

**University of Arkansas - Fort Smith  
5210 Grand Avenue  
P. O. Box 3649  
Fort Smith, AR 72913-3649  
479-788-7000**

**General Syllabus**

**LEAD 4423 Contemporary Influences on Leadership**

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite or corequisite: LEAD 3603 Foundations of Organizational Leadership  
or MGMT 3613 Leadership

Effective Catalog: 2024-2025

**I. Course Information**

**A. Catalog Description**

Focuses on work of contemporary thought leaders who have been influential in the last decade. Review and evaluate leadership literature.

**B. Additional Information**

This course is an elective for Organizational Leadership majors.

**II. Student Learning Outcomes**

**A. Subject Matter**

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

1. Apply knowledge from the contemporary leadership literature to work, personal and academic experiences.
2. Evaluate contemporary leadership literature in terms of its accuracy and effectiveness.
3. Compare and contrast information from the contemporary leadership literature
4. Identify and apply tools in the contemporary leadership literature
5. Analyze mass media in the context of contemporary leadership literature
6. Create a plan of action to improve leadership skills based on contemporary leadership literature

**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**

Topics will change depending on the contemporary leadership books chosen for the semester.

- A. Self-management and leadership
- B. Leading through challenge, crisis, and transition
- C. Lessons in sales, marketing, and customer service
- D. Intuitive vs. strategic thinking
- E. Fostering entrepreneurial mindset
- F. Developing a culture of trust and belonging
- G. Other contemporary issues in leadership