

PPE: Leadership in Politics, Business, and Society

LMH Summer Programmes are provided by Lady Margaret Hall, a college in the University of Oxford

Course:	PPE: Leadership in Politics, Business, and Society
Available:	Programme Session 1: 30 th June 2025 to 18 th July 2025
Lectures:	18 Hours
Seminars:	12 Hours
Tutorials:	3 Hours
Independent Study:	Approximately 120 Hours
Recommended Credit:	15 CATS / 7.5 ECTS / 4 US Credits

About this Course:	<p>Whether it is a politician guiding a nation through crisis, a visionary tech entrepreneur disrupting the global business landscape, or an inspirational activist campaigning for social justice, great leaders have the power to change the world. But what makes a great leader, and how do you become one?</p> <p>The course begins with an introduction to the study and analysis of leadership, from philosophers like Sun Tzu, Plato, and Machiavelli, to modern theoreticians such as Bernard Bass. You will learn about the current state of research into leadership, gaining an understanding of different leadership styles, and discovering how to put them into action.</p> <p>As the course progresses you will consider more advanced topics, including transformational and change leadership, ethical leadership, and gender issues in leadership. Throughout the course you will explore historic examples and contemporary case studies of leadership from a range of contexts, and draw on academic analysis from not only Philosophy, Politics, Economics and Management, but also Sociology, Psychology, and History.</p> <p>Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE) is a combined interdisciplinary area of study which has been taught at the University of Oxford since the early 20th century to equip students with the breadth of expertise required to understand and influence the world around us.</p>
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<p>Course Overview:</p>	<p><u>Week 1: Introduction to Leadership Studies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classical and historic conceptions of leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>The Art of War</i> ◦ <i>The Republic</i> ◦ <i>The Prince</i> • Thomas Carlyle and the Great Man Theory • The Trait Theory of Leadership • Behavioural Theory • Situational and Contingency Theory • Case studies, personal reflection, and putting leadership skills into practice <p>In the first part of the course we will introduce Leadership Studies and the history of the field, from Classical and historic treatises on leadership, to the evolving theories that emerged in the Enlightenment, and in turn the progress towards ‘scientific’ analysis of leadership in the 20th Century.</p> <p><u>Week 2: New Leadership</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transactional and Transformational Leadership • Bernard Bass and the Dimensions of Transformational Leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Charisma ◦ Inspiration ◦ Intellectual Stimulation ◦ Individual Consideration • Agile Leadership • Managerialism, Participation, and Power • Case studies, personal reflection, and putting leadership skills into practice <p>In the second part of the course we will explore a range of leadership and management theories which emerged in the later 20th Century as analysts sought to acquire a scientific understanding of the personal and contextual influences on leaders and good leadership. We shall then turn to more recent developments in leadership theory, exploring Agile Leadership, participatory management styles, and the responsible execution of power.</p> <p><u>Week 3: The Future of Leadership</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political Leadership in the 21st Century • Gender and Leadership • Globalisation and Business Leadership • Impacts of evolving technology • Case studies, personal reflection, and putting leadership skills into practice <p>The final part of the course considers the future of leadership and leadership studies. We will look at the role of political leadership in the 21st Century, asking whether Thomas Carlyle’s Great Man Theory retains any relevance, or has been rendered fully obsolete by structuralist approaches to political analysis. We shall examine the current and future roles of gender, diversity and inclusion, globalisation, and ever more rapidly evolving technology.</p>
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Key Texts:	<p>Sun Tzu, <i>The Art of War</i></p> <p>Plato, <i>The Republic</i></p> <p>Machiavelli, N., <i>The Prince</i></p> <p>Fiedler, F., <i>A Theory of Leadership Effectiveness</i>, New York NY, 1967.</p> <p>Bass, B., <i>Leadership and Performance Beyond Expectations</i>, London, 1985.</p> <p>Conger, J., and Riggio, R. (eds), <i>The Practice of Leadership: Developing the Next Generation of Leaders</i>, San Francisco CA, 2007.</p>
Learning Outcomes:	<p>By the end of this course, you will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand traditional leadership theories and be able to demonstrate awareness of recent research and current models. • Be able to assess critically the strengths and weaknesses of different approaches to leadership on an organisational, national, and international scale. • Identify your own leadership traits, style, and skills. • Be able to demonstrate awareness of leadership challenges faced by modern organisations, including those related to ethics, culture, and gender.
Admissions Requirements:	<p>LMH Summer Programmes are designed for students who want to gain and develop knowledge in their chosen subject area. LMH Summer Programmes are intensive courses of study aimed at undergraduates who have completed one, two, or three years of their degree, or entry level postgraduate students.</p> <p>We will consider each applicant's academic ability and expect successful applicants to have a minimum grade point average equivalent to 2:1 level on the British grading scale. For example, this would mean at least a 3.2 GPA on the 4.0 grading scale in the United States, and 80% in China.</p> <p>This course would suit students from a range of academic disciplines, but especially those with a background or interest in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics and Management, or who wish to develop their knowledge and skills in anticipation of future leadership roles.</p> <p>To participate fully in the programme all students will need to have proficiency in English.</p> <p>English language requirements for students who are not native English speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOEFL iBT score of 98 • IELTS score of 7.0 (no less than 6.5 in each component) • Duolingo English Test score of 125 (no less than 115 in each section) • Cambridge English Scale score of 185 <p>If the language of instruction in your home institution is English you do not need to provide evidence of your English proficiency.</p>
Teaching Methods:	<p>Core syllabus material will be covered in lectures. Students attend four lectures each week and each lecture lasts 90 minutes. Seminars in smaller groups offer students space to discuss and debate, to dig deeper into difficult concepts, and to explore their own ideas. Student contribution to seminars is vital, and tutors will ensure everyone takes part in discussions. Seminars last 1 hour and students will take part in four seminars each week.</p> <p>Independent study is a crucial part of an LMH Summer Programme and of the Oxford teaching model. Tutors will recommend important reading to do between lectures and seminars that will enable students to come to class equipped to understand the information presented and prepared to take part in discussion and</p>

	<p>debate. Each week students will have an assignment of independent work to complete and submit in advance of the tutorial. There is an appropriate amount of space in the timetable to complete the necessary reading, preparation, and assignments. Students should expect to do around 40 hours of independent study each week.</p> <p>The final class each week is a tutorial, a very small class typically including only 2-4 students and central to the teaching methods used by the University of Oxford and on LMH Summer Programmes. Guided by their tutor, students will receive feedback on their assignments and be challenged to defend, justify, or even rethink their work and ideas. These rigorous academic discussions help develop and facilitate learning in a way that cannot be done with lectures and seminars alone.</p>
Assessment:	<p>On a three-week LMH Summer Programme students produce one piece of assessed work every week, which is submitted to the tutor and then discussed in a tutorial. At the end of each week students will receive a percentage grade for their submitted work. Each week's work counts for a third of the final percentage grade, so the final grade is an average of the mark received for each piece of work. Students who stay for six or nine weeks will receive a separate grade for each 3-week course.</p>
Academic Credit:	<p>Lady Margaret Hall will provide a transcript of students' assessed work, and can send this directly to your home institution if required. LMH Summer Programmes are designed to be eligible for academic credit, and we will communicate with home institution to facilitate this as needed. As a guide, we recommend the award of 15 CATS / 7.5 ECTS / 4 US Credits for each 3-week course.</p>