

LEADERSHIP IN AMERICAN HISTORY

History 470S.01
Spring 2016

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04 Allen Building
684-2865

I. FOCUS OF SEMINAR

By using examples from American History this seminar will examine characteristics of leaders and the decision-making process. Attention will be given ethical issues involved in both the process and the product of decision-making.

II. METHODOLOGY

As a seminar, student participation lies at the core of the classroom experience. Each student will be expected to contribute to class discussions daily and to lead the seminar on the day his or her paper is presented.

III. REQUIRED READING

Burns, James MacGregor, *Leadership*
Chafe, William, *Private Lives, Public Consequences*
Clark, Walter, *Ox Bow Incident*
Gergen, David, *Eyewitness to Power*
Machiavelli, Niccolo, *Prince*
Neustadt, R., and May, *Thinking in Time*
Warren, Robert Penn, *All the King's Men*
Wills, Gary, *Certain Trumpets*
Wood, Gordon S., *Revolutionary Characters*

Additional readings as assigned

Specific reading assignments for each week will be made the preceding week.

IV. PAPER AND CLASS PRESENTATION

Each student will prepare a paper with a minimum of 20 pages of text, to be presented to the class on a designated day, examining the leadership of a historical or contemporary person or examining a problem or policy as it reflects leadership or the failure thereof.

Please note the following:

- (1) The paper/presentation topic must be approved in advance by the instructor.
- (2) On the day of the presentation at the beginning of class, student(s) will present an outline of the paper to the instructor and class.
- (3) The paper is due at 04 Allen Building by 5pm on Saturday May 7, 2016. It should be revised taking into account class criticism/comments and it should contain a

section of at least 1 page at the beginning or the end responding to these criticisms (e.g. Indicate how you revised the paper or why you did not). If you wish to have a copy returned to you with the instructor's comments, you must turn in two copies of the paper.

- (4) In addition, the History Department requires students to forward an electronic copy of their paper to the department. The requirement for a capstone seminar paper states that the paper must be a single author research paper with a minimum of 20 pages of text and will be evaluated on a four point scale in according to the following rubric:

1. Ability to work with primary sources, including responsible use of evidence and recognition of methodology.
2. Identification of and engagement of historiography.
3. Ability to recognize the importance of historical context.
4. Clear argumentation linked to convincing evidence.
5. Ability to write clearly, concisely and correctly, demonstrating fluency, correct citational practices, and understanding of formal written English.

V. CLASS ATTENDANCE

Since this is a seminar, students are expected to attend all class sessions unless compelling reasons prevent attendance.

VI. EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE

Final evaluation of a student's performance in the class will be based on two factors:

- (1) Participation in class discussions (50%)
- (2) Paper and class presentation (50%)

VII. QUESTIONS/PROBLEMS

Dean Wilson will be available to students for discussion of matters pertaining to the course. Please call 684-2865 or come by 04 Allen Building and identify yourself as a member of the class to arrange an appointment.

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Syllabus (subject to modification as appropriate)

Session I Introduction: Course Requirements, Questions to be considered

Session II The Prince (Machiavelli)

Session III Leadership, (Burns)

Prologue: Part I, Chapter 1 & 2

Part III Chapters 6, 7, 8, 9

Part IV Chapters 10-14

Session IV The Ox Bow Incident (Clark)

Session V The Ox Bow Incident (Clark)

Session VI Discussion of Paper Topics

Session VII Revolutionary Characters (Wood)

Session VIII Revolutionary Characters (Wood)

Session IX Dilemmas of Leadership (Course Documents)
The Jefferson Enigma-Kenneth Auchincloss
Flawed Founders-Stephen Ambrose
Did FDR Betray the Jews? - Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.
The Abandonment of the Jews- D. Wyman
Pope defends WWII Pontiff's Role: The Case of Pius XII
Kennedy and 13 Days in October- Richard Reeves

Session X The Presidency: A Question of Leadership (Course Documents)
The Presidency- Wilson
C-Span Survey of Presidential Leadership
CNN- Top Ten Worst Presidential Blunders
CNN- Seven Presidents Nobody Remembers
"Whatever became of Jimmy Carter?"- Tom Wicker

Session XI Eyewitness to Power (Gergen)

Session XII Certain Trumpets (Wills)

Session XIII All the King's Men (Warren)

Session XIV All the King's Men (Warren)

Session XV *Private Lives/ Public Consequences* (Chafe)

Session XVI Public and Private Ethnics of Leaders (Film)

Session XVII A Parable for our Times

Session XVIII Thinking in Time (Neustadt and May)

Class presentations as assigned for the remainder of the semester.