

PSYCHOLOGY 1508 – THE PSYCHOLOGY OF LEADERSHIP
Spring 2006 **M, W, (F), 11-noon** *Sanders Theatre*

Drawing on psychological research at the level of the individual, group, and organization, the class focuses on leadership development as it applies to politics, business, social enterprise, and education. Topics include goal setting, ethics, story telling, charisma, systems thinking, and crucible experiences.

Instructor: Tal Ben-Shahar
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Head TF: Shawn Achor
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Office hours by appointment

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Tentative Schedule

February 1:	Introduction
February 6:	Janusian Thinking I (brief overview of the leadership literature)
February 8:	Janusian Thinking II (from “either-or” to “and”)
February 13:	Leadership Coaching I (Guest lecturer: Dr. Dannielle Kennedy)
February 15:	Leadership Coaching II (Appreciative Inquiry)
February 20:	No Class (Presidents Day—honoring our leaders)
February 22:	Leadership Cultivation I (know thyself and be thyself)
February 24:	Leadership Cultivation II (authenticity and strengths)
February 27:	From Vision to Goals I (the voice of calling)
March 1:	From Vision to Goals II (effective communication)
March 3:	Young Presidents’ Organization (Guest lecturer: Dick Simon)
March 6:	ReflAction (taking our time)
March 8:	Crucibles (the school of hard knocks)
March 10:	Mary Follet (Guest lecturer: Prof. Dafna Eylon)
March 13:	Leaders Create their Environment I (the organizational context)
March 15:	Leaders Create their Environment II (embodying leadership)
March 20:	Midterm Exam

March 22:	Review and questions
	SPRING BREAK
April 3:	The Ethics of Power (lecture by Shawn Achor)
April 5:	Bad Leadership (Guest lecturer: Barbara Kellerman)
April 7:	Ethics pays (the moral is the practical)
April 10:	Moral Leadership (choosing between right and right)
April 12:	Charisma (lecture by Shawn Achor)
April 17:	The leader as teacher (on creating a learning organization)
April 19:	Teach for America (Guest lecturer: Wendy Kopp)
April 24:	Systems Thinking I (zooming out to the full picture)
April 26:	Systems Thinking II (the language of leadership)
April 28:	Fighting Slavery (Guest lecturer: Jesse Sage)
May 1:	Let's talk business (Guest lecturer: Seth Klarman)
May 3:	Final Words

GRADING:

20%	Section
20%	Response papers
25%	Midterm
35%	Final Exam

Response Papers. On most weeks, you will be required to hand in a response paper, between 1 and 3 pages long. You will receive the question/topic each Wednesday by 5pm. Send in your response, pasted in the email, to your TF by 9pm on Sunday. The response papers are graded pass/fail—if you hand it in, you pass.

Peer Coaching Groups. Every student will be a member of a 3-4 student coaching group that will meet weekly for approximately 90 minutes. The meeting can take place over a meal in one of the dining halls, though students should try to find a relatively quiet spot (i.e. Sunday brunch may not be the best time...)

Sections. Sections form an integral part of the class. Beyond the opportunity to better understand ideas from lectures/readings, sections will include exercises that apply the key concepts from the course. Because sections are being developed as groups, there will be no switching sections or attending sections other than your own once the semester and sections are underway.

All required readings will be available on the course website.