

GEN ST 348: Community Based Leadership Seminar
Winter 2010 Course Syllabus -- Thursdays 4:30-6:20 PM
Mary Gates Hall, Room 258
Course website: <http://depts.washington.edu/leader/cbl>

Course Instructors

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Course Description and Goals

This course will focus on demystifying a number of different aspects related to community-based leadership, including the role of dialogue, the role of the non-profit or non-governmental organization, the role of for-profit organizations, the role of philanthropy, the role of networking, and the role of grass-root start-up community organizations. To explore these topics, we will hear from guest speakers, engage in dialogue with one another, and participate in some interactive skill-building activities. The course will draw heavily on your community experiences and will weave these together with elements of other academic coursework and your future academic/career goals. The course will offer you the opportunity to explore these three questions: Who am I? Who am I as a leader? and What is my role in community?, culminating with the completion of a Personal Leadership Philosophy Statement due on the last day of class.

Course Reading

There are no required textbooks for General Studies 348. There will be reading assignments and/or other preparatory work to be done before each course that will be distributed in class or available on the course website.

Assignments

- 1) You will be asked to submit a total of six 1-2 page, 12-pt font, single-spaced, 1" margin, typed journal entries that will be handed in at the beginning of class on the date assigned. Question prompts will be provided for each journal entry at the end of the class period one-week previous to when the paper is due.
- 2) You will also be asked to complete a final 2-3 page, 12-pt font, single-spaced, 1" margin, typed "Personal Leadership Philosophy" paper incorporating your personal views on the topics covered throughout the course.

Course Expectations (Attendance and Grading)

This is a two-credit course that is graded credit / no credit. Credit will be given to students based on class participation (50%), 1-2pg Journal Entries (25%), and final "Personal Leadership Philosophy" paper (25%). Class attendance, punctuality, participation in discussions, completion of assignments, and demonstration of professional courtesy to others are required in this course. Since this class is very discussion oriented, it is important that you attend class sessions. Anyone who misses more than one class session without extenuating circumstances will receive a grade of no credit for this course. Similarly, those who are persistently tardy or who make a habit of leaving before the end of class will receive a grade of no credit. Students should always contact the instructors ahead of time if unable to attend (all or part of) a class session.

This course experience will draw heavily from your experiences and those of your classmates. A note about sharing experiences: It is important that we – as a community of learners – respect, honor, and explore diversity in all its forms. Each of us enters this classroom community with unique sets of experiences that will inform our reactions to the readings and the discussions. Because of this wide variety of perspectives, it is critical that each of us agree to respect the validity of everyone's experiences in this classroom. At the same time, each of us must agree to listen to others' experiences and be willing to reconsider our own perspectives in light of new information.

Course Schedule: Thursday 4:30-6:20 pm

- January 7th** Course overview, Introductions, Class N/S/E/W Leadership Styles Activity (led by Francesca Lo)
Assignment: Complete a short reading on “Demystifying the role of dialogue in community-based leadership” for next week.
- January 14th** **“Demystifying the role of philosophical dialogue in community-based leadership” (2 weeks)**
Facilitating classroom dialogue through the Socratic Seminar. Guest speaker: Professor Walter Parker
Assignment: Complete the packet consisting of six short readings on leadership and come prepared to facilitate a small group dialog on one of the readings next week.
- January 21st** Small Group Peer-facilitated discussions using “Socratic Seminar” method.
Assignment: Write a 1-2 pg journal entry– topic to be shared in class. Complete a short reading on “Intergroup Dialogue and Diversity” for next week.
- January 28th** **“Demystifying the role of intergroup dialogue in community-based leadership”**
Intergroup Dialogue Activities. Guest speaker: June Hairston. This week we will move from a focus on discussing a text or famous idea, to discussing our own backgrounds and perspectives.
Assignment: Write a 1-2 pg journal entry for next week – topic to be shared in class. Complete a short reading on the role of non-profit organizations.
- February 4th** **“Demystifying the role of the non-profit or non-governmental organization in community-based leadership”:** Guest speaker: Tara Byrne moderating + three guest panelists. This week will feature a panel of guests who work in the non-profit sector moderated by a doctoral student studying education and non-profit work. We will discuss the differences between Non-profits & NGOs and the various roles found in the non-profit sector.
Assignment: Complete a short reading on “philanthropy” and write a 1-2 pg journal entry for next week.
- February 11th** **“Demystifying the role of philanthropy in community-based leadership”** Guest speaker: Kim Johnson-Bogart. This week we will be examining the role of philanthropy in disaster relief and ongoing community well-being.
Assignment: Complete a reading on “for-profit partnerships” and write a 1-2 pg journal entry for next week.
- February 18th** **“Demystifying the role of for-profit organizations in community-based leadership”**
Guest speaker: Michael Verchot. The director of the Business and Economic Development Center (BEDC) at UW will join us to discuss the important roles that for-profit organizations play in the community, what the BEDC does, and will share some of his experiences with business-community partnerships.
Assignment: Complete a reading on “starting a non-profit organization” & write a 1-2 pg journal entry for next week.
- February 25th** **“Demystifying the role of grass-root start-up organizations in community-based leadership”**
Guest speaker: Peter Kithene. This week we will discuss the process of building and sustaining a service project/organization, specifically examining the Mama Maria Clinic established in Kenya by CNN Hero and former Mary Gates Scholar, Peter Kithene.
Assignment: Complete a reading on “professional networking” & write a 1-2 pg journal entry for next week.
- March 4th** **“Demystifying the role of professional networking in community-based leadership”**
Guest speaker: Susan Terry. This week will feature the director of the UW Career Center guiding us in the theory and practice of networking, why it is an ESSENTIAL skill, and how we can grow our skill set.
Assignment: Complete the final draft of your “Personal Leadership Philosophy.”
- March 11th** **Final Class Celebration.** “Personal Leadership Philosophy” statements due. Share highlights from this statement and reflections on the quarter.
- March 18th** No final will be required for this course and we will not be meeting during Finals Week.