CHAPTER PRESIDENTS’ CLASS (EDCP 318G)
SPRING 2014
WEDNESDAYS 3:30 – 6:30 pm
Delta Gamma Sorority House

INSTRUCTOR
Corin Gioia Edwards
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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)
Leadership Practices Inventory Report: $14
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 intelligent participation. Each student will have one free unexcused absence before their grade is impacted. If a student is more than a half hour late or leaves more than a half hour early, the student will be marked as absent for the class.

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

**HOMEWORK/GROUP INTRODUCTIONS:** 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 FEBRUARY 5th**

**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 26th**

**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. **An outline of the presentation is due on March 26th.**

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 30th or MAY 7th.**
POINTS BREAKDOWN
Proposal: 10
Presentation: 50
Presentation Materials: 30
Group Feedback: 10

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 10-12 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 MAY 13th.

POINT DISTRIBUTION
GROUP PROJECT 100
FINAL PAPER 75
ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION 75
QUIZZES 75
HOMEWORK 75
TED TALKS REFLECTION 50
AUTOBIOGRAPHY 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 and assignments will be marked down one full letter grade for each day late.
- All readings must be completed for the date on which they are listed.
- 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.
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 29th and Wednesday, May 14th. 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.
WEEKLY SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE- 1/29
Introductions/Syllabus Review

WEEK TWO- 2/5
What is Leadership? Who are we leading?
QUIZ #1

1. Read Leadership Theory packet p. 50-81.
2. Watch and read http://fraternalthoughts.blogspot.com/2010/12/its-your-turn.html

DUE: AUTOBIOGRAPHY
HW- What is your definition of leadership and how would you explain your role as Chapter President?

WEEK THREE- 2/12
Crisis Management and Media Relations
Class Field Trip with Matt Supple, Director of Fraternity & Sorority Life

1. Read Crisis Management Guidelines
2. Begin Reading The Last Lecture

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

WEEK FOUR- 2/19
Leadership Style and Legacy
TA GROUP 1: (Leadership Legacy Introduction)
Guest speakers: Heidi Biffl, Brian Golden, Kahlin McKeown, Marcus McRae, & Bob Nichols
QUIZ #2

1. Finish reading The Last Lecture
2. Read The Leadership Challenge Chapter I: When Leaders Are At Their Best (pp. 9-40)

DUE: HW- LEADERSHIP PRACTICES INVENTORY (self and at least 5 others) Use Code:

WEEK FIVE- 2/26
Challenge the Process
TA GROUP 2: (Challenge the Process Introduction)
QUIZ #3

1. Read The Leadership Challenge Chapters 6 and 7: Challenging the Process (pp. 155-212)
2. Read “Toward a Broader Understanding of Fraternity”- specific sections

DUE: TED TALKs Reflection
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?
WEEK SIX-3/5  Visionary Leadership  
TA GROUP 3: (Inspiring a Shared Vision Introduction)  
QUIZ #4

1. Read *The Leadership Challenge* Chapters 4 and 5: Inspire a Shared Vision (pp. 99-154)
2. Read Fast Company article- “4 Strategies of America’s Best Places to Work”

DUE: HW- Interview someone who you consider to be a visionary leader. Write a one page reflection.

WEEK SEVEN- 3/12  Enable Others to Act  
TA GROUP 4: (Enable Others To Act Introduction)  
QUIZ #5

1. Read *The Leadership Challenge* Chapters 8 and 9: Enable Others to Act (pp. 213-270)
2. Read “They Made Me Do It” New Scientist article

DUE: HW- Complete at least one application for Greek Awards and submit a copy to your TA.

MARCH 19  NO CLASS SPRING BREAK

WEEK EIGHT- 3/26  ROPES COURSE  
DUE: GROUP PROJECT PROPOSAL

WEEK NINE- 4/2  Model the Way  
TA GROUP 5: (Model the Way Introduction)  
QUIZ #6

1. Read *The Leadership Challenge* Chapters 2 and 3: Model the Way (pp. 41-98)

DUE: BOOK REVIEW

HW- Select two of your founding values and track your adherence (or lack thereof) to those values for seven consecutive days. Write a one page reflection.

WEEK TEN- 4/9  Encourage the Heart  
TA GROUP 6: (Encourage the Heart Introduction)  
QUIZ #7

1. Read *The Leadership Challenge* Chapters 10 and 11: Encourage the Heart (pp. 271-328)

DUE: HW- Hand write at least five thank you notes to people affiliated with your chapter.
WEEK ELEVEN- 4/16  Multicultural Competence
QUIZ #8

1. Read “The Future of the Greek Experiences: Greeks and Diversity”
2. Read TBA
DUE: HW- Meet for coffee/ice cream with another Chapter President (can be in the class or not) outside of your council. Write a one page reflection.

WEEK TWELVE- 4/23  Class Presentations (three groups)

WEEK THIRTEEN- 4/30  Class Presentations (three groups)

WEEK FOURTEEN- 5/7  Leadership Legacy Revisited/Wrap up
1. Skim The Last Lecture
2. Read Leadership Challenge Part VII: Leadership For Everyone (pp. 337-351)
DUE: HW- Write a letter to your chapter’s next President which highlights the legacy you want to leave.

FINAL PAPERS ARE DUE TUESDAY, MAY 13th by 5 pm to DFSL

NOTE: All readings and assignments are due on the class under which they are listed. Any readings assigned that are not from a book can be found on ELMS.