COUN:2970

Special Topics in College Student Development: College Student Leadership and Team Building

**SYLLABUS | Spring 2016**

Monday/Wednesday 10:00 am-11:15 am

**Course Information:**

Instructor: Julia Wiard, Instructor

Classroom: SADC 317

Office: AUSC 3136

Office Hours: By appointment only

Phone: 334-750-2739

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

**Texts and Materials:**

Supplemental Readings /Videos (will be linked to Canvas)

**Course Description:**

Programmed discussions and activities are designed to enhance student understanding of the process of teamwork as it relates to leadership development. The purpose of this course is to encourage students to consider their personal leadership skills and how those skills allow them to interact in a group setting. This course will allow students to develop their own leadership potential and team building skills through a series of activities, discussions, and reflection.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Students will be able to demonstrate use of their personal leadership style in a team setting
2. Students will be able to define their role within a team
3. Students will demonstrate the ability to work with others towards a common goal
4. Students will be able to construct an organization model for team development

**Course Requirements:**

* Attendance
* Group project and presentation
* Canvas reflections
* Paper

**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 journal postings 5 entries @ 40 pts. ea.

Group teambuilding instruction and activity 150 pts.

Leadership assessment paper 150 pts

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500 pts.

Final Grade

90% = A (450 points and above)

80% = B (400-449 points)

70% = C (350-399)

60% = D (300-349)

59% and lower = F (295 points and below)

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

**Canvas postings:**

**(40 Points each)**

All students will be required to complete and post five 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. These posts will be utilized as a form of class participation and may be pulled for class discussion as well. 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. Students must post one original post for each prompt, as well as reactions to two classmates posts. The original post will be worth a total of 20 points, each reaction will be worth 10 additional points for a total of 40 points per assignment.

**Organizational Team Development Plan**

(150 points)

Using the tools and inventories from class as well as your personal observations of team development, construct a team development plan for a campus organization of your choosing. This plan should evaluate the needs of the organization, size, structure, and timeliness of the activities. Development plans will be presented in class and should include demonstration of planned tools and activities.

**Leadership assessment paper**

(150 points)

Using the tools, inventories, and discussions from class as well as your personal observations of leadership styles and preferences employed in group settings; write a personal leadership statement about yourself. How has your understanding of your personal skills and your knowledge of various leadership styles influenced the roles that you have chosen within a group? Have you observed changes in your leadership styles as you have gained knowledge and experience (high school to college, first year to present). Reflect on your strengths as a leader as well as tendencies that may hinder your abilities. Incorporate assessments (StrengthsQuest, True Colors, etc) and class discussions in your reflection.

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

**and Extra Credit Policies:**

Late work will be accepted for Canvas posts and the Personal Leadership Reflection at a penalty of 10% of the overall point value per day until the available point value has been exhausted. The Group Project and Presentation will not be accepted after the assigned presentation date. Extra Credit will not be offered or given to individuals, but may be offered to the entire class at the instructors discretion.