

Practical Leadership – 15.974

Class One – Introduction and Overview

- *Set the baseline. What understanding of leaders and leadership have each of us already acquired?*
- *Brief overview of the theories and themes in this course.*

AGENDA

Welcome – agenda, overview of class, introduction of instructor

Class Introductions (in two parts)

- 1 – Name, class, experience, aspirations
- 2 – Leader who has had impact on your life & why

Setting the Baseline

Group brainstorm list of Leadership Traits

Small groups work in definition of Leadership – NOT LIST OF TRAITS

Leadership is the ability to...

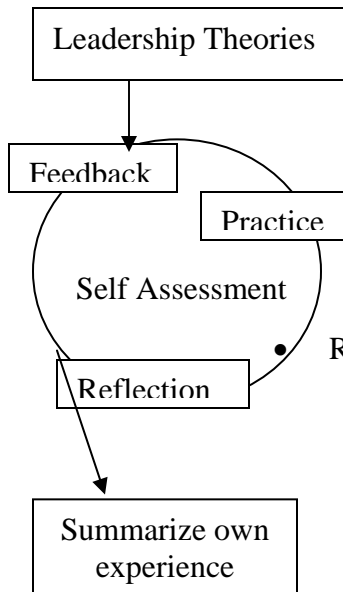
Groups then report back to the larger group

Look for similarities and differences among the definitions

Explain upcoming assignments

Overview of Class

- Explain Agenda – Agenda is FLEXIBLE
- Purpose – for you to improve your own leadership skills through reflection, practice and feedback
- Is an attenuated coaching session (USE DIAGRAM)
 - Leadership theories as starting points
 - Self-assessment – you decide what you want to work on
 - Practice
 - In class Role plays – practice new skills; get feedback
 - Out of class you will apply your new skills and reflect on how you do



- Feedback – in class (out of class)
- Self-reflection – learnings from practice and feedback, increased self-awareness
- Summarize at end – Results and Next Steps

Roadmap of class –

- 1st two weeks – get common language around leadership, do own self-assessments (what’s good, what needs improvement), do Distributed Leadership Assessment, come up with own Action Plan
 - 3rd week – work on feedback and coaching skills.
 - From then on – more theory to expand your toolkit, results from Distributed Leadership Assessment, Role plays. Practice/observation, feedback/ coaching, reflection, more practice.
 - Last class – Summarize your experience through the semester – Results and Next Steps
- Caveat – class about improving your leadership skills. I will help to make this a supportive environment. We will discuss your specific challenges in class. If two-way candor makes you uncomfortable, this might not be the class for you. I do expect that all of us will treat the information shared here as confidential. I do expect all of us will treat each other with respect.

Explanation of Syllabus and Assignments

- Deliverables (refer to syllabus – or front of readings packet)
 - Class Participation
 - Distributed Leadership Assessment
 - Creation of your Leadership Packet: Leadership Definition, Self-Assessment, Action Plan and Results, Leadership Journal, Next Steps
 - Meeting with class Instructor to go over your Self-Assessment and Action Plan.