

SOCI 2350 ACE Intro to Community Leadership

Fall 2017

3 credits

Welcome to Intro to Community Leadership.

Class meetings

Class time: M/W/F 10:00 – 10:50am

Location: CHSS 206

Contact Information

Dr. Lee Miller

CHSS 270M

Lee.miller@shsu.edu

Office hours: Wednesdays 8:30-10:00am. Or by appointment.

Course Description:

This course will introduce students to definitions, types, and theories of community. Students will learn basic community needs assessment, strengthen communication skills, and explore resource mobilization strategies through applied community experiences. Community leaders will facilitate conversations about leadership techniques and challenges.

NOTE: This is an “ACE” course which means that one of the projects in the course will be focused on a community project to help you master course objectives.

Course Objectives: By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate specific skills, competencies, and dispositions needed by community leaders;
- Demonstrate increased self-awareness (personal strengths and weaknesses) about leadership abilities;
- Demonstrate skill in working with others;
- Demonstrate ability to locate, understand, and evaluate information about communities;
- Create and deliver a professional presentation;
- Demonstrate the disposition to actively engage community around a social issue;

Texts:

1. Schmitz, Paul. 2012. *Everyone Leads*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. **ISBN: 978-0-470-90603-3**.
2. Liu, Eric. 2017. *You're More Powerful Than You Think*. New York: Public Affairs. **ISBN: 978-1-61039-707-0**.
3. Allen, Will. 2013. *The Good Food Revolution*. New York: Avery. **ISBN: 978-1-592-40760-6**. Do not purchase.

Additional readings may be distributed in class.

Expectations

Role of student: Students are expected to be self-motivated, independent, and responsible. Students in this class are expected to complete the readings and assignments on time. Writing is expected to be Standard American English and to clearly express your own ideas to the readers. When appropriate, you must cite properly to avoid plagiarism. If you encounter difficulties or have questions, it is your responsibility to contact me promptly by email at lee.miller@shsu.edu (936-294-1517) so that we can address the issues *before* you miss any deadlines.

Role of instructor: The role of instructor is one of guiding and facilitating learning. To do this, I have organized the course, selected readings, developed assignments and course requirements to help you begin to think like a community leader. I will post materials promptly, grade them in a timely fashion, and be easily accessible to help you throughout the semester. I typically respond to emails within 24 hours of receipt (and often much faster).

Grades

Active Reading and class participation (125 points)

- You will receive 0-2 points for every class, including ACE Workdays. Participation will be evaluated each day. If you are absent, or late, you will receive a 0. Presence but minimal participation earns 1 point. Presence with active participation earns 2 points. (Max is 75 points)
- Active Reading points will be earned by annotating the assigned readings. When readings are assigned, you are expected to come to class with the reading annotated. We will evaluate your annotations in class. The expectation is that you will have at least 5 annotations throughout each chapter. See annotation legend provided. Each evaluation of active reading is worth up to 5 points. (Max = 50 points)

ACE Project and reflection (125 points)

As a class, you will engage in an Academic Community Engagement Project. We will discuss how this will work as a class. As the project unfolds, you are encouraged to record your contributions, make notes on development and record your thoughts about community and leadership. A brief paper, 6-8 pages on the ACE experience will be due in late October.

Leadership Plan and presentation (125 points)

The final portion of the semester will be dedicated to the development of your leadership plan. More detailed guidelines will follow, however, you are to decide where to concentrate your community leadership efforts and why. You will interview someone you admire that works in your area of interest. You will then create a plan to get started. Presentations of your leadership plans will take place the last week of classes.

Total points: 375

University Policies

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days: Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. "Religious holy day" means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code. If a student plans to be absent from class for the observance of a religious holy day, s/he must provide the instructor with the dates to be missed for religious reasons within the first two weeks of the semester.

<http://www.shsu.edu/sacs/compliancereport/narratives/documents/3.4.5-SHSU-Syllabus-Guidelines.pdf>

The American Disabilities Act: It is SHSU policy that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center and then meet with the instructor to appropriate accommodations may be made. This meeting should take place within the first two weeks of the semester.

<http://www.shsu.edu/sacs/compliancereport/narratives/documents/3.4.5-SHSU-Syllabus-Guidelines.pdf>

Academic Dishonesty: SHSU expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of the academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Cheating on an exam, quiz and/or assignment is an act of dishonesty. Students who cheat will automatically receive the grade of zero (0) for the exam, quiz or assignment in question. Students who cheat more than once will receive an automatic F in the class. (SHSU Policy Statement 810213)

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Visitors in the Classroom: Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case- by-case basis by the professor if arranged prior to the class session. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office. See Student Syllabus Guidelines

<http://www.shsu.edu/sacs/compliancereport/narratives/documents/3.4.5-SHSU-Syllabus-Guidelines.pdf>

Instructor Evaluations: Student will be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form online toward the end of the semester. This feedback is important. I use it to improve my teaching. Please participate in the evaluation process.

Course Outline

	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
1		Aug. 23 Course orientation	Aug. 25 Course orientation
2	Aug. 28 Hurricane Harvey	Aug. 30 Hurricane Harvey	Sept. 1 Hurricane Harvey
3	Sept. 4 Labor Day	Sept. 6 What is community?	Sept. 8 – ACE workday Begin to discuss project Develop action plan, assign tasks
4	Sept. 11 Theories of Leadership Schmitz, Chapters 1 & 2	Sept. 13 Theories of Leadership (contd) Schmitz, Chapters 3 & 4	Sept. 15 Leadership - exercise Schmitz, group reading assigned
5	Sept. 17 Schmitz, group presentations of chapters	Sept. 19 Schmitz, group presentations of chapters	Sept. 21 – ACE workday
6	Sept. 24 Leadership in practice - Power Liu, Parts 1 & II	Sept. 26 Power (contd.)	Sept. 28 Leadership strategies Liu, Part III
7	Oct. 2 Leadership Strategies Liu, Part IV	Oct. 4 Leadership strategies (contd.)	Oct. 6 – ACE workday
8	Oct. 9 Social Capital	Oct. 11 Networking	Oct. 13 Coalition building
9	Oct. 16 Community Assessment Allen, pp. 1-39	Oct. 18 Community Assessment	Oct. 20 – ACE workday
10	Oct. 23 Resource mobilization Allen, pp. 43-108	Oct. 25 Resource mobilization	Oct. 27 Resource mobilization
11	Oct. 30 Challenges Allen, pp. 111-181	Nov. 1 Challenges	Nov. 3 – ACE workday
12	Nov. 6 Applying the concepts Allen, pp. 183-249	Nov. 8 Questions for Will Allen	Nov. 10 What makes a good Professional presentation?
13	Nov. 13 How to interview.	Nov. 15 Finding information	Nov. 17 Making a plan
14	Nov. 20 – Leadership Plan workday	Thanksgiving	Thanksgiving
15	Nov. 27 Presentations	Nov. 29 Presentations	Dec. 1 Presentations
16	Exam week		

Classroom Rules of Conduct: these are student-generated guidelines to support a collaborative learning environment.

- Be respectful
 - Do not talk over someone, speak to people not at people
 - Do not belittle others' opinions
 - Be polite
 - If many people wish to speak, raise hands, otherwise this is not needed.
- Pay attention to speaker; make eye contact.
- Listen more than you speak.
- Keep an open mind.
- Provide positive and constructive feedback.
- If you disagree, say so. We can discuss.
- Be punctual (to class and with deadlines).
- Watch word choice; no strong language.
- Practice understanding and empathy.
- There is no official phone policy. We will create one, if phones become distracting.
- If you have topics you would like the class to discuss, write them on board before class. If needed, we can continue discussion on Blackboard.

If a student does not follow these guidelines, other students may ask what is going on, or why their behavior is not in line with expectations. This should be in the form of a concerned question, or a gentle reminder, and should not be aggressive in nature. If this approach does not work, students may inform Dr. Miller of breaches in class guidelines.

Dr. Miller's addendum: Step up/Step back.

***This syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on a revised syllabus available for reference in Blackboard.