## COUN 2970: Leadership Development For Student-Athletes

## Spring Semester 2016

Tuesday/Thursday: 11:30-12:45

**Course Information:**

Instructor: Julia Wiard, Instructor

Classroom: Student Athlete Development Center

Office: AUSC 3136

Office Hours: By appointment only

Phone: 334-750-2739

Email: [julia@auburn.edu](mailto:julia@auburn.edu)

**Texts and Materials:**

* + *The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership* by John C. Maxwell
  + *High Risk Situations in the Lives of College Athletes* by Earl Suttle and John Hubbard

Supplemental Readings /Videos

**Course Description:**

This course is intended to assist students in developing a variety of leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills necessary to maximize their success in academia, in their sport, and in life. This course will provide opportunities for students to explore the characteristics and skills that contribute to successful leadership. Topics will be covered via class readings, discussions, skill-building exercises, and other experiential activities.

This course will be offered in the traditional (face-to-face) environment, with some online assignments and teleconference meetings, thereby blending different interactive learning methods and techniques for successful development and application of leadership skills.

**Course Objectives:**

* Identify and understand the personal qualities and skills that contribute to successful leadership.
  + Articulate a personal philosophy of leadership.
  + Communicate effectively.
  + Resolve conflicts constructively
  + Encourage and appreciate diversity.
  + Develop and implement an individual action plan designed to develop leadership skills.
  + Understand and appreciate the concepts of mentoring.
  + Enhance professional acumen and media relations.
  + Lead initiatives successfully.

**Attendance Policy:**

Attendance is taken at the beginning of each class period. Because of the format of this course, students are expected to attend all classes, except in the case of a University-approved excused absence (e.g. medical cause, or other emergency as detailed in the *Tiger Cub*). In the case of a University-excused absence, all assignments will be due at the beginning of the next class attended. **ONE UNEXCUSED ABSENCES WILL BE ALLOWED. EACH** **ADDITIONAL ABSENCE WILL RESULT IN A LETTER GRADE REDUCTION (from the final grade) PER ABSENCE. Each instance of tardiness will count as one-half of an unexcused absence.**

**Students with Disabilities:**

Any student needing special accommodations should inform the instructors and/or The Program for Students with Disabilities (1228 Haley Center, phone: 334.844.2096) as soon as possible.

**Academic Honesty:**

Auburn University expects students to pursue their academic work with honesty and integrity. The Academic Honesty Code is outlined in the *Tiger Cub* and contains a list of those actions that are considered cheating and the possible consequences they carry. Violations of the Academic Honesty Code will NOT be tolerated in this course.

**Grading Policy:**

Activity Points Each

Canvas postings 10 entries @ 5 pts. ea.

Mock Job Interview 15 pts

Leadership Interview 10 pts

Personal Leadership Reflection 25 pts.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

100 pts

Final Grade

90% = A (90-100 points and above)

80% = B (80-89 points)

70% = C (70-79 points)

60% = D (60-69 points)

59% and lower = F (below 60 points)

***Grades will be rounded up when decimal point is greater than or equal to .5%***

**Canvas postings:**

**(5 Points each)**

All students will be required to complete and post ten leadership reflections to Canvas throughout the semester, as well as reactions to your peers’ posts. The purpose of the journal entries is to give you an opportunity to use the information learned in class in a practical application. Posts will reflect in class discussions, as well as out of class experiential learning. Therefore, it is important that your entries reflect thoughtful engagement with the course materials and your peers as well as understanding of course topics and course text.

**Leadership Philosophy Paper:**

***(25 Points)***

Students will be required to articulate their personal philosophy of leadership. This philosophy will aid in the development of effective skills necessary for leaders. This philosophy should include self-awareness, the definition of leadership and characteristics associated with leadership development.

In addition to the personal philosophy of leadership, students will develop an individual action plan regarding skills or qualities to improve upon over the course of the semester. The plan will include specific goals designed to emphasize choices that are consistent with the values that students are committed to living.

**Mock Job Interview:**

***(15 Points)***

Students will schedule a mock interview with the Auburn University Career Center. After completing the mock interview, students will submit a reflection of their experience.

**Leadership Interview and Presentation:**

(10 points)

Students will select and interview someone that they admire as a leader. Formulate questions using the topics discussed in class and the information covered in course material. Students will present a brief summary of their interview in class.

**Late Assignments, Make-Up Assignments and Exams,**

**and Extra Credit Policies:**

Late work will be accepted at a penalty of 10% of the overall point value per day until the available point value has been exhausted.. Extra Credit will not be offered or given to individuals, but may be offered to the entire class at the instructors discretion.