This course is designed as a beginning point for the examination of the issues and concepts involved in the study of leadership by focusing on the nature and character of leadership itself. The readings and class discussions will address several basic questions: What is leadership and its elements? How does context affect the nature of leadership? What are the moral purposes of leadership properly understood?

By focusing on the foundations of leadership studies, this course will not be a survey of the existing literature on leadership studies. Rather, it will proceed from a careful study of several classic texts that touch upon the problems and prospects of leadership as the manifestations of the problems and prospects of human nature, books that have the ability to enlighten our understanding of the often elusive concept of leadership. We will examine leadership from several perspectives within the humanities: history, political philosophy, politics, literature, music, and film.

In addition to the readings, you will be expected to keep abreast of current events by reading a major daily newspaper such as the New York Times, the Washington Post, or The Wall Street Journal.

Attendance and participation are expected and will be reflected as part of the final grade (15%). There will also be a mid-term examination (25%); a short paper on a topic to be assigned (25%); and a comprehensive final examination (35%). The grade for participation will also include unannounced quizzes and additional brief paper assignments to guide class discussion.

Participation will be calculated on quality, not simply quantity. It is expected that all the readings for a given date will be done in advance of that class meeting and everyone will be prepared to discuss the assigned materials.
Required Texts
Alexander Hamilton, James Madison and John Jay, The Federalist Papers
Thomas Hobbes, Leviathan
Abraham Lincoln, Selected Speeches and Writings
John Locke, Two Treatises of Government
Niccolo Machiavelli, The Prince
William Shakespeare, Coriolanus
Thucydides, The Peloponnesian War

Class Reading Assignments

I. Leadership and the Human Condition (January 16, 18, 23)

A. Notions of Justice
   Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics (handout)
   Aristotle, Politics (handout)
   Thomas Hobbes, Leviathan, chapter 13

B. Truth and Opinion
   Plato, The Republic (handout)
   Shirley Jackson, "The Lottery" (internet)
   James Madison, The Federalist, No. 10

C. The Study of Leadership
   James MacGregor Burns, Leadership (handout)
   Thomas Wren, ed., Leader's Companion, (handout)

II. Leadership and Film (January 25, 30, 1, 6, 8, 13)

Required viewing of each film before class meets. Copies of some of the films are available on reserve in the Media Resource Center on the second floor in BML; some may be streaming on campus; most can also be found for a fee on various online sites such as GooglePlay, iTunes, and Amazon Prime.

25 January: Camelot
30 January: 1776
1 February: Lincoln
6 February: The Gathering Storm
8 February: Patton
13 February: The Iron Lady
III. Leadership and History (February 15, 20, 22, 27; March 1)

Thucydides, The Peloponnesian War

Fear and Necessity: The War Comes (February 15)
Book I, chapters 1-89; 118-125; 139-146; pp. 1-49; 65-69; 79-85

Nature and Convention: The Case of Pericles (February 20)
Book II, chapters 34-65, pp. 110-128

Justice and Expediency: Mytilene and Platea (February 22)
Book III, chapters 1-49, pp. 159-183; chapters 52-68, pp. 185-193;

The Sedition at Corcyra (February 27)
Book III, chapters 70-85, pp. 194-201

Justice and Power: The Melian Dialogue (March 1)
Book V, chapters 84-116, pp. 350-357

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Reading Day March 6*************************************************************************

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Mid-Term Examination March 8*************************************************************************

IV. Leadership and Political Philosophy (March, 20, 22, 27, 29; April 3,5)

A. Niccolo Machiavelli, The Prince (entire) (March 20, 22)

B. Thomas Hobbes, Leviathan (March 27, 29)

chapters 1-5, pp. 3-27; chapters 13-15, pp. 74-100; chapters 17-19, pp.
106-127; chapter 23, pp. 155-159; chapter 26, pp. 172-190; chapter 30,
pp. 219-233; “Review and Conclusion,” pp. 489-497.

C. John Locke, Two Treatises of Government (April 3, 5)

“Preface”, pp. 137-140; First Treatise: chapter one, pp. 141-143; Second
Treatise: chapters 1-5, pp. 267-302; chapters 7-14, pp. 318-380; chapter
18, pp. 398-406

V. Leadership and Literature (April 10)

William Shakespeare, Coriolanus (entire); view film version streamed via MRC
VI. Leadership and Politics (April 12, 17, 19, 24)

A. The Federalist Papers (April 12, 17)

The Declaration of Independence
The Articles of Confederation
The Constitution
The Federalist, Nos.1, 6 9-10,14-16;37-39,47-49, 51 (April 12); 62-63, 70-72, 78, 84 (April 17)

B. A. Lincoln, Selected Speeches and Writings (April 19, 24, 26)

Speeches and Letters:

A. (April 19)

“To the People of Sangamo County,” pp. 3-7
“Address to Young Men’s Lyceum,” pp. 13-21
“Address to Temperance Society,” pp. 34-43
“Speech at Republican Banquet,” pp. 115-116

B. (April 24,)

“House Divided Speech,” pp. 131-139 (November 12)
“Letter to Henry Pierce and Others,” pp. 215-217
“Address at Cooper Institute,” pp. 240-251
“Farewell Address at Springfield,” p. 277
“First Inaugural Address,” pp. 284-293
“Letter to Horace Greeley,” p. 343

C. (April 26)

“Meditation on the Divine Will,” p. 344
“Address at Gettysburg,” p. 405
“Letter to Albert Hodges,” pp. 419-421
“Second Inaugural Address,” pp. 449-450

VII. Can Leadership be Taught? (April 26)