CHAPTER PRESIDENTS’ CLASS
SPRING 2011
WEDNESDAYS 3:30 – 6:30 pm
Alpha Chi Omega Sorority House

INSTRUCTOR
Corin Gioia
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TEACHING ASSISTANTS/ GREEK LIFE INTERNS
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TEXTS & FEES
The Leadership Challenge by James M. Kouzes and Barry Z. Posner.
The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch
Hyperion (2008)
Challenge Course Fee: $20

PURPOSE
The Chapter Presidents’ class is a three credit course designed to address leadership issues and organizational development as well as their practical applications to fraternity and sorority presidents. Particular focus will be given to understanding leadership as a process rather than a product. The course is created to enhance the leadership skills of chapter presidents and to help presidents better understand the unique nature of their leadership position. A high degree of critical thinking and class participation are foundations for this course.

COURSE GOALS
• to study the concepts of leadership and to understand that leadership is a process based on relationships with people
• to explore major themes in leadership and their practical applications
• to allow for introspection, self-exploration, and values clarification
• to understand the principles of fraternity and sorority values and ideals and to learn to apply those principles to leadership
• to explore the unique issues of fraternity and sorority life nationally and locally
• to promote a class atmosphere that is both supportive and challenging, based on trust and respect
• to explore ways to better the community through understanding and learning about the aspects of different chapters
• to have fun and build relationships with other chapter presidents!
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

AUTOBIOGRAPHY – You will be asked to write an autobiography that should highlight significant life experiences, values, goals, leadership skills and personal perspectives that have shaped you as an individual and as a leader. The paper should be 4 - 5 pages. **DUE WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9th.**

BOOK REVIEW – You will be asked to read a book related to leadership or organizational behavior and write a 4-5 page review. The review should include a short summary of the content, an analysis of the book’s strengths and weaknesses, and application of the concepts to your fraternity or sorority experience. The following is a list of approved books. If you want to choose another book, it must be approved by an instructor at least one week prior to the due date. **DUE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16th.**

* The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People by Covey, Stephen
* The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership by Maxwell, John
* The Audacity of Hope by Obama, Barack
* Blink by Gladwell, Malcolm
* Built to Last by Collins, Jim and Porras, Jerry
* Encouraging the Heart by Kouzes, Jim
* Good to Great by Collins, Jim
* Leadership by Guiliani Rudolph
* Leadership from the Inside Out by Cashman, Kevin
* Leading Change by Kotter, John
* Leading with Soul by Deal, Bolman
* Overcoming the Five Disfunctions of a Team by Lencioni, Patrick
* Principle Centered Leadership by Covey, Stephen
* The Radical Edge by Farber, Steven
* The Radical Leap by Farber, Steven
* Tipping Point by Gladwell, Malcolm
* Wooden on Leadership by Wooden, John

PAPERETTES – During the course of the semester, you will be responsible for turning in two paperettes (short, 2-3 page papers). The first is **DUE MARCH 2nd** and the second is **DUE APRIL 6th.** The purpose of these paperettes will be to analyze how leadership is portrayed in certain movies and how it relates to your role as chapter president. Movies which will serve as the basis for these paperettes include:

* American History X
* The American President
* Amistad
* Any Given Sunday
* Apollo 13
* Blindside
* Breaking Away
* Bring It On
* The Color Purple
* Dead Poets’ Society
* Friday Night Lights

* Fried Green Tomatoes
* Gladiator
* He Got Game
* Higher Learning
* Hoosiers
* Jerry Maguire
* Lean on Me
* Life is Beautiful
* Meet Joe Black
* Mighty Ducks
* Miracle

* Milk
* Mona Lisa Smiles
* Philadelphia
* Primary Colors
* Remember the Titans
* Rudy
* School Daze
* Star Wars
* Wall Street
* We Are Marshall
* 12 Angry Men

NOTE: Movies not listed above that you would like to analyze must be approved by me and must be confirmed with your TA.
WEEKLY HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS – Each week you will be asked to read materials that will be discussed in class. Your intelligent participation in class discussions and debates is expected. Additionally, there will be weekly homework assignments which will be required and graded pass/fail. Your attention to these assignments is important and an indication of your participation and commitment.

GROUP PROJECT – Students will be involved in a major group project in groups of four to six people. The group will analyze one aspect of Greek life or leadership that deserves the attention of chapter presidents and presents new information/ideas that will help them do their jobs better. The focus should be on practical application. The group will research the topic and conduct a study that includes material from sources external to the University of Maryland (and might include surveys, interviews from other campuses, etc.). A written component (i.e. handout or power point presentation packet) of the presentation should accompany the group presentation in class. A one page typed outline of the presentation is due on March 24th.

The presentation will be 45 minutes in length and will be judged on how well the group covers the following: planning and research; organization; depth of analysis; creativity; class involvement/ interaction; helpfulness; and materials used/provided. You are encouraged to use multi-media presentations. The goal of this project is to build a library of resources in DFSL for future chapter presidents to use to help them become better presidents. Presentations should be professional and should include materials that will allow the presentation to be recreated if future chapter presidents so desire (e.g. electronic copies of all PowerPoint presentations should accompany the written component where applicable).

Presentation dates will be either APRIL 27th or MAY 4th.

ROPES COURSE – Students will be expected to participate in a ropes course retreat on the designated day during the semester. Failure to attend this class will result in a make up assignment. The make up assignment will be a 7 page paper, topic to be determined at a later date.

QUIZZES – There will be six quizzes throughout the semester. The purpose of each quiz is to measure students’ comprehension of the material assigned through readings for the week.

ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION
Class attendance and participation are critical components of success in this course. A quality learning experience in a leadership course rests heavily upon interaction and idea exchanges among students, the instructors, and guest speakers. You are expected to be actively engaged in each class and will receive a grade based on your participation. Each student will have one free unexcused absence before their grade is impacted. You must provide documentation for any other missed class.

FINAL PAPER
There is a final paper of 12 – 15 pages required for the successful completion of the course. A good paper will not only highlight your personal experiences, but will also incorporate any relevant course concepts and their applications to your experience as chapter president. The paper must include and integrate class discussions, the five leadership practices from The Leadership Challenge, concepts from the paperettes, and other aspects from the supplemental readings. You may wish to explain what ideas and/or tools you put to use and if they worked to make your chapter more successful. Please discuss how you have developed or changed as a result of your experiences as president. Be introspective and reflective in your personal analysis. FINAL PAPERS ARE DUE TUESDAY, MAY 11th, BY 5:00 PM.
### POINT DISTRIBUTION

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<td>Final Paper</td>
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<td>Group Project</td>
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<td>Quizzes</td>
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<td>Attendance, Participation, and Homework</td>
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<td>Paperettes</td>
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### EXPECTATIONS

- All papers must be typed (fonts no larger than 12 pt.), 1 inch margins and double-spaced with attention to correct grammar, spelling, and format.
- All papers must be turned in on the due date. Any late papers will be marked down one full letter grade for each day late.
- All readings must be completed prior to the class date they are assigned.
- Promptness is expected. Be on time when class starts.
- If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations, please contact me as soon as possible.

### POLICY ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The University of Maryland has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student, you are responsible for upholding these standards for this course. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit [http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/whatis.html](http://www.studenthonorcouncil.umd.edu/whatis.html).

Taken from the University of Maryland Code of Academic Integrity:

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** Any of the following acts, when committed by a student, shall constitute academic dishonesty:

- **CHEATING:** intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise.
- **FABRICATION:** intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
- **FACILITATING ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to violate any provision of this Code.
- **PLAGIARISM:** intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise.

### COURSE EVALUATION

Your participation in the evaluation of courses through CourseEvalUM is a responsibility you hold as a student member of our academic community. Your feedback is confidential and important to the improvement of teaching and learning at the University as well as to the tenure and promotion process. CourseEvalUM will be open for you to complete your evaluations for spring semester courses between Tuesday, April 27th and Wednesday, May 12th. You can go directly to the website ([www.courseevalum.umd.edu](http://www.courseevalum.umd.edu)) to complete your evaluations starting April 27th. By completing all of your evaluations each semester, you will have the privilege of accessing the summary reports for thousands of courses online at Testudo.
SYLLABUS

JANUARY 26

CLASS CANCELLED DUE TO SNOW

1. Read Leadership Challenge Preface and Part I: What Leaders Do and What Constituents Expect (pp. xi-41)
2. Watch and read http://fraternalthoughts.blogspot.com/2010/12/its-your-turn.html
3. Define leadership and your role as Chapter President in your own words.

FEBRUARY 2

Introductions/Syllabus Review
1. Begin Reading The Last Lecture

FEBRUARY 9

TBD

DUE: AUTOBIOGRAPHY

HW- LEADERSHIP AND PRESIDENT ROLE

FEBRUARY 16

Crisis Management and Media Relations
Class Field Trip with Matt Supple, Director of Fraternity & Sorority Life

1. Crisis Management Guidelines
2. Conduct a Crisis Drill in the chapter and summarize the result.
3. Finish reading The Last Lecture
4. Identify three areas or ways in which you could leave a leadership legacy in your chapter.

FEBRUARY 23

What is Leadership?
Guest speakers: Liz Brown, Heidi Biffl, Amie Jackson, Kevin Pitts & Bob Nichols

DUE: HW-CRISIS DRILL SUMMARY & LEADERSHIP LEGACY

QUIZ #1

1. Read Leadership Challenge Part IV: Challenging the Process (pp. 161-216)
2. Identify five things you want to change in your chapter and why.
3. Complete Leadership Practices Inventory

MARCH 2

Creating Change
DUE: HW- FIVE THINGS TO CHANGE

PAPERETTE #1

QUIZ #2

LPI SELF & OTHER

TA GROUP 1: (Challenging the Process Mini-Presentation)

1. Read Leadership Challenge Part III: Inspire a Shared Vision (pp. 103-156)
2. Describe the ideal chapter
MARCH 9

**Visionary Leadership**

Class Field Trip
Martin Luther King Video and discussion

**DUE:** HW- IDEAL CHAPTER
GROUP PROJECT PROPOSAL
QUIZ #3
TA GROUP 2: (Inspiring a Shared Vision Mini-Presentation)

1. Read Leadership Challenge Part V: Enable Others to Act (pp. 221-274)
2. Conduct a membership assessment to identify three (3) strengths and three (3) weaknesses of each member in the chapter; summarize results
3. Select one quote from a monument on the Mall and describe how it relates to your role as chapter president

MARCH 16

**Leaders Create Leaders**

**DUE:** HW- MEMBERSHIP ASSESSMENT SUMMARY & QUOTE
BOOK REVIEW
QUIZ #4
TA GROUP 3: (Enable Others to Act Mini-Presentation)

1. Read Leadership Challenge Part II: Model the Way (pp. 45-98)

MARCH 23

NO CLASS SPRING BREAK

MARCH 30

**ROPES COURSE**

(3:30-7:30 pm)

1. Select two of your founding values and track your adherence (or lack thereof) to these values for the next seven consecutive days

APRIL 6

**Values – Ethical Leadership Discussion and Workshop**

What does it mean to be a cheater?

**DUE:** HW- FOUNDING VALUES TRACKING
PAPERETTE #2
QUIZ #5
TA GROUP 4: (Model the Way Mini-Presentation)

1. Read Leadership Challenge Part VI: Encourage the Heart (pp. 279-333)
2. Read Leadership Challenge Part VII: Leadership For Everyone (pp. 337-351)
3. Write five (5) thank you notes to people affiliated with your chapter.
4. Submit at least three (3) applications for Greek Awards by due date.

APRIL 13

**Encourage the Heart**

**DUE:** HW- THANK YOU NOTES and AWARD APPLICATIONS
TA GROUP 5: (Encourage the Heart Mini-Presentation)

1. Read “They Made Me Do It” New Scientist article
2. Complete Leadership Legacy assignment.
3. Read Article TBA
APRIL 20  Leaving Your Legacy  
DUE:  HW- LEADERSHIP LEGACY  
QUIZ #6  
TA GROUP 6: (Leadership Legacy Mini-Presentation)

APRIL 27  Class Presentations (three groups)

MAY 4  LAST CLASS  
Class Presentations (three groups)  
Class Evaluations  
DUE:

MAY 11  FINAL PAPERS DUE BY 5:00PM

NOTE:  Items in italics should be completed for the class immediately following when they are assigned.