

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP IN AGRICULTURE

AGRI 420 - SPRING 2020

School of Agriculture - Western Illinois University

INSTRUCTOR

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Office Hours: M/W 3-4 p.m. & TH 9-11 a.m.
and by appointment

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Section I will meet Thursday from 11-11:50 a.m. in KH 305.
Section II will meet Thursday 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.

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

April 9-Leadership Essay Due

CLASS RULES

Failure to comply with the class rules will result in a loss of one half of a letter grade.

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.

****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 (**20 points**). All assignments due for that class period should be completed prior to the next class period.

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

Academic Integrity: The rules and regulations outlined in the University's policy on academic integrity are applied to this course.

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

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>.

Special Accommodations: Students with disabilities: In accordance with University values and disability law, students with disabilities may request academic accommodations where there are aspects of a course that result in barriers to inclusion or accurate assessment of achievement. To file an official request for disability-related accommodations, please contact the Disability Resource Center at 309-298-2512, disability@wiu.edu or in 143 Memorial Hall. Please notify the instructor as soon as possible to ensure that this course is accessible to you in a timely manner.

GRADING POLICY:

The course grade will be based on the following:

Application Papers	700 points	(50 points each)
Instagrammer for a day	50 points	
Activities/Participation/Attendance	300 points	(20 points per class)
<u>Leadership Essay</u>	<u>200 points</u>	
Total	1250 points	

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

**Agriculture Education Majors please note the following:

In accordance with the Illinois State Board of Education certification rules, all candidates seeking teacher certification are required by Western Illinois University to obtain a grade of “C-” or better in all directed general education courses, all core courses, and all courses in the option.

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 at the beginning of class on Western Online 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.

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 see “Instagrammer For-a-Day Guidelines.”

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. **Present day leaders are allowed and encouraged.**

- 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.**

FINAL (300 points)

Additional information regarding the details of the final will be provided at a later date.

EXTRA CREDIT

Ag Mech Show Help: (5 pts/hour) Help set up or tear down the largest student run Farm Expo in the nation. Feb. 7, 8, or 10.

ACCREDITATION

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

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.