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# AGED 5033: Developing Leadership in Agricultural Organizations

Thursdays (online)

Dr. K. Jill Rucker – University of Arkansas

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## Course Instructor:

Dr. Jill Rucker  
205 Agriculture Building (AGRI)  
kjrucker@uark.edu

## Office Hours:

Wednesday, 11:00 am – 12 pm and Thursday 9:00 am – 10:00 am  
Or by appointment

## Course Description:

This course provides an interdisciplinary perspective on groups, teams, and organizations in profit and non-profit environments with special focus on leader and follower roles in increasing organizational and team effectiveness amid the myriad challenges and opportunities facing today's organization.

## Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Define and apply theory and concepts of group and team processes
- Understand the role of the leader in team and organizational settings
- Apply process skills in the resolution of conflict and stress management
- Understand the nature of change and develop skills for facilitating planned change
- Explore personality issues in leading teams and organizations

## Required Texts:

Gallos, J.V. (2008). *Business Leadership: A Jossey-Bass Reader (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.)*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

ISBN: 978-0-7879-8819-7

Lencioni, P. (2002). *Five Dysfunctions of a Team: A Leadership Fable*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

ISBN-13: 978-8126506750

*Other Readings as Assigned – to be posted on Blackboard*

## Course Policies:

**Participation** in class discussions is necessary to meet learning objectives. You are **expected** to become an active member of our course learning community. Because of the importance of participation, lack of participation will impact your final grade.

**Explanation of assignments** will be made in the assignments tab of the course site. Assignments are due at **midnight** of on the due date. If an emergency arises requiring students to turn an assignment in late, or if a student will be absent for a university approved function, they must submit documentary proof of the emergency or the university function. If an emergency does arise, students should call or email the instructor immediately (479-575-2035 or [kjrucker@uark.edu](mailto:kjrucker@uark.edu)). For absences related to university functions, students must work with the instructor at least one week in advance to develop a plan to complete any missed work. **No late assignments will be accepted for this course.**

**Revisions** to this syllabus may be made at the discretion of the instructor. **Changes in dates and topics will be announced in Blackboard on the class site.**

### **Web Cam Requirements:**

In an attempt to create the feel of a “live” classroom and enhance interaction among our peers, this course will require the use of a web camera. Please purchase a 1.3 MP (mega pixel) resolution or higher web cam that video captures with a 1280 x 960 video image (Caution: still image resolution is usually greater than video image resolution). These can be purchased on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), Wal-Mart, or any office/computer store.

Some webcams that meet or exceed this specification (and produce high quality video) include:

- Creative Live Cam Voice
- Creative Live! Cam Optia Pro
- HP Autofocus Notebook Webcam
- HP Deluxe Webcam
- Logitech Quickcam Orbit AF
- Logitech QuickCam Pro for Notebooks
- Logitech Quickcam Pro 9000

If you own a laptop, tablet or iPad the camera may work just fine. But please test the quality of these built in cameras before using for the purpose of this course.

### **Americans with Disabilities Policy**

The American Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation. All services, programs, and activities at the University are accessible to students with disabilities. If you have a disability that interferes with your potential success in this course, please inform the instructor during the first week of class so special arrangements can be made. To receive special services, you must be registered with the Center for Students with Disabilities.

### **Academic Integrity Policy**

"As a core part of its mission, the University of Arkansas provides students with the opportunity to further their educational goals through programs of study and research in an environment that promotes freedom of inquiry and academic responsibility. Accomplishing this mission is only possible when intellectual honesty and individual integrity prevail."

"Each University of Arkansas student is required to be familiar with and abide by the University's Academic Integrity Policy, which may be found at <http://provost.uark.edu/>. Students with questions about how these policies apply to a particular course or assignment should immediately contact their instructor."

**Course Grade:**

Grades will be calculated based on points earned. A total of 850 points are available in the course. Grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

A = 93 and above	A- = 90-92	
B+ = 87-89	B = 84-86	B- = 80-83
C+ = 77-79	C = 74-76	C- = 70-73
D = 60-69	F = 59 and below	

Note: Extra credit opportunities may be provided throughout the semester at the discretion of