Presidential Difference*. New York: The Free Press.
- Goleman, Daniel. (2002) *Primal Leadership*. Harvard School Press.
- Murphy, Emmett. (2001) *Leadership IQ*. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
- Riso, Don Richard. (2003) *Discovering Your Personality Type*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company.
- Riso, Don Richard. (2000) *Understanding the Enneagram*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company.

ADDITIONAL READINGS AND EXERCISES

Additional articles and exercise materials will be distributed in class or on reserve. Some materials are at a modest additional charge to be collected in class.

- ◆ Choiniere, Ray and Keirse David. (1992) *Presidential Temperament*. Del Mar, California: Prometheus Nemesis Book Company
- ◆ Clawson, James (2003) *Level Three Leadership*. Prentice Hall.
- ◆ Covey Stephen, (2004) *The 8th Habit From Effectiveness to Greatness*. Free Press.
- ◆ Gergen, David. (2001) *Eyewitness to Power*. New York. Simon & Schuster.
- ◆ Gladwell, Malcolm. (2000) *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference*. Little, Brown and Company.
- ◆ Greenleaf, Robert K. (1977) *Servant Leadership*. Paulist Press
- ◆ Heifetz, Ronald. (1994) *Leadership Without Easy Answers*. Harvard University Press.
- ◆ MacGregor Burns, James. (1978) *Leadership*. Harper and Row.
- ◆ Somit, Albert, Arwine, Alan, and Peterson, Steven. (1996) *Birth Order and Political Behavior*. Maryland: University Press of America, Inc.
- ◆ Wilder, Lilyan. (1986) *Talk Your Way to Success*. New York: Eastside Press.
- ◆ Yankelovich, Daniel. (1994) *Coming to Public Judgement*. Syracuse University Press.

COURSE COMMITMENT

A journey to better understand oneself is one of life's most difficult treks. This class will provide you with the opportunity to explore your leadership style in a supportive environment. Each of you will be asked to take an honest look at yourselves and to provide honest and respectful feedback to others. Each class provides an opportunity for learning more about leadership skills and for personal growth and development.

GW CODE OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All students are expected to lead by example and as such follow the GW code of academic integrity, found at: <http://www.gwu.edu/integrity/code.html>

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Class Participation (20%): This class requires a high-degree of participation from every student. Students must come to class prepared to discuss the assigned materials and participate in class exercises based on those materials. Periodically students will be responsible for pre-assigned and impromptu presentations. Assigned presentations will include one on presidential leadership. Each class builds upon the last; therefore attendance is extremely important.

Leadership Papers (25%): Two leadership evaluation tools are used in this class: Meyers-Briggs and the Enneagram. For each of these theories, you will be responsible for a five page paper with the following elements:

- ◆ A summary of the leadership theory
- ◆ A summary of your leadership style within the theory
- ◆ A summary of how your leadership style relates to the other styles
- ◆ A summary of areas and/or ways to improve your personal effectiveness based on the theory

**Due Dates: February 5 for paper on Meyers-Briggs
February 19 for paper on Enneagram**

Political Leadership Presentation (30%): You will select a politically prominent leader (not a U.S. President) to assess his/her leadership style using the theories discussed in the class. This should be a comprehensive look at one leader's style based on your research and analysis. Sources for this paper may include biographies, autobiographies, news stories, historical documents, personal interviews, etc. Strong presentations will use examples from the above to demonstrate why you believe this individual's leadership exhibits these certain styles. Presentations should address leadership weaknesses and how the leaders could have been more effective if they had addressed these weaknesses as they gained more political experience. The presentation should be no more than **7-8 minutes** and should include appropriate handouts and summaries.

Due Date: March 5 & March 12

Political Leadership Paper and Plan (25%): In this paper you will create a comprehensive analysis of your political leadership potential, identify political leaders as role models for your leadership work and create a plan for implementing your leadership skills.

Due Date: April 23

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS

Jan. 15 Course Overview: Effective Political Leadership in the 21st Century

Readings Due:

Murphy, Emmett. (1996) *Leadership IQ*. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. pp. 9-272

Jan. 22 Preparing for Leadership Development

Readings Due:

Goleman, Daniel. (2002) *Primal Leadership*. Harvard School Press. pp.1-170

Jan. 29 The Meyers-Briggs Experience

Readings Due:

Keirsey, David and Bates, Marilyn. (1998) *Please Understand Me II: Character and Temperament Types*. Del Mar, California: Prometheus Nemesis Book Company. pp. 1-204

Feb. 5 Understanding the Meyers-Briggs Styles

Readings Due:

Keirsey, David and Bates, Marilyn. (1998) *Please Understand Me II: Character and Temperament Types*. Del Mar, California: Prometheus Nemesis Book Company

pp. 252-325

****Meyers-Briggs Leadership Paper Due*

- Feb. 12** **Using the Enneagram to Understand Yourself**
Readings Due: Riso, Don Richard. (1995) *Discovering Your Personality Type*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. pp. 3-118
- Feb. 19** **Moving Around the Enneagram: Getting to Know the Other Styles**
Readings Due:
Riso, Don Richard. (1990) *Understanding the Enneagram*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. pp. 3-187
****Enneagram Leadership Paper Due*
- Feb. 26** **Building on Your Leadership Strengths**
Readings Due:
Buckingham, Marcus & Clifton, Donald. (2001) *Now Discover Your Strengths*. New York, Simon & Schuster. Pp.3-170
- Mar. 5** **Political Leadership Paper Presentations**
Presentations of Leadership Profiles
- Mar. 12** *Political Leadership Paper Presentations (Con't)*
Political Leadership in Action: Group Exercise
- Mar. 19** **NO CLASS - SPRING BREAK**
- Mar. 26** **Leadership Lessons from the Campaign Trail:**
Personal Leadership Profile: Personal profile chart due
- Apr. 2** **Contemporary Presidents their Leadership Style and Lessons Learned**
Readings Due:
Greenstein, Fred. (2000) *The Presidential Difference*. New York. The Free Press. pp. 1-200
Gergen, David. (2000) *Eyewitness to Power*. New York. Simon & Schuster. Pp.1-352
- Apr. 9** **Lessons from Current Political Leaders:**
Student News Clip Analysis
- Apr. 16** **Running for Office as an Effective Leader**
- Apr. 23** **Last Class: Wrap-Up Exercise**
Political Leadership Paper and Plan

Classroom Emergency Preparedness and Response Information

To Report an Emergency or Suspicious Activity

Call the University Police Department at 202-994-6111 (Foggy Bottom) or 202-242-6111 (Mount Vernon). If the line is unavailable or you are calling from another University location, dial 911.

Shelter in Place – General Guidance

Although it is unlikely that we will ever need to shelter in place, it is helpful to know what to do just in case. No matter where you are on campus, the basic steps of shelter in place will generally remain the same:

- If you are inside, stay where you are unless the building you are in is affected. If it is affected, you should evacuate. If you are outdoors, proceed into the closest GW building or follow instructions from emergency personnel on scene.
- Shelter-in-place in an interior room, above ground level, and with the fewest windows. If sheltering in a room with windows, keep away from the windows. If there is a large group of people inside a particular building, several rooms maybe necessary.
- Shut and lock all windows (locking will form a tighter seal) and close exterior doors.
- Turn off air conditioners, heaters, and fans. Close vents to ventilation systems as you are able. (Facilities staff will turn off ventilation systems as quickly as possible).
- Make a list of the people with you and call the list in to UPD so they know where you are sheltering.
- Visit GW Campus Advisories for incident updates <http://campusadvisories.gwu.edu> or call the GW Information Line 202-994-5050. If possible, turn on a radio or television and listen for further instructions. If your e-mail address or mobile device is registered with Alert DC, check for alert notifications.
- Make yourself comfortable and look after one other. You will get word as soon as it is safe to come out.

Evacuation

An evacuation will be considered if the building we are in is affected or we must move to a location of greater safety. We will always evacuate if the fire alarm sounds. In the event of an evacuation, please gather your personal belongings quickly (purse, keys, cell phone, GWorld card, etc.) and proceed to the nearest exit. We will examine the exit routes at our first class meeting. Do not use the elevator.

Once we have evacuated the building, proceed to our primary rendezvous location, the GSPM offices at the MPA building, Suite 401. In the event that this location is unavailable, we will meet at the Marvin Center, monumental entrance (on the 21st street side).

Alert DC

Alert DC provides free notification by e-mail or text message during an emergency. Visit GW Campus Advisories for a link and instructions on how to sign up for alerts pertaining to GW. If you receive an Alert DC notification during class, please share the information immediately.

GW Alert

GW Alert provides popup notification to desktop and laptop computers during an emergency. In the event that we receive an alert to the computer in our classroom, we will follow the instructions given. You are also encouraged to download this application to your personal computer. Visit GW Campus Advisories to learn how.

Additional Information

Additional information about emergency preparedness and response at GW as well as the University's operating status can be found on GW Campus Advisories <http://campusadvisories.gwu.edu> or by calling the GW Information Line at 202-994-5050.