Syllabus for Leadership and Communication

Course Objective:
The course is designed to rapidly progress the student from a base level of self-awareness about leadership to decision making processes for complex staffs. It uses military-like fundamentals of self-improvement and small organization supervision to create the conditions by which students will self-discover their unique habits, strengths and areas for improvement as supervisors and leaders.

Course Description
The course will merge traditional classroom instruction with non-traditional practical events that will force small groups of students to manage a problem and resolve it within specified constraints. The PEs will be debriefed for instant feedback. Students will provide input into their own and others’ performance and decisions will provide much of the learning platform.

Outline of class
1. Friday-discussion regarding what individual tolerances and expectations of leadership. We will discuss ethical leadership also adaptive, situational, transactional, and transformational. Students will also review some historic leadership perspectives.
2. Saturday Leader Building Events. 3 lanes in the morning and three more in the afternoon. Lunch will be provided. Hot wash discussion afterward.
3. Sunday recap Saturday’s lessons learned if necessary. Discuss newer trends in organizational leadership and decision making.

Requirements
1. Due to the condensed nature of the course is it imperative that students be prepared to hit the ground running. Therefore the case studies and student handout should be thoroughly reviewed in advance and students should have some questions prepared.
2. Bring all read ahead materials to class. Read ahead materials are posted on Moodle.
3. Following the class weekend students will write a position paper detailing the major points they learned about themselves and how they plan to incorporate these lessons into their own business practices and pursuits. This will be due 1 week after the class. This is a position paper so research may be minimal, however; grading will be based on how well the student frames their perspective and how well they integrate new learning into their action plan.
4. Students will write a leadership paper on the business leader of their choice. The paper will detail the leaders’ philosophy and examples of their leadership. The paper must answer the question of why this particular individual is inspirational to the student. Paper is due 2 weeks after the class is over but may be completed prior to the class. No resubmissions will be permitted, however. Paper should be between 7-8 pages (not including bibliography or cover page) with proper APA citations.
5. Due to the abbreviated nature of the class attendance at all sessions and participation in the practical exercises is mandatory. Failure to attend will result in failure.

Pre-requisites
Positive attitude and open mindedness.

Credits: 1 credit MBA elective
Grading

1. Grading will be based on the two written works due post class, participation during the exercise, and attendance.
   a. Business leader paper 100 points
   b. Position paper 100 pts
   c. Participation in PEs 200 pts
   d. Attendance at all 3 days 100 pts (total based on 3 classes. Points are all or nothing with no partial credit given unless arrangements are made ahead of the first day of class).

Notes

1. Students should wear old clothes and sturdy shoes with some tread on Saturday. You will get dirty. You may get wet if it rains.
2. Lunch will be provided on Saturday. We will break for lunch. If you would like or require additional food you should bring some.
3. Following the PEs the performance of the leadership and group will be discussed within the group. It is important that students remain respectful of decisions that were rendered however, no ego driven discussion (pro or con) will be tolerated. Students MUST be able to accept input that they may not agree with. This is all intended in the spirit of learning.
4. Students are encouraged but not required to bring a blank notebook on Saturday and write some lessons learned in it during discussions. These notes can serve the professional person well for years.