

This syllabus has been provided as a reference tool for students considering this course. It has been modified to follow Senate regulations. Current students enrolled in any undergraduate course must obtain the most recent syllabus from their course instructor or from their course website. This is not the latest version.



Department of English & Writing Studies

The Culture of Leadership II: Teams, Communities, Mobs **English 2019B (001)** Winter 2014

Instructor: Dr. Joel Faflak

Date/Time: Monday 7:00pm-10:00pm

Location: Talbot College 141

Prerequisites

This is a non-essay course open to all students beyond Year One.

Course Description

This course addresses how literature and culture take up the issue of leadership as it organizes human relations into social organizations - businesses, political parties, nations, etc. How do groups function as a form of leadership? When do they speak for and against the rights of individuals? We will address both the positive and negative aspects of group leadership, from tribes to empires, democracies to dictatorships, mobs to masses. The class will divide into teams to undertake the major course assignment, a group case study on the creativity of leadership. Key texts include: Shakespeare, *Coriolanus*; Coetzee, *Waiting for the Barbarians*; Morrison, *The Bluest Eye*; *The Hunger Games*; *The Godfather*; *The Triumph of the Will*. We will also address a variety of recent group phenomena from musical chorus lines and flash mobs to the Occupy Movement and the Arab Spring. These will be supplemented by course readings from a variety of sources, from Sun Tzu and Aristotle to Hobbes, Malthus, Marx, Freud, and Disney.

Objectives:

Successful students who complete the course will be better able to:

Analyze the critical and cultural importance and relevance of literature in reflecting and shaping how society views itself;

Understand and appreciate the role history played and continues to play in shaping our views of leadership;

Think and write critically about the issue of leadership from a variety of approaches and forms;

Think expansively and critically about the range of approaches discussed in class - literary, historical, philosophical, economic, political, social - and ask key questions about how these approaches impact and influence one another;

Apply these approaches to their own personal and professional situations;

institutional history and current programming of your cultural organization, become

communication, public speaking, self-management, diversity training, campus leadership, etc.), group leadership skills (conflict management, collaboration, facilitation, teaming building and motivation, effective critical thinking, etc.), as well as community service (20 hours of volunteering in a Service Learning environment). When students have completed the required components of the LEP program (which can be done over the course of all four years of your undergraduate education), they will receive a certificate of accomplishment signed by Dr. Amit Chakma, President of Western University. We will not only study the

Accommodation

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC)