CHAPTER PRESIDENTS’ CLASS
SPRING 2013
WEDNESDAYS 3:30 – 6:30 pm
Alpha Chi Omega Sorority House

INSTRUCTOR

Corin Gioia
1110 Stamp Student Union
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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

TEACHING ASSISTANTS/ GREEK LIFE INTERNS

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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

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.

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.

HOMEWORK/MINI-PRESENTATIONS: 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. Your attention to these assignments is important as completion will be necessary for many class activities.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY: You will 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, JANUARY, 30th.

TED TALKS REFLECTION: You will visit the Ted.com website and find a talk where the concepts/learning is applicable to leadership and/or the fraternity/sorority experience. You will then write a 3-4 page paper which answers the following questions. What does the talk teach you about leadership? How is this similar or different to your current thoughts about leadership? How is the talk related to the fraternity/sorority experience? What concepts can you apply to being a leader in your organization? What changes would you make in your approach to leading or your thoughts about the fraternity/sorority experience? Make sure to discuss key concepts from the talk to answer each question. You should also include the presenter’s name and title of the presentation at the top of your paper. DUE FEBRUARY 20th

BOOK REVIEW: You will 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 (about one page), 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 me at least one week prior to the due date. DUE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27th.

* 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
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 13th.

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 24th or MAY 1st.

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.

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 Last Lecture, 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 WEDNESDAY, MAY 8th.

POINT DISTRIBUTION
GROUP PROJECT 100
FINAL PAPER 75
ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION 75
QUIZZES 50
HOMEWORK 50
TED TALKS REFLECTION 50
AUTOBIOGRAPHY 50
BOOK REVIEW 50
TOTAL 500 points
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.studenthonor council.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:

  a. CHEATING: intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise.
  b. FABRICATION: intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
  c. FACILITATING ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to violate any provision of this Code.
  d. 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) 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 23
Introductions/Syllabus Review
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 words.

JANUARY 30
What is Leadership? Who are we leading?
Who are our constituents? Council Review
1. Read Crisis Management Guidelines
2. Complete a crisis drill with your chapter and write a one page reflection on the experience.

DUE: AUTOBIOGRAPHY
HW- Define LEADERSHIP and your role as CHAPTER PRESIDENT in your own words.

FEBRUARY 6
Crisis Management and Media Relations
Class Field Trip with Matt Supple, Director of Fraternity & Sorority Life
1. Begin Reading The Last Lecture
2. Read Leadership Theory materials.
3. Complete Leadership Practices Inventory (self and other)

DUE: HW- CRISIS DRILL SUMMARY- Complete a crisis drill with your chapter and write a one page reflection on the experience.

FEBRUARY 13
Leadership Theory and your leadership style
1. Finish reading The Last Lecture
2. Identify three areas or ways in which you could leave a leadership legacy in your chapter. Describe how you would know if your legacy was in place ten years from now.

DUE: HW- LEADERSHIP PRACTICES INVENTORY (self and other)

FEBRUARY 20
Leadership Legacy
TA GROUP 1: (Leadership Legacy Mini-Presentation)
QUIZ #1
Guest speakers: Liz Brown, Heidi Biffl, Kevin Pitt & Bob Nichols

1. Read Leadership Challenge Part IV: Challenging the Process (pp. 161-216)
2. Read Change or Die article
3. Identify which areas of your chapter need to be challenged? What practices or cultural norms are not in line with the vision/mission of your organization?

DUE: TED TALKs Reflection
DUE: HW-Identify three areas or ways in which you could leave a LEADERSHIP LEGACY in your chapter.
FEBRUARY 27

**Creating Change**

Guest Presenter: Carl Morrow

TA GROUP 2: (Challenging the Process Mini-Presentation)

QUIZ #2

1. Read Leadership Challenge Part III: Inspire a Shared Vision (pp. 103-156)
2. Find a favorite quote and discuss why it speaks to you and how it relates to your role as Chapter President.

**DUE: HW-** Identify which areas of your chapter need to be CHALLENGED? What practices or cultural norms are not in line with the vision/mission of your organization?

MARCH 6

**Visionary Leadership**

Martin Luther King Video and discussion

TA GROUP 3: (Inspiring a Shared Vision Mini-Presentation)

QUIZ #3

1. Read “They Made Me Do It” New Scientist article
2. Complete at least one application for Greek Awards.

**DUE: HW-** Find a FAVORITE QUOTE and discuss why it speaks to you and how it relates to your role as Chapter President.

MARCH 13

**ROPES COURSE**

1. Read Leadership Challenge Part V: Enable Others to Act (pp. 221-274)
2. Find one way to enable someone in your chapter to act. Share what you did and discuss your reflection of the experience.

**DUE: GROUP PROJECT PROPOSAL**

HW-Complete at least one application for GREEK AWARDS.

MARCH 20

NO CLASS SPRING BREAK

MARCH 27

**Leaders Create Leaders**

TA GROUP 4: (Enable Others to Act Mini-Presentation)

QUIZ #4

1. Read TBA

**DUE: BOOK REVIEW**

HW- Find one way to ENABLE someone in your chapter to act. Share what you did and discuss your reflection of the experience.

APRIL 3

**Final Project Group Preparation**

1. Read Leadership Challenge Part II: Model the Way (pp. 45-98)
2. Select two of your founding values and track your adherence (or lack thereof) to those values for seven consecutive days.
APRIL 10  
Values – Ethical Leadership Discussion and Workshop  
TA GROUP 5: (Model the Way Mini-Presentation)  
QUIZ #5  

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 at least five thank you notes to people affiliated with your chapter.  

DUE: HW- FOUNDING VALUES TRACKING: Select two of your founding values and track your adherence (or lack thereof) to these values for seven consecutive days.  

APRIL 17  
Encourage the Heart  
TA GROUP 6: (Encourage the Heart Mini-Presentation)  
QUIZ #6  

DUE: HW- Write at least five THANK YOU NOTES to people affiliated with your chapter.  

APRIL 24  
Class Presentations (three groups)  

MAY 1  
Class Presentations (three groups)  
Class Evaluations  
1. Skim The Last Lecture  
2. Complete Leadership Legacy assignment.  

MAY 8  
Leadership Legacy Revisited  
DUE: HW- LEADERSHIP LEGACY assignment.  

FINAL PAPERS DUE BY FRIDAY, 5/10 at 5 PM in DFSL  

NOTE: Items in italics should be completed for the class immediately following when they are assigned. Those in BOLD are due on the class where they are listed.