

CSS 562 – Community Leadership

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This is a 2 credit course that will address the theory and practice of Leadership. This course will focus on the practice of leadership in a small group environment. The experiences of the student will frame the application of this course. Learning will be supported by the exploration and application of theory, time in the community and reflective assignments.

Goals

Understand leadership theory and use it to inform an awareness of development needed as a professional educator

Learn and put into practice the skills needed to effectively follow and lead as members of a small educational community

Prepare to transfer leadership skills beyond the experience of field instruction at the McCall Outdoor Science School

Objectives

Take leadership theory and put it into practice

Successfully lead small groups in the field and on campus

Learn to facilitate community skill activities

Learn to facilitate meetings that debrief the weeks activities

Sources of Learning

Student

This course is student centered by design and experiential in method. Much of the learning will either be generated by the instructor's experience and use theory as a lens to examine the experience. Each student will bring her or his own experiences and background

Faculty

The role of the leadership faculty is one of a guide, coach and facilitator. He will seek to aid the students in the inquiry of leadership and setting individual and group goals for putting leadership into practice. Students will be conscious of what it means to serve as a designated leader and to also be an active follower.

The Curriculum

The core of the course will be many of the leadership theories associated with the field of Outdoor Leadership. The field of Outdoor Leadership narrows the scope of study, so

that, students will be able to engage in topics that readily relate to their experiences as field instructors and as members of a small community. Topics will include: awareness, vision and action, group dynamics, conflict resolution, risk management, judgment and decision making, communication and trends in leadership theory and research.

Required Text

- AMC Guide to Outdoor Leadership (Kossef, 2003)

Text Supporting this Course:

- The Backpacker's Field Manual (Curtis, 1998)
- Outdoor Leadership: Technique, Common Sense & Self-Confidence (Graham, 1997)
- Primal Leadership (Goleman, Boyatzis, McKee, 2002)
- Effective Leadership in Adventure Programming (Priest, Gass, 1997)
- One Minute Manager (Blanchard, Johnson 1981)
- The Leadership Educator Notebook, NOLS Publication 2004
- The Risk Management Notebook, NOLS Publication 2005
- The Leadership Challenge (Kouzes, Posner, 2002)
- The Ant and the Elephant (Poscente, 2006)
- Performing at a Higher Level (Blanchard, 2006)
- Performance Management (Harvard Business School, 2006)
- Outdoor Leadership: Theory and Practice (Martin, Cashel, Wagstaff, Breunig, 2006)

Note: The supporting text will be to supply supporting material to the course and is available as a "library" of leadership resources for the students.

Schedule

*See attached document for course schedule

Evaluation

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|----------------------------|--|
| • Professional Portfolio | 30% |
| • Participation | 20% <i>*quality of work, participation and assignment completion</i> |
| • Pop Quiz | 10% <i>*includes all material presented</i> |
| • Reading and Application | 20% <i>*see attachment for details</i> |
| • Inquiry and Presentation | 20% <i>*see attachment for details</i> |

Schedule for Fall 2007

Section	Topics	Assignments Due
Backpacking	Sanitation, Map and Compass, GPS, Navigation, Group Management, LNT	Finished reading text
	Expedition Behavior, Awareness – Skill #1 Critical Observations	Self, Group, Environment Observations
Training	Gear Prep	
	Foundations of Leadership	Foundations Exercise
	Leadership Roles – PC and Instructors	Community Skills self- evaluation
	Community Contract and SMART Goals	+/- in roles Semester goals
	Community Skills Modules 1 – 8, bring in use of facilitation forms	Community Skills Activity write up
	Decision Making 101– Inquiry Day Portfolio Expectations	Assign reading application
September 24 October 1		
October Block	M - Theory	Reading and Application Due
	T - Theory	
	W - Hike	Inquiry Topic – meet w/gt Schedule Portfolio and Paper Update
	TH - Observations	
	F – Next Steps	
Presentation Week		
	SHOW TIME	Inquiry Paper Due Present Portfolios

Major Assignments

Readings and Application

The purpose of this assignment is for each instructor to pick a topic covered in Kossef's, The AMC Guide to Outdoor Leadership, apply the topic to a specific experience and draw conclusions and share any new learning that took place. The paper should examine the experience using the topic as a lens for analysis. It should include those involved, the 4 leadership roles, relevant background information and what the instructor learned from the experience.

Students should be prepared to lead a 10 to 20 minute discussion of their work in class. This includes sharing an appropriate lesson plan with the instructor prior to presentation.

Inquiry Paper and Presentation

The purpose of this assignment is for each instructor to pick a topic relevant to this course and to demonstrate an understanding of the topic beyond what is covered in the class. Students will turn a paper into the course instructor at the end of the semester, date to be announced.

The paper will include a written section demonstrating understanding of material, a comprehension of how the material is relevant to the practice of leadership, and resources cited.

Students are required to make an appointment with the course instructor to discuss their topic of inquiry and plan for assignment completion.