



**RSP 201: Applied Leadership
COURSE SYLLABUS
Spring 2021**

Instructor: Jennifer Hudson
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COURSE INFORMATION

Applied Leadership - An introduction to and overview of the fundamental concepts of leadership, this course focuses on the significance and applicability of leadership theory to everyday action. Through experiential learning opportunities, students will learn to develop common purpose in groups through strategic planning and a focus to collective efficiency and potency for change.

Students will be able to:

Knowledge/Cognitive Learning Goals:

- Examine etymological origins of leadership
- Discriminate between popular notions of leadership, models, and empirically tested theories
- Develop working knowledge of history of leadership and the evolution of leadership theory including: servant, relational, peer.
- Integrate leadership learning across the disciplines

Personal Development Learning Goals:

- Understand the nature of power and influence, as well as oppression
- Refine/Improve effective written and oral communication skills

Group/Organizational Learning Goals:

- Learn to develop common purpose in groups
- Study elements of strategic planning including development of mission, vision, goal and outcome statements
- Focus on collective efficacy and group potency for change

COURSE INFORMATION & REQUIREMENTS

Instructional Methods, Activities, and Assessments

Materials – Textbooks and Supplemental Readings: There are no required textbooks for this class but students will be given appropriate handouts, books, articles and activities as needed.

Software or Technology Required: Access to myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) and a word processing system (preferably Microsoft Word). For those participating in synchronous learning, a phone/laptop/tablet/desktop with webcam and microphone is needed.

Instructional Methods: RSP 201 is a course focused on leadership development and leadership is best developed through conversations and activities with others. For that reason, the course will be conducted synchronously- at a set time- in either a face-to-face or virtual format. Students can choose, based on their own health or comfort level, on how they choose to engage with class. As with all in-person campus activities, A&M-Commerce requires the use of face-coverings in all instructional and research classrooms. The instructor will also follow the suggested COVID capacity for the classroom and distance students as appropriate to make sure physical distancing requirements are met.

Additionally, the course format will be hybrid, meaning students will meet for class one day a week and utilize the other meeting times for planning. Students are assigned to a Leadership in Action project to propose, plan and execute for the semester. Most work will be self-paced and completed independently and as part of assigned groups. Instruction will come in class and students will be required to participate and reflect on their learning.

Attendance & Participation- The course will meet synchronously on Tuesday of each week. Class attendance is required. Each student is expected to be present and participative in class- whether in person or virtually. Some class assignments, activities, assessments and conversations can only take place in real-time. Thus, students are expected to complete any of these assigned activities as part of the expected participation in the course. Specific activities and points will be noted in the D2L gradebook.

Failure to attend will result in a penalty to the student's grade. However, students should not attend class when ill or after exposure to anyone with a communicable illness. Communicate such instances directly with your instructor. Faculty will work to support the student getting access to missed content or completing missed assignments if students unable to attend in person or through virtual learning. For each unexcused absence, 2 points will be deducted from your final grade. Excused absences are defined by university policy and must be documented appropriately within ONE WEEK of absence.

Grading

Students' course grade is calculated according to the following scale:

A = EXCELLENT	90% -100%	(315-350 points)
B = GOOD	80% - 89%	(280-314 points)
C = AVERAGE	70% - 79%	(245-279 points)
D = POOR	60% - 69%	(210-244 points)
F = FAILURE	59% or below	(209 points or below)

Assignment	Points
Participation Assignments; StrengthsQuest Assessment + In-Class Activities	50 points
Discussions Posts / Lecture Response (5 posts)	50 points (10 pts each)
Leadership Journal (10 entries)	100 points (10 pts each)
This I Believe Statement	25 pts
Leadership in Action Project Proposal (50 pts) Evaluation/Reflection (75 pts)	125 pts total
Total Points	350 points

Discussion Posts/Lecture Responses (100 points total- 10 points each)

For each week of the semester, there will be one new topic posted in the discussion section of D2L. Students will be required (minimum) to generate one new post and comment on one post of a classmate. Topics will vary and include discussions about marketable skills, global competence, strengths and current events. Each original post is worth up to 7 points. Points are earned through quality and thoroughness of response. Remaining points are earned through commenting on or asking questions of fellow classmates.

Leadership Journal: Because of the nature of the course, students will be required to keep a journal which will have a regular entries online through D2L. This journal will serve as a place to answer questions posed in class and keep track of your goals. You will also use this journal as your guide when you build your own theory of leadership throughout the year. The journal will be worth **100 points** of your course grade. The final component of this project will be a "This I Believe" statement at the conclusion of the semester submitted as a separate entry. Recorded files (audio or audio/video) will incorporate each student's theory of leadership, life and purpose.

Project: Leadership in Action: Your project for this semester will center on your ability to come together as a group to execute a chosen task, utilizing your individual and collective leadership styles, strengths and vision. The project will be broken down into multiple aspects to be completed throughout the semester. **(125 points total)**

Project Proposal/Presentation: Groups will submit a well thought-out, cohesive plan which makes the case for why their project idea should be selected by the class. Proposals should be formatted appropriately (12 point font, standard type) and include a purpose statement and goals/deliverable outcomes.. Proposals should also include ideas on how to include others (either in RSP or in campus/community), identify key support needed (supplies, people money), how to garner needed support and detail measurements for determining the overall successfulness of the task. Each group will give a formal presentation of their project proposal following feedback on their proposal. What is your group's mission? How does your project tie into the goals of the Regents' Scholars Program? The purpose of the presentation will be to convey your group's task and goals while soliciting feedback/input from and garnering support. **(50 points)**

Peer Evaluation & Reflection - Using assigned metrics determined by group, each group member will be scored by their fellow class-mates on a scale of 1 to 10 for their contributions to completing the group task. Each group is responsible for creating an evaluation metrics for group members that is mutually agreed upon. This is an important document as it will be our only insight into how you all balanced the work. Each person will discuss their growth as a leader through the project and how they were able to exhibit/practice/grow their own style/theory of leadership. What theories influenced the way you worked with their peers? What did you do that was successful? What was unsuccessful? What goal will you set for yourself for next year? **(75 points)**

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS, ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Students will need access to a word processor prepare all assignments in the course. Additionally, all components of the course such as the gradebook and discussions, will take place in D2L Brightspace. Additionally, students will need access to a presentation generator (like PowerPoint, Canva, etc) and a way to present visual information along with audio through a formal presentation- groups may use tools in D2L and resources will be provided.

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products. Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed.

A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year. Note the following: • Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled. • For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater. • The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Grievance Procedure:

Students who have concerns regarding their courses should first address those concerns with the assigned instructor in order to reach a resolution. Students who are unsatisfied with the outcome of that conversation or have not been able to meet individually with their instructor, whether in-person, by email, by telephone, or by another communication medium, should then schedule an appointment with my supervisor, Dr. Raymond Green. Where applicable, students should also consult University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.05 ("Student Appeal of Instructor Evaluation").

Academic Integrity: Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures: Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

ADA Statement:

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. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Website:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Statement on Nondiscrimination:

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

"All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

Further, students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf)

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Texas Senate Bill – 11:

(Government Code 411.2031, et al.) Authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf> (and or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

Attendance:

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.apx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

A&M-Commerce Response to COVID-19 Pandemic:

A&M-Commerce requires the use of face-coverings in all instructional and research classrooms/laboratories. Exceptions may be made by faculty where warranted. Faculty have management over their classrooms. Students not using face-coverings can be required to leave class. Repetitive refusal to comply can be reported to the Office of Students' Rights and Responsibilities as a violation of the student Code of Conduct.

Students should not attend class when ill or after exposure to anyone with a communicable illness. Communicate such instances directly with your instructor. Faculty will work to support the student getting access to missed content or completing missed assignments.