

Course Title: Character in Leadership

Course Description

This course explores the relationship between character and leadership effectiveness. It emphasizes ethical values, integrity, service, and responsibility as cornerstones of transformational leadership. Students will engage in critical discussions, case studies, and personal reflection to develop the moral foundation necessary for effective leadership in diverse contexts.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Define and explain the concept of character in leadership.
 2. Analyze the role of values, ethics, and integrity in leadership practice.
 3. Evaluate historical and contemporary leaders based on their character.
 4. Demonstrate practical leadership skills rooted in moral responsibility.
 5. Reflect on personal leadership character and growth.
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Course Outline (Week by Week)

Week 1: Introduction to Leadership and Character

- Defining leadership and character
- Why character matters in leadership
- Overview of course requirements

Week 2: Foundations of Character

- Values, morals, ethics, and virtues
- Sources of character formation (family, culture, faith, society)

Week 3: Leadership Theories and Character Dimensions

- Servant leadership, transformational leadership, authentic leadership
- Character traits linked to effective leadership

Week 4: Integrity and Accountability in Leadership

- Case studies on integrity vs. corruption
- Personal responsibility and trust-building

Week 5: Emotional Intelligence and Self-Discipline

- Role of self-awareness and emotional regulation
- How discipline shapes credibility

Week 6: Vision, Purpose, and Moral Courage

- Leaders with vision and conviction
- Courage in making ethical decisions

Week 7: Review & Reflection Paper I

- In-class discussion of personal leadership character assessment
- Submission of Reflection Paper I

Week 8: Ethical Dilemmas in Leadership

- Case studies of leaders facing ethical challenges
- Frameworks for ethical decision-making

Week 9: Character and Service Leadership

- Leadership as service
- Humility, empathy, and sacrifice

Week 10: Corruption, Power, and Abuse of Leadership

- Understanding misuse of power
- Case studies of failed leadership due to lack of character

Week 11: Leadership in Crisis

- Character under pressure
- Historical examples (e.g., Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King Jr., local leaders)

Week 12: Building and Sustaining Character

- Habits, mentorship, and accountability structures
- Role of faith, philosophy, and personal discipline

Week 13: Student Group Presentations

- Case study analysis of selected leaders (global and local)

- Evaluation of leadership character strengths/weaknesses

Week 14: Course Wrap-Up & Reflection Paper II

- Final discussion on personal leadership development plan
 - Submission of Reflection Paper II
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Suggested Texts & Resources

1. Maxwell, John C. *The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership*
2. Ciulla, Joanne. *Ethics, the Heart of Leadership*
3. Kouzes, James M. & Posner, Barry Z. *The Leadership Challenge*