COURSE DETAIL

UNDERSTANDING POLITICAL LEADERSHIP
Country Netherlands
Host Institution Utrecht University
Program(s) Utrecht University
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Political Science
UCEAP Course Number 123
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title UNDERSTANDING POLITICAL LEADERSHIP
UCEAP Transcript Title POLITICL LEADERSHIP
UCEAP Quarter Units 6.00
UCEAP Semester Units 4.00

Course Description
This course is about an omnipresent yet curiously ill-understood phenomenon in politics and government: leadership. Calls for better, stronger, more authentic, more ethical public leadership are often heard these days – as indeed they have been on and off through the ages in most political systems. Through watching and analyzing episodes of political drama series and documentaries, case studies, meetings with practitioners and a simulation, students explore how we can systematically understand and evaluate various forms of public leadership, and perhaps even think intelligently about how leadership might be improved. Among the key questions the course addresses are: What are the distinctive and functions of leadership in politics and government? Is democratic leadership an oxymoron? Why do people follow leaders – even really bad ones? How do we know successful political, administrative and civic leadership when we see it? What role do personality, context and skills play in leadership processes? How can we understand, distinguish and evaluate leadership styles – both backstage (in working with colleagues and advisers) and on stage (in the public eye)? How do leaders cope with the special challenges and opportunities presented by major disruptions and crises? How can we organize effective leadership succession in politics and public administration? During the course, several guest speakers share their knowledge and experience and students experience acting as a political leader during a simulation.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
USG4250

Host Institution Course Title
UNDERSTANDING POLITICAL LEADERSHIP

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus
Law, Economics, and Governance

Host Institution Faculty
Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department Governance
Course Last Reviewed

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