Leadership Studies
Welcome to
LDR 501

June 16, 2017

Dear Students,

Welcome to LDR 501. I appreciate you enrolling in this course and hope it will serve you well. This course has been designed to be an online interactive discussion course offered in a full 15 week semester. It is not an independent study course. While communication among students will be required, more importantly autonomous learning will be emphasized. The learning methods and requirements for this course are designed to help you learn the historical threads and forces of leadership thought and the contemporary theories of leadership, motivation, power, influence, and change with a focus on helping you recognize, articulate and practice your own personal perspective of leadership. This course is further designed to help you identify different perspectives of leadership and examine and critique these perspectives to better ground your leadership activities. We will achieve these objectives through guided forum discussions, case studies, and research papers.

Getting Started- This course has been designed to be an online interactive course using the course management system Desire2Learn (D2L)(https://d2l.sdbor.edu/). Please note that you will not have access to your course in D2L until the first day of class, August 28th. If you do have questions before the class start date, please do not hesitate to contact me via USD’s web email system. The South Dakota Board of Regents (SDBOR) will send you a password and login id prior to the course start date. It will be important that you log into the course D2L site by August 25th so you can engage the course and get started on the first period module. Please do not wait beyond this date to start the course, for your participation grade requires immediate involvement in the course. USD’s Continuing Education department will send additional information on how to log into the course. Please be sure to continuously check your USD email account regularly for communication regarding this course.

D2L Orientation- If this is your first online course at the University I would suggest that you review the new student’s guide for online learning for valuable information to help you be successful as an online learner, as well as necessary information on how to log-in if you are not familiar with USD’s D2L environment. The guide can be found at the following URL: http://www.usd.edu/continuing-and-distance-education/upload/Online-Orientation-Guide.pdf
Getting to Know You- I would like to get know each of you as the course begins. This can be done in introduction link within the D2L course. I made the first entry and I would like you all to enter one.

Technology Requirements- The University has established minimum hardware and software requirements to ensure the effective delivery of online courses. Those requirements are listed in the student guide found at the URL noted above. I also ask that you submit all paper/project assignments to me using Microsoft Word and/or PowerPoint. Further, I will ask that you submit all of your assignments to me in the appropriate folder within the D2L course dropbox, so you will need to know how to do this.

Course Reading Texts and Materials- You will need to purchase the following course textbooks and case studies prior to the course begin date, for forum discussion postings based on these materials will be required within the first couple days of the semester begin date.

Textbooks:


Case Study:

You will also want to order from Harvard Business Review the following case study: “Leadership in crisis: Ernest Shackleton and the epic voyage of the Endurance” at least one week before class. Please see the syllabus course material requirements section for the website to order this case study from.

Online Autonomous and Collaborative Learning- Both autonomous and collaborative learning is an important learning strategy for this course; it promotes authentic learning as students learn to take responsibility for their own learning and learning with and from each other. These strategies become more important for this course because we do not meet face-to-face. The larger class will be divided into smaller collaborative learning groups if necessary.

Course Expectations & Requirements- The primary means for communicating course requirements is the syllabus. The syllabus provides you with the general course information and description, my biography, key components of the course, course learning objectives, course topics, required course textbooks, required materials, required technology, learning objectives,
evaluation and grading standards, policies, responsibility of student and instructor, and the course schedule of assignments (SOA). Please read the syllabus carefully to understand course expectations.

The course is organized by topic with one topic covered each week. There are 12 topics discussed in this course. Each topic has a forum link within the D2L whereby you will dialogue with one another on the question discussed for the week, thus providing strong and close collaborative interaction between students and the instructor. These discussions are designed to replace face-to-face class time, and they provide the basis for your participation points. Requirements for these forum discussions are noted in the syllabus. Furthermore, there are two research papers due in this course. Please refer to the syllabus and the particular period in the SOA to gain information on these projects.

**Course Time Expectations**

Face-to-face courses meet approximately three hours per week. You can expect the equivalent for this course. The discussion postings serve as the medium by which collaboration (as if you were taking a face-to-face course) takes place. You can expect to spend approximately 45-60 minutes to construct each post. Your discussion posts should reflect a level of thought, synthesis, evaluation, analysis, reflection, and application of your reading materials expected at the graduate level. It is expected the reading of your materials takes place outside the 45-60 minute forum posting construction and development.

**Instructor Contact Information:** If you have any questions or concerns about the course, please feel free to e-mail me through the D2L e-mail program, or call me at (757) 788-1775. Please note that I seek to respond to emails within 48 hours Monday-Friday with exception of holidays. I will notify you if there might be an exception to this. I do not check regularly emails over weekends and holidays, so if there is an emergency, please call me.

I look forward to working and learning with you this semester.

With all sincerity,

Dr. Jacqueline Faulhaber