Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS
COMS 552
LEADERSHIP COMMUNICATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Examination of leadership practice and theory. Students will analyze and discuss the role of communication in leadership practices and theory in personal and professional contexts.

RATIONALE
The entire concept of leadership is God’s idea. Jesus Christ provided the single greatest example of what today we call “servant leadership.” This course provides a learning forum in which the student will integrate biblical, academic (theoretical), and practical examples of how we can become better leaders within our crafts and spheres of influence.

I. PREREQUISITE
For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Verbalize the relationship between leadership and communication.
B. Become familiar with leadership and followership communication styles and be able to discern his/her own personal styles.
C. Understand and be able to verbalize his/her understanding of leadership theory taught in the course.
D. Understand the difference between transformational and charismatic leadership.
E. Assess the relationship and effect of power on leadership.
F. Understand methods used by the leader to influence others.
G. Understand the decision-making process as it takes place in groups and team decisions in the organizational setting.

H. Understand and work from a perspective of Judeo-Christian ethics as he/she leads in the work place.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Group Discussion Board Forums (8)

The instructor will place the student into a group at the beginning of the course. For this collaborative discussion board, the student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be at least 200 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 1 thread from 2 other classmates, for a total of 2 replies. Each reply must be at least 150 words.

D. Leadership Definition and Philosophy (2)

The student will submit 2 versions of this paper. The expectation is that the student will notice substantial change/growth in his/her definition of leadership and his/her new understanding of a personal philosophy and how these will apply to the his/her leadership style. Each essay will be 1–2 pages.

E. Leadership Theory Paper

The student will write a 10-page research-based paper that focuses on the integration and application of 2 leadership theories as discussed in the course. The paper must include at least 10 references, none of which will be from the course textbook.

F. Current Leader Paper

The student will write a 5-page paper that analyzes the successes or failures of a current/living leader (of the student’s choice) in light leadership theories or principles discussed in the course. At least 3 sources must be included.

G. Case Study

The student will use a provided template to react to a case study by presenting his/her analysis and responses.
VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirements Checklist</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group Discussion Board Forums (8 at 35 pts ea)</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership Definition and Philosophy (1 at 50 pts, 1 at 100 pts)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership Theory Paper</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Leader Paper</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Study</td>
<td>145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1010</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Scale

- A = 940–1010
- A- = 920–939
- B+ = 900–919
- B = 860–899
- B- = 840–859
- C+ = 820–839
- C = 780–819
- C- = 760–779
- D+ = 740–759
- D = 700–739
- D- = 680–699
- F = 0–679

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.

Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the course will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.
## Course Schedule

**COMS 552**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module/Week</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Study</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1           | Northouse: chs. 1–4 2 presentations | Course Requirements Checklist  
Class Introductions  
Group DB Forum 1  
Leadership Definition and Philosophy 1 | 10  
0  
35  
50 |
| 2           | Northouse: chs. 5–6 1 presentation | Group DB Forum 2 | 35 |
| 3           | Northouse: ch. 7 1 presentation | Group DB Forum 3 | 35 |
| 4           | Northouse: chs. 8, 10 1 presentation | Group DB Forum 4 | 35 |
| 5           | Northouse: ch. 12 1 presentation | Group DB Forum 5  
Leadership Theory Paper | 35  
300 |
| 6           | Northouse: ch. 9 1 presentation 1 article | Group DB Forum 6  
Current Leader Paper | 35  
135 |
| 7           | 1 presentation | Group DB Forum 7  
Case Study | 35  
135 |
| 8           | Northouse: ch. 13 1 presentation | Group DB Forum 8  
Leadership Definition and Philosophy 2 | 35  
100 |
| **Total**   |                  |                                                  | **1010** |

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.