LEADERSHIP/ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR (MGT/MGP 291)

Leadership - will focus on Leaders in Business and Industry. The class will discuss in great depth the concepts in Leadership and how to impact employees, peers as well as managers above you.

In this class we will look at how students from the GSM can influence others and have real impact on their organizations. To become leaders who add value to any change efforts successfully, we must know how to learn new leadership skills and behaviors and how to implement them.

We will explore Leadership from numerous perspectives; including readings, group discussions, teamwork and some extraordinary outside resources. These successful leaders are Presidents and CEOs and successful executives who have agreed to donate their time and come as guest speakers to the class. Please come prepared for exciting stimulating conversations and a unique interface with these very successful business leaders.

Our guest speakers have been asked to discuss their views on Leadership. They will focus on their experiences in leading change efforts as well as management on a day-to-day basis. Dale Carlsen, CEO of The Sleep Train, Bob Eckert, Chairman of Mattel Inc, Kirsten Weisser Executive VP of Mechanics Bank, Steve Buster, CEO of Mechanics Bank and Brian Stockton, CEO of Mattel Inc. are some of the Executives that will be joining us this quarter.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Final course grades will be based on student performance on four written assignments, student participation in class discussions and a team presentation.

Written Assignments

Each student will be expected to submit three individual papers that indicate what the student learned from reading the required texts. The analyses should be one single spaced typewritten page long and should be submitted during the week the topic is discussed in class. Individual papers and class participation will comprise 30% of a student’s final grade.

Each student should also form a group with three to five other students to complete a case study of a real leader of an organization or leadership topic. The research for this term paper and class presentation can be carried out using primary sources (e.g., participation observation and/or interviews) or secondary sources (e.g., books, articles, or prepared cases about a target organization). Thus, group members need not have worked in an organization to use it as the subject of their final topic. Final group topics will be presented in class (during the last two sessions) and will be written up in no more than ten single spaced typewritten pages. The group paper and presentation will be graded on a traditional letter grade scale, and will comprise 70% of a student’s final course grade.
Groups must follow the guidelines stipulated below. The grades will be based on style, content and innovation.

1. Groups must *speak with me* regarding the topic of their final paper sometime before the week of the 5th session. Failure to discuss your final paper topic with me by the end of this week will result in a one-half grade point deduction from your final course grade (e.g., from A to B+).

2. Groups should *obtain approval from me* for their final paper topic by the 5th session. Failure to obtain approval for a final paper topic by this time will result in a one-half grade point deduction from your final grade. Groups may change their final paper topic after this time, but they should notify me of any such change as soon as possible. The submission of a final paper on an unproved topic will result in a one grade point deduction from your final course grade (e.g., from A to B).

3. Final papers are approximately 10 single spaced pages and *must be submitted to me* on or before November 28th.

**Class Participation**

The material covered in this course will be largely learned through in-class discussion and class speakers. For this reason, it is absolutely imperative that all students complete all of the assigned reading before coming to class. It is also imperative that students attend all classes and prepare for our presenters by learning about their companies and prepare questions for them before coming to class. The Professor’s evaluation of the quantity and quality of students whose performance on the final paper and presentation places them on the borderline between two letter grades (e.g., a student who received an A-for his /her work on the final presentation or final paper could receive an A or B+ for the course, depending on the character of his/her contribution to class discussions).

**COURSE READINGS**

**LEADING AT A HIGHER LEVEL**, by Ken Blanchard ; Prentice Hall

**WHO ARE YOU AND WHAT DO YOU WANT?** by Mick Ukleja and Robert Lorber; Penguin/Putnam Publishing.

**PUTTING THE ONE MINUTE MANAGER TO WORK**, by Ken Blanchard and Robert Lorber: William Morrow
SESSION OUTLINE

10/1 SESSION #1: INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE
- REVIEW EXPECTATIONS AND SYLLABUS
- REVIEW BOOKS
- SELECT TEAMS
- GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER
- LEADERSHIP POINT OF VIEW

LEADING CHANGE
- VIDEO: WORDS TO LEAD BY

10/8 SESSION#2: LEADERSHIP AND PERFORMANCE

Readings:  
- *Who Are You and What Do You Want?* – Paper Due

- LEADING PERFORMANCE AND BUILDING TEAMS
- Video: “Survival Run”

10/15 SESSION #3: SPEAKER: DALE CARLSEN – CHAIRMAN/CEO SLEEP TRAIN

Leadership

10/22 SESSION #4: SPEAKER: BOB ECKERT: CHAIRMAN OF MATTEL

10/29 SESSION #5: SPEAKER: KIRSTEN WEISSER: EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF WEALTH MANAGEMENT; MECHANICS BANK

11/5 SESSION #6: SPEAKER: BRYAN STOCKTON: CEO OF MATTEL

Readings:  
- *Leading at a Higher Level* - Paper Due

11/12 SESSION #7: HOLIDAY

11/19 SESSION #8: SPEAKER: STEVE BUSTER – PRESIDENT AND CEO OF MECHANICS BANK
READINGS: *PUTTING THE ONE MINUTE MANAGER TO WORK* - PAPER DUE

11/26 Session #9: TEAM PRESENTATIONS

12/3 Session #10: TEAM PRESENTATIONS

IN-CLASS DISCUSSION OF LEARNING’S

FINAL DATE FOR TEAM TERM PAPERS