

## **LEADERSHIP COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **LDR101 - Effective Dialogue**

**3 credits**

This course introduces students to certain core interpersonal skills required to achieve shared vision and team learning. Through interactive exercises and facilitated discussions, students will 1) enhance their dialogue skills including listening, meditation, and reflection, 2) improve their appreciation of human diversity by learning to surface and test mental models about individuals and groups, 3) improve their spoken and written communications skills in the context of leadership, 4) improve their ability to use mass media and advanced information technology in the context of leadership initiatives.

### **LDR102- Negotiating, Building Relationships, Resolving Conflicts**

**3 credits**

This course introduces students to the interpersonal skills required for successful negotiations, relationships, conflict resolution, and team building. Through interactive exercises, role-playing, and facilitated discussions, students will explore 1) negotiation paradigms, concepts, and algorithms, 2) techniques to build relationships, and 3) conflict resolution strategies. Activities will include negotiation role-play case studies, and conflict resolution role-play case studies.

### **LDR103 - Creative Leadership**

**3 credits**

In this course students will examine and reflect upon certain core issues in the practice of creative leadership. Theories presented are applicable for individuals, teams, or organizations. Through interactive exercises, role-playing, and facilitated discussions, students will examine 1) the difference between reacting and creating, 2) the ability to use structural tension to achieve vision, 3) the relation of motivation and group dynamics to vision, 4) the potential for a leadership vision to be informed by faith. Students will create their own Vision-Based Strategic Action Plan.

### **LDR104 - Systems Thinking**

**4 credits**

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of systems dynamics and the core skills of systems analysis. Through interactive team exercises, role-playing, and facilitated discussions, students improve their awareness and understanding of complex systems and learn the fundamentals of causal loop and stock and flow diagramming techniques. Utilizing computer-modeling software (e.g., *Vensim*) students will identify variables, explore dynamic parallel relationships among variables, recognize feedback loops, recognize and analyze system structure and archetypes, understand leverage points, and design effective system interventions.

### **LDR201 - Public Systems**

**3 credits**

In this course students engage in team learning regarding local, state, and federal governmental organizations. Through interactive exercises, role-playing, and facilitated discussions, students will explore the structure, function, and relationships between public institutions through topics covering advanced civics, policy-making, and the civil and criminal justice systems.

### **LDR202 - Private Systems**

**3 credits**

In this course students engage in team learning regarding the role and development of private sector organizations in community development, including for profit and nonprofit organizations. Through interactive exercises, role-playing, and facilitated discussions, students will explore free-market principles of economic development, the role of nonprofit organizations in maintaining and improving quality of life, and the development of small businesses.

### **LDR203 - Speaking as a Leader**

**3 credits**

This course introduces students to the interpersonal skills required for effective public speaking in a leadership context. Through interactive exercises, role-playing, and facilitated discussions students will 1) explore the content and structure of leadership messages, 2) practice speaking as a leader, and 3) analyze their own and other leadership messages. Critical examination of popular speeches is required.

### **LDR204 - Political Leadership**

**3 credits**

This course introduces students to voting, elections, and campaigns. Through interactive exercises, role-playing, and facilitated discussions throughout the semester, students will examine and assess the process entailed in political campaigns and the work of political parties in contemporary U.S. politics. Critical examination of current essays, reports, and events is required.

### **LDR205 - Group Dynamics**

**3 credits**

In this course the student will be exposed to the fundamentals of organizational behavior and group dynamics, with an emphasis on theory and practice developed through the Tavistock Institute. Students will also be introduced to the theory of Emotional Intelligence as a means of understanding individual and group behavior, and organizational learning theory developed by Peter Senge. Topics covered will include, the history and theory of organizational dynamics, the concept of emotional intelligence and literacy, organizational learning theory and organizational operation and planning.

### **LDR206 - Ethical Leadership**

**3 credits**

This course will provide a conceptual framework for exercising ethical decision making within a leadership context. The students will survey the development of ethical thinking in classic western literature, and the core concepts in ethical decision-making. Students will then explore the nexus between ethical behavior, decision-making, and basic leadership competencies. The focus of this section of the course will be on personal and collective ethics functioning in a corporate or institutional setting, and its effects on operations, planning, decision-making, and policy development.