

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP IN AGRICULTURE

AGRI 420 - SPRING 2023

School of Agriculture - Western Illinois University

INSTRUCTOR

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Office Hours: M/W 12-1 p.m., Tuesday 9-11 a.m.

or by appointment

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Section I will meet Tuesday from 11-11:50 a.m. in KH 306.

Section II will meet Tuesday from 12-12:50 p.m. in KH 306.

This is a one-semester hour lecture/discussion course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND PREREQUISITES

AGRI 420 Personal leadership skills will be developed as students explore historical and current views of social, cultural, and technological issues and the associated social changes in agriculture. Styles and roles of leadership in agricultural organizations including group dynamics, conflict resolution, ethical considerations, and communications will be covered. Students should either have completed AGRI 340 or be concurrently enrolled in AGRI 340.

MATERIAL

- Instagram App
- Course handouts will be provided as necessary.
- Apply Podcasts or Spotify

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Explain the difference between management and leadership.
2. Understand leadership techniques appropriate for a given situation.
3. Recognize opportunities for self-improvement.
4. Understand concepts to help you transition from college to “the real world.”

IMPORTANT DATES

February 28-We will not meet. Class will be volunteering at the Ag Mech Show.

April 11-Leadership Essay Due, hardcopy in class and electronic on WO

May 2- 1st grade field trip

CLASS RULES

Technology: Cell phones/laptops/tablets are not to be used during class unless requested to do so for class activity purposes. If, due to medical or public safety concerns, a student needs an exception to this policy he/she should inform the instructor prior to class. Students on their phone, laptop, or tablet during class will lose 10 points per incident. Reminders will be few, and most likely embarrassing. **If I see your electronics, I assume you are waiving your 10 points for that day. If you need a study hall, please go to the library.**

****Stay off your phones and laptops. Consider this your warning.****

Tobacco: Use of tobacco **in any form** is prohibited in university buildings/classrooms.

Talking: Unnecessary side conversations will not be tolerated.

Respect: Please respect the opinions of your classmates during all class discussions and activities.

Do. The. Work.: The more effort you put into this class, the more you will get out of it. This course was designed for you to apply each lesson to your current leadership roles and adapt your leadership style to make you a more effective leader and communicator, as well as learn about yourself in the process. Don't waste the opportunity.

No Whining/Excuses/Complaining: This is on-the-job training for life.

CLASS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Important class announcements (cancellations, etc.) will be made via WIU email, Western Online, and the WIU text notification system.

ABSENCES

Attendance is required. Excused absences (emergencies, funerals, and illness) should be cleared with the instructor prior to the class either via email or the OARS system. Unexcused absences will result in a loss of participation/attendance points for that day (**10 points**). All assignments due for that class period should be completed prior to the next class period.

GRADING POLICY:

The course grade will be based on the following:

Application Papers	700 points	(50 points each)
IG for a day	50 points	
Activities/Participation/Attendance	150 points	(10 points per class)
<u>Leadership Essay</u>	<u>200 points</u>	
Total	1100 points	

Effort equals points. If you choose not to complete an assignment that is your choice. If you choose to write a half page when a full page is required, that is your choice. Please note that your grade will reflect your choices. It does not make me a "hard grader."

Attention Education Majors:

The changes within the Illinois State Teaching License requirements, students are required to receive a grade of a "C-" or better in this course in order to meet state requirements. With the university's +/- grading system, receiving a grade below a "C-" will require you to retake this course or find a substitute course to meet School of Agriculture graduation requirements.

GRADING SCALE:

93% and above = A

90 – 92 = A-

87 – 89 = B+

83 – 86 = B

80 – 82 = B-

77 – 79 = C+

73 – 76 = C

70 – 72 = C-

67 – 69 = D+

63 – 66 = D

60 – 62 = D-

59 and below = F

APPLICATION PAPERS (50 points each) Turn in on Western Online

Each week you will have a two part paper due. The first section of the application paper will be the answer to a specific case/lesson with questions to answer or how you can apply the lesson to your own life.

The second part will be a brief description of a random act of kindness (RAK) you performed that week. Leading by example is the easiest way to lead. Examples of acts that do and do not count as RAKs can be found on Western Online. *Hint: If your RAK involves your family, friends, or roommates, it will not count. RAKs should vary week to week.*

The following guidelines should be used for all application papers.

- a. All papers are to be single spaced; typed in 12-point font.
- b. All application papers are to be turned in to Western Online by 11:59 p.m. on the day they are due, in the appropriate folder.
- c. Answers to questions or problems should be in the order requested.
- d. There is no “correct” answer to many of the questions that will be posed. Papers will be graded based on content, completeness, writing technique, spelling, and grammar. **This is a senior level class. All spelling and grammar errors will result in a loss of points.**
- e. No late work will be accepted.

LEADERSHIP ESSAY (200 points)

Choose a leader to analyze within the context of lessons that we have discussed in class. This is NOT a biography. Consider the topics we have discussed this semester. What makes a person a “good” leader or a “bad” leader? Illustrate leadership concepts through examples. You may choose to write about someone from different perspectives: someone who was a strong leader and led a movement for the betterment of his/her followers and society, someone who was a strong leader and led a movement that was detrimental to society (Hitler), someone who was in a position of leadership but failed his/her followers, someone who was not in a position of power/leadership, yet created a following, etc. **Leaders must have led in 1970 or later.**

- a) Discuss certain events in his/her life that were turning points in their leadership or demonstrated his/her leadership ability.
- b) Your paper should be a minimum of 2 pages, double spaced, 12-point font.

- c) Your paper should be written by you. **Plagiarism will result in a zero in this course.**
- d) **Cite your sources within the paper in MLA format and include a works cited page. You must use a minimum of two reputable, scholarly sources. NOT Wikipedia.**

INSTAGRAMMER FOR A DAY: (50 points) Tell others your Leatherneck story on the WIUAg Instagram account. Post a photo and caption at least 4 times on your assigned day about what you do around campus. You may include your daily routine, eating in the cafeteria/around town, work you are doing in lab, events around campus, buildings on campus, work, etc. Posts should be fun, insightful, and informative. You can and should include photos of yourself in your posts. Photos should be “grandma appropriate.” Think about information you would want to know if you were considering attending WIU. Please follow all appropriate Covid restrictions and guidelines. Please see “Instagrammer For-a-Day Guidelines.”

FINAL (50 points)

Assist with the first grade field trip May 1-3 for 1 hour. Additional hours will earn you 25 points extra credit.

ACCREDITATION

The School of Agriculture is housed in the College of Business and Technology which is accredited by AACSB-International.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

ADA Compliance: In accordance with University policy and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. For the instructor to provide the proper accommodation(s) you must obtain documentation of the need for an accommodation through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) and provide it to the instructor. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor's attention, as he/she is not legally permitted to inquire about such particular needs of students. Students who may require special assistance in emergency evacuations (i.e. fire, tornado, etc.) should contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow in such an emergency. Contact Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 298-2512 for additional services.

Title IX: University values, Title IX, and other federal and state laws prohibit sex discrimination, including sexual assault/misconduct, dating/domestic violence, and stalking. If you, or someone you know, has been the victim of any of these offenses, we encourage you to report this to the Title IX Coordinator at 309-298-1977 or anonymously online at: http://www.wiu.edu/equal_opportunity_and_access/request_form/index.php. If you disclose an incident to a faculty member, the faculty member must notify the Title IX Coordinator. The complete Title IX policy is available at: <http://www.wiu.edu/vpas/policies/titleIX.php>.

Academic Integrity: The rules and regulations outlined in the University's policy on academic integrity are applied to this course. <http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php>

Student Rights and Responsibilities: Detailed information regarding student rights and responsibilities can be found at <http://www.wiu.edu/provost/student.php>. It is your responsibility to be familiar with the posted information.

Disruptive Student Behavior: Disruptive Student Behavior is defined as inappropriate student behavior that a reasonable faculty member would view as interfering with the ability of the instructor to teach and students to learn whether in a classroom or other learning environment (such as an online course, laboratory, site field experience,

internships, instructor's office, computer lab, or other setting whether it is an on-campus or off-campus location), which disrupts the educational process. It is also considered disruptive behavior for a student to exhibit threatening, intimidating, or other inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates outside of the learning environment. Further information is available at <http://www.wiu.edu/vpas/policies/disrupst.php>.

NOTICES

Please be advised that this syllabus is tentative. All classes are different and we may or may not be able to address all of the content areas. Any deviations from the syllabus will be announced as soon as possible.