MORAL LEADERSHIP & SOCIAL JUSTICE
SUMMER SEMESTER 2016
COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Nan Ellen Nelson
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Offered: Every Wed. from 5:15pm to 8:00pm starting on May 25, including Sat. June 25 from 10am to 6pm

Course Content

**Overview:** Leadership is not about serving one’s personal need and interests; rather, true leadership is about “men and women in service of others,” which is a primary educational objective of the Jesuits. This course will focus on the application of servant leadership and moral leadership, and in particular on the personal characteristics and attributes associated with moral leadership. A leader’s core and conviction determines whether the leader lives by a set of moral principles and values. This course will focus on cultivating a moral compass to determine the way you live your life and lead. Finally, five guest speakers will facilitate class discussion on the topic of moral leadership and social justice. The guest speakers are leaders that walk their talk because their moral compass runs deep. Additionally, one of the class meetings will be held at the U.S. Capitol in a U.S. Senator’s office.

**Learning Objectives:** After completing this course, students should be able to:
1. Identify the attributes a moral leader lives out;
2. Define social justice;
3. Become a moral leader;
4. Get clarity on their own decision making to then live a life of moral and servant leadership;
5. Lead by example, by making each and every decision based on a set of moral principles and values;
6. Tap into a depth of courage to forge ahead during difficult times;
7. Focus on paying attention to their conscience;
8. Live out moral discipline and integrity;
9. Serve others instead of self;
10. Identify leaders that are selfishly motivated verses leaders that are servant leaders;
11. Give examples of servant leaders and the ingredients that make them servant leaders;
12. Live a life of leadership that is noble and admirable;
13. Continue growing their moral fiber;
14. Stay grounded, being true to what they know is right;
15. Describe how moral leadership and social justice is a way of living;
16. Lead in an effective way tapping into the leadership that springs from within; and
17. Describe in detail the character traits a moral leader embodies.

Required Reading:


GRADING SCALE
Undergraduate course grades include A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D & F.

A 93-100
A- 90-92.99
B+ 88-89.99
B  83-87.99
D+ 68-69.99
D  60-67.99
F  Under 60

COURSE GRADE
2 Journal Entries 15%
Research Paper 35%
Group Project 35%
Participation 15%
Total 100%

Journal Entries: The first journal entry will be a minimum of two pages and a maximum of four pages, based on the following questions:
   Does your moral compass guide you in all decisions? What has been your biggest mistake in not having your moral compass guide you in all decisions?
   When given great opportunities, do you prove yourself to be trustworthy? When haven't you proven yourself to be trustworthy?

The second journal entry will be a minimum of two pages and a maximum of four pages, based on the following questions:
   How do you live out moral leadership in a crisis situation? In other words, how do you keep your integrity in a crisis? What are the lures that can potentially rob you personally of your integrity in a crisis?
There are many attributes that a moral leader exhibits. Identify five admirable traits that you see in a moral leader. Explain why these five traits are significant to you—and how you can be the change you want to see in the world by living out these five traits?

**Research Paper:** Your research paper should be at least seven pages on moral leadership and social justice. Choose a leader (different from the leader that you present for your group project), that you believe lives out moral leadership and social justice. (The leader could be a historical figure or even a member of your own family). A minimum of three sources should be used (different from your class books), and a Works Cited page must be included. The following questions should be answered:

- What character traits are evident in this leader?
- How can you apply these character traits to your own life as a leader?

**Group Project:** In your group project (your group will be assigned), you will choose a leader that has lived out moral leadership and social justice. If it is possible, try and interview him/her and present the leader’s moral leadership style in a creative way (skit, panel discussion, power point presentation, etc.). The group presentation should be thirty minutes and should include visual aids. (FYI, a group project partner review will be included in your group presentation grade.)

**Class Participation:** Class participation is a very important part of the learning process in this course. You will be evaluated on your contributions as part of that participation. Quality, not quantity will be rewarded. A contribution is a comment or reflection from you that possesses one or more of the following properties:

- Offers a different and unique but relevant insight to the issue;
- Moves the discussion forward to generate a deeper richer appreciation of the concept; and
- Includes references to the readings.

**Late Work Policy:** If you don’t have your assignment printed out by the start of the class meeting, you will receive half of a grade lower than the actual grade of your work. If your work is a day late, you will receive a grade lower than the actual grade of your work. If your work is one week late or more, you will receive two grades lower than the actual grade of your work.

**Attendance Policy:** Your attendance will affect your participation grade and overall learning. Additionally, students with two absences may receive a failing grade.
**Class Calendar** (Class to meet every Wed. from 5:15pm to 8:00pm starting on May 25, including Sat. June 25 from 10am to 6pm at the Capitol)

**May 25/Class #1**- Introduction: Defining Moral Leadership and Social Justice

*The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership*, Chapter 3

**June 1/Class #2**- The Qualities a Moral Leader Must Have; Tough Times Can Forge Character; Guest Speaker

*Creating the Better Hour*, Chapters 2

**June 8/Class #3**- Moral Leadership Lived Out Through Your Unique Calling

*Creating the Better Hour*, Chapters 12
First Journal Entry Due (On Paper) at the Start of the Class Period

**June 15/Class #4**- Moral Leadership Exhibited in Excellence, Inspiration and Empowerment; Guest Speaker

*Good to Great*, Chapter 6

**June 22/Class #5**- Servant Leadership: Giving Our Lives to Helping Others; Examples of Servant Leaders and the Ingredients that Make them Servant Leaders; Servant Leadership Lived Out

*Good to Great*, Chapter 1

**June 25/Class #6**- (Class held at the U.S. Capitol 10am to 6pm) Conflict Resolution Through the Lense of Moral Leadership; Guest Speaker

*Creating the Better Hour*, Chapter 3
Second Journal Entry Due (On Paper) at the Start of the Class Period

**June 29/Class #7**- Your Moral Fiber Growing Deep; Staying Grounded: Being True to What You Know is Right and Who You Really Are; Who You Are and Who You Are Becoming

*The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership*, Chapters 5

**July 6/Class #8**- The Power and Value of a Core Group; Examples of Moral Leaders Living Out Social Justice Who Utilized a Core Group/Small Group; Guest Speaker

*The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership*, Chapters 18

**July 13/Class #9**- Building a Team that is Justice-Minded

*Good to Great*, Chapter 9

**July 20/Class #10**- Moral Leadership and Social Justice through Political Leadership; Fostering An Environment Where Everyone Feels Included and Respected; Guest Speaker

*Creating the Better Hour*, Chapter 1
July 27/Class #11 - Group Project Presentations
Group Projects Due
*Creating the Better Hour*, Chapter 19

Aug. 3/Class #12 - Group Project Presentations
Group Projects Due

Aug. 10/Class #13 - Active Listening (Golden Rule Lived Out); Guest Speaker
Research Paper Due (On Paper) at the Start of the Class Period

Classroom Etiquette

Students should turn off all cell phones, pagers, or other communication devices while in class. No communicating via computer with others: no emailing, chatting, instant messaging, etc. Class discussions should be respectful and considerate of others.

University Resources

Georgetown University Writing Center (Lauriger Library, 217A; 202-687-4246; http://writingcenter.georgetown.edu/)
Academic Resource Center (Leavey Center, Suite 335; 202-687-8354; arc@georgetown.edu; http://ldss/georgetown.edu/)
Counseling and Psychiatric Services (One Darnall Hall; 202-687-6985; http://caps.georgetown.edu/)

Disabilities

If you are a student with a documented disability who requires accommodations or if you think you may have a disability and want to inquire about accommodations, please contact the Academic Resource Center at 202-687-8354 or arc@georgetown.edu.

Extreme Weather, Emergencies, and Instructional Continuity

During inclement weather or other emergencies on a day when we are scheduled to meet face-to-face, check the university’s Web site or call (202) 687-7669 for information on whether the university is open. If the university is open, this class will meet. If the university is closed, this class will meet through distance means such as online videoconferencing; check your email for a message from me on how we will proceed in that situation. Due dates for written assignments will not be changed due to campus closings.
The university recently has acquired the capability to send text messages and recorded messages about emergencies to cell phones and other mobile devices. Sign up on My Access.

**Georgetown Honor System**

All students are expected to follow Georgetown's honor code unconditionally. We assume you have read the honor code material located at [www.georgetown.edu/honor](http://www.georgetown.edu/honor), and in particular have read the following documents: Honor Council Pamphlet, What is Plagiarism, Sanctioning Guidelines, and Expedited Sanctioning Process.

Submitting material in fulfillment of the requirements of this course means that you have abided by the Georgetown honor pledge:

*In the pursuit of the high ideals and rigorous standards of academic life, I commit myself to respect and uphold the Georgetown Honor System: To be honest in any academic endeavor, and to conduct myself honorably, as a responsible member of the Georgetown community, as we live and work together.*

**Plagiarism**

The sources for all information and ideas in your assignments must be documented, following the style rules of the American Psychological Association. In addition, all quotations must be identified as quotations, using quotation marks and indicating the source of the quotation, as mandated by APA style. Anything less than these standards is plagiarism.

APA style is not taught in this course; a summary of APA style is available at [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/)

In accord with university policy, all incidents of suspected plagiarism or other Honor Code violations will be reported to the Honor Council without fail.

If the Honor Council finds that a student has plagiarized or has violated the Honor Code in any other way, the student will receive a grade of F for the course.

**Policy Accommodating Students’ Religious Observances**

The following is university policy:

Georgetown University promotes respect for all religions. Any student who is unable to attend classes or to participate in any examination, presentation, or assignment on a given day because of the observance of a major religious holiday or related travel shall be excused and provided with the opportunity to make up, without unreasonable burden, any work that has
been missed for this reason and shall not in any other way be penalized for the absence or rescheduled work. Students will remain responsible for all assigned work. Students should notify professors in writing at the beginning of the semester of religious observances that conflict with their classes.

**Turnitin**

Students acknowledge that by taking this course all required papers can be submitted for a Textual Similarity Review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the terms of use agreement posted on the Turnitin.com site.