

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

LEAD 36503 Creative Leadership

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite or corequisite: None

Effective Catalog: 2024-2025

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Focuses on the core leadership competency of creativity including higher-level thinking, decision-making, and problem-solving. Emphasis will be on cognitive behavior and affective skills, strategic thinking, and creative thinking.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain and illustrate creative change
2. Compare and contrast methods of creative problem solving
3. Evaluate creative cognitive behavior and affective skills
4. Enumerate tools for diagnostic thinking
5. Create and describe a personal vision
6. Assess the tools for strategic thinking
7. Develop the tools for Ideational Thinking
8. Differentiate the tools for Evaluative Thinking
9. Distinguish the tools for Contextual Thinking
10. Evaluate the tools for Tactical Thinking
11. Evaluate leadership cases involving creative skills
12. Formulate a leadership plan to set the tone for creativity

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills--

Critical Thinking Skills - Students will analyze the forces of change that affect the market, customer relations, and employees in international organizations.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will create a plan for leadership growth and development that incorporates formal written and oral presentation skills. Students will develop interpersonal communication skills to support leadership positions.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will evaluate the impact of ethical leadership in the workplace.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own in leadership situations.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Evolving views of leadership and creativity
- B. Application of creativity
- C. Leaders as creative problem solvers
- D. Thinking skills and creative problem solving
- E. Divergent thinking skills: fluency, flexibility, elaboration and originality
- F. Convergent thinking skills: evaluation and envisioning
- G. Gathering and using data for effective creative problem solving
- H. Higher-order thinking and decision making