

MOODY DISTANCE LEARNING

Course Number, Name, and Credit Hours

ED-3309 Principles of Leadership, 3 credit hours

Course Description

This course is an in-depth examination of trait and behavioral theories of leadership. Special attention is given to cultivating spiritually healthy leadership qualities within the leader. Attention is also given to the function of the leader in facilitating positive team relationships and environments within Christian organizations.

Course Goals

In this course you will:

- Review and evaluate your leadership strengths/weaknesses and philosophy (theology) of ministry in the light of biblical imperatives and secular research
- Understand biblical and practical arguments for team leadership
- Create environments that are conducive to healthy teams

Course Objectives

After completing this course you should be able to:

1. Summarize a biblical definition of leadership
2. Articulate your personal values and how those values would integrate within a Christian organization
3. Identify the key issues in developing high trust cultures necessary within teams
4. Identify personal strengths/weaknesses within the role of a leader
5. Summarize your personal philosophy as it pertains to the foundational principles of leadership

Course Textbook(s) and/or Supplemental Information

Kouzes, James M. and Barry Z. Pozner. *Christian Reflections on the Leadership Challenge*. (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2006). ISBN: 978-0-7879-8337-6 (paperback). [Kouzes & Pozner]

MacMillan, Pat. *The Performance Factor: Unlocking the Secrets of Teamwork*. (Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 2001). ISBN: 9780-8054-2375-4. [MacMillan]

Thrall, Bill and Bruce McNicol. *Beyond Your Best: Develop Your Relationships, Fulfill Your Destiny*. (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2003). ISBN: 0-7879-6762-9. [Thrall & McNicol]

McSwain, Jay with Quentine Lofton. *Establishing a Spiritual PACE For Living Out God's Plan For Your Life*. (Alpharetta, GA: PLACE Publishing, 2004). ISBN: 1-930856-48-2. [McSwain & Lofton]*

*Purchase McSwain's workbook from PLACE (<http://www.placeministries.org/p-91-pace-workbook.aspx>)

Media:

Stanley, Andy. "Challenging the Process". (North Point Resources) – available in Week 4's **Lesson 4 Resources** folder.

Stanley, Andy. "Trust vs. Suspicion".(North Point Resources)*

*Purchase "Trust vs. Suspicion" from North Point Resources (<http://store.northpoint.org/08-drive-the-multiple-choice-team.html>) **Note:** "Trust vs. Suspicion" was originally a conference talk called "The Multiple Choice Team".

Assignments Overview

All assignment due dates are listed on the Course Schedule. Readings should be completed each week according to the Course Schedule.

1. **Reading/Listening/Viewing Report** – The completion of the course reading and listening/viewing projects (online teaching) is an important part of the course. You are expected to complete the reading/listening and any coursework that is required for participation online, **prior to** engaging in Discussion Boards. You will be required to submit a reading/listening/viewing report at the end of each week.
2. **PACE Project** – Life is a marathon. Just as a marathon has its highs and lows along with obstacles, so does life. PACE is a personal awareness tool to establish purpose, mission, vision, and a strategy to live out your life's plan. This tool (in workbook format) will train and equip you with the principles needed to run your marathon of life. The project will span four (4) weeks of the class and takes place personally and through video facilitation and through online interaction with your classmates.
3. **Leader Profile Interview** – Interview a leader and write a 2,500 word paper based upon the interview and what was learned as a result (the interview must take place in person, by phone, or one-on-one Web interface (e.g., Skype, etc.). Please do not conduct the interview by email or other form of static communication. The interview needs to be such that the interviewee and interviewer can be fluid in their conversation. Consider the following types of questions to consider who to interview and conversation starters for the interview:
 - Who is a leader that you personally admire and why?
 - What are the character traits, leadership skills, personal attributes, and corporate abilities that set this leader apart?
 - How were these characteristics developed?
 - What were the personal trials and triumphs that led to this person being developed into the man/woman of God that they are today?
 - What types of teams have they developed?
 - Which team was the most effective? Why?
 - What insights do they offer to you for building biblical, effective, missional teams?
 - What warnings, admonitions or exhortations do they give you personally?
 - What will be necessary for you personally to lay the foundation to follow in this person's footsteps?
 - How will you insure that you will follow through?

4. **Principles of Leadership Paper** – Based upon course content, write a 2,500 word essay on the principles that you deem as essential or foundational for leadership within Christian organizations/churches. Consider the following as rough guidelines to address within the content of the paper:
 - What are the key factors that are absolutely essential for leaders in order to create environments that are conducive to health?
 - What are the internal and external forces at work within any organization that will either catapult it to success or destine it for insignificance?
 - How might those forces work in favor or against teams?
 - How would you define a healthy leader?
 - How would you define a healthy ministry/organization?
 - Based upon study and personal reflection over the period of this course, what are the “non-negotiables” now for you and your ministry teams in regards to leadership?
 - What are the practices and attitudes that must change from this point within your ministry? What must remain?
5. **Discussion Board Participation** – Participation in weekly discussions is expected. You must maintain a significant presence in the discussion board. Please refer to the discussion board rubric included in the **Course Resources** section for more information on how your participation in the discussion board will be assessed. **Note:** Most discussions will require that you post your thoughts by midweek (Friday) and respond to at least two classmates’ posts by the end of the week (Monday).

Assessments

Your grade for this course will consist of:

Reading/Listening/Viewing Report	20%
PACE Project	20%
Leader Profile Interview	20%
Principles of Leadership Paper	20%
Discussion Board Participation	20%
	100%

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent	Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent
A	96% or higher	C	73 - 76.9%
A-	90 - 95.9%	C-	70 - 72.9%
B+	87 - 89.9%	D+	67 - 69.9%
B	83 - 86.9%	D	63- 66.9%
B-	80 - 82.9%	D-	60 - 62.9%
C+	77 - 79.9%	F	Below 60%

Course Resources

Online students have access to the Moody Library. Though students may wish to check out books via inter-library loan, the online database has a number of articles and reviews available for download. You can access the online database by logging into your account at my.moody.edu.

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Means, James E. *Leadership in Christian Ministry*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1989

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Wakefield, Norman. *[Between the Words]: The Art of Perceptive Listening*. Grand Rapids: Revell, 2002.

Wilkes, C. Gene, *Jesus on Leadership*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1998.