MPPA 5303/MLMLA 6393
Public Leadership: Principles, Practices, and Realities
Summer II Term 2018

Dr. Jon R. Taylor
Meeting Time: 5:30pm – 9:50pm MW Malloy Hall, Room 113
Office: Political Science House, Room 203
Phone: (713) 525-3856
Office Hours: 1:00pm – 4:30pm MW
E-Mail: taylorj@stthom.edu

Course Description:

How do leaders lead? What do they do? What do they need to know to be successful? It assumes that leadership can be learned through the practice of skills, through guided reflection and discussion, and through observation and analysis of everyday leaders in everyday situations. This course is aimed at students who wish to become effective public leaders – be they government administrators, issue advocates, or social entrepreneurs. Students will be encouraged to engage in critical thinking regarding the moral responsibilities and ethical dilemmas faced in public leadership, as well as to understand the competing political, administrative, and institutional demands on leaders. The course will also assess the student’s capacity for leadership, as well as to examine ways of thinking about the exercise of leadership for the public good. By the end of the course, students will understand models and theories of leadership and leadership development, learn to identify leadership skills in themselves and in others, and understand how leadership operates in different professional settings and contexts.

Required Textbooks:

None – You will provide me with a flash drive. In return, I will provide you with readings, lecture notes, and supplementary materials.

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the semester, students should be able to:

- To be able to arrive at a functional definition of leadership.
- To understand the unique nature of the public sector leadership and to discuss why government is different from the private sector in terms of leadership.
- To place leadership within the context of the organization, and larger society, and to be able to discuss how the development of organization theory over the course of the 20th century has affected leadership theory and practice in the 21st century.
- To distinguish power, authority, and legitimate authority and understand the role each plays in leadership.
To discuss the concept of moral leadership and other related theoretical constructs related to ethics in leadership.

To understand how the most successfully leaders are able to influence followers through the effective communication of well-reasoned ideas, proposals and values reflective of the greater good.

To develop a multi-faceted perspective of leadership, where preconceived notions of the “born” leader or “charismatic” leaders are questioned, allowing students to explore the idea that leadership is laden with skills that can be learned, practiced, and continually developed.

Course Requirements:

There will be a research paper plus a thought piece exercise. The following is the grading breakdown for the course:

- Class participation: 20%
- Research Paper: 50%
- Thought Piece: 30%

Students are expected to prepare thoroughly for each class session, to submit written materials on time, and to participate actively and constructively in class. Attendance is critical. All written work is expected to be of high quality. That is, it should be logically organized, complete, and lead the reader to a conclusion. Spelling, grammar, punctuation, proper referencing, and organization will be graded as well as content and presentation. All quotations and significant paraphrases should be properly cited.

Research Paper:

A research paper is required for the course. The research paper will be due on August 1, 2018. Class members will select their research topics in consultation with me. Paper ideas may be from any field of interest found within the scope of the Masters of Liberal Arts Program or the Master of Public Policy and Administration Program. Dare to be creative!

Research paper expectations: All work submitted must be typewritten and double spaced, using a 12-point font, with 1 inch margins on all four sides and properly footnoted. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade. The grading of the paper will be based on:

- Your ability to provide a viewpoint on the topic to back up your opinions provided with research materials.
- Clarity and organization of the essay.
- Appropriate citations and reference throughout the essay (footnotes, bibliography, etc.).
- Correct grammar, spelling and form.
- Unexcused late essays will be reduced by one-half a grade per day.
• The paper/essay should be between 15-17 or more pages in length. Note: If you are using this paper for the MLA capstone requirement, it should be 15-17 pages or more in length (see special MLA note below).

Class Rules:

As students at the University of St. Thomas, we have high expectations and high standards. Therefore, all students will fully and actively participate in the class throughout the semester.

• Attendance and participation is required and worth 20% of your overall grade.
• Arriving late is strongly discouraged.
• Reading course assignments is expected.
• All Electronic devices are to be muted during class.
• Showing respect to other students and the professor is expected.
• Make up work will be limited to special circumstances (and with prior notification only).
• Plagiarism and other forms of cheating will result in a failing grade.

Attendance and Miscellaneous:

We rarely, if ever, take roll in class. That does not mean we fail to notice the lack of your presence in the classroom. On the contrary. With such intimate classes as offered at the University of St. Thomas, your absence is quite noticeable. We like to have you in class. We value your input. But we make the presumption that since you are in college that you are a reasonably responsible adult. It bothers us very little if you have found someone or something better than attending my class. Of course, it bothers us very little to flunk you as result of your finding that someone/something better. If you don’t show up for class and/or blow-off or do extraordinarily poor on the homework assignments, exams, and the article review, you may be looking at crime or a job in the fast food industry as a succinct alternative to the stresses of higher education.

Academic Integrity:

"It would have been better if he had never been born" – Mark 14:21.

All of the work you do in this course is expected to be your own. Absolutely no cheating or plagiarism (using someone else’s words or ideas without proper attribution) will be tolerated. Any cases of cheating or plagiarism will be handled according to university policy and reported to the University’s Academic Misconduct Committee.

As stated in the Academic Misconduct Code for the University of St. Thomas, academic misconduct includes: (a) cheating (using an authorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; (b) assisting others in any such act; or (c) attempting to engage in such acts.
Plagiarism is using the work or another person and claiming it as your own. The most common types of plagiarism include:

- Using a paper or portion of a paper prepared by someone else;
- Quoting someone else’s language or words without proper quotation or citation; and
- Paraphrasing someone else's ideas, framework, or insights without giving credit to the original author in a citation.

Academic misconduct in any form is unacceptable and suspected violations will be pursued aggressively.

**Students with Disabilities:**

If you have any condition, such as a physical, psychiatric/emotional, medical or learning disability, which will make it difficult for you to carry out the work as outlined in this syllabus, please notify me and the Office for Counseling and Testing Services in the first week of the course so that we may make appropriate arrangements. All information and documentation of disability is confidential. Course materials are available in alternative formats upon request.

**A Special Note for MLA Students:**

Students may use this course's paper to fulfill the capstone requirement in the MLA program. Please inform me if you wish to use this assignment to fulfill the capstone requirement. You are responsible for picking up the graded paper from me and submitting it the MLA Program Director. Students can pick-up the graded paper from me sometime after mid-August.

**Course Schedule (Readings will be assigned in class):**

Introduction and Overview of the Course
Theories of Leadership
The Leader as Servant
Reform Leadership
Revolutionary Leadership
Ethical Leadership
The Leader as Manager/The Manager as Leader
Political Leadership
Corporate Leadership
Military Leadership
Rethinking Leadership

**Thought piece due August 1st**

**Research paper due August 1st**