

## IDS 2531: Women and Leadership

### Fall 2003

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Interdisciplinary Studies  
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**Course Overview:** Women and Leadership is an historical, theoretical, and applied survey of women and their experiences in leadership roles. The course examines women in the contexts of American history and psychological development, using leadership as a lens through which we view all women—not just famous women.

**Course Texts:** Readings are available on electronic reserve in the ASU library. These can be accessed online. Please note that some readings will not be available until just before they're assigned.

**Expectations/attendance:** The success of students in this course depends heavily on informed discussion. Such discussion, in turn, depends on reading the assigned material and applying it.

Classes will start and end on time, so please come on time. Because such a high premium is placed on class participation, attendance is very important. Therefore, only one absence during the semester may be incurred without affecting your grade. Each absence after that will result in the loss of half a letter grade. In other words, if you have two absences, a grade of B becomes a B-, a B- becomes a C+. If you have three absences, a B becomes a C+, a B- becomes a C.

**Class participation:** This is a highly interactive class. Students are expected to come prepared to discuss the reading material and respond to class material. "Synthesis" discussions will happen in small groups, which is an opportunity for those who prefer small group discussions. When it comes to contribution, quality is more important than quantity.

**Service project/Journal:** On the first night of class, students will choose from three possible service projects that must be completed during the semester. Students will work in groups on these projects. **Each week, by Monday at 9 am**, a journal entry will be due to me via email (an attachment or in the body of the email) that is approximately 500 words in length and answers the following questions:

1. What progress/activity has there been on your project?
2. What issues/dynamics have you observed/been part of in your group? Include observations about leadership within the group?
3. What readings from this week, if any, have you thought about in relationship to your project and/or group?

Most weeks, I'll have these graded and returned to you by class on Tuesday afternoon. You will receive a grade of 1, 2, or 3. A 1 indicates the entry is unsatisfactory, and will be accompanied by suggestions to improve. A 2 is satisfactory, but could improve, and a 3 indicates the entry is great. A "great" entry is one that answers the above questions thoughtfully and complexly, and integrates the readings effectively. One low grade will be thrown out, and a total of 30 points can be achieved.

Grades for the Service Project will be based on the quality of the work done, the quality of your participation in the group (based on a grade your group members will give you), and your group's final presentation.

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**Class quizzes:** Because keeping up with the readings is the only way to participate effectively in class, there will be a weekly 5-question quiz based on the readings. These questions will be short, one- or two-word or one-sentence answers, such as "In order to understand women's leadership styles, Helgesen studied whom?"

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**Final Exam:** Scheduled for Tuesday, December 16, this exam may be eliminated at the discretion of the instructor.

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**Grading:** Based on 100 points

- Class participation: 25% or 33% (depending on inclusion of final exam)
  - Class quizzes: 25% or 33%
  - Service Project (journals, group grade, presentation, project quality) 25% or 33%
  - Final exam: 25%
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