PERSONAL FOUNDATIONS FOR PPL:
LEADERSHIP AND AWARENESS OF SELF AND OTHERS
(SAH-PT 501)
REVISED: September 1, 2017

PURPOSE
Awareness of oneself and others is a foundational requirement for public and pastoral leaders. When we know ourselves—our personality tendencies, our emotions, our identity in relation to God, and how our personal history and faith shapes our perceptions and behaviours, we can see more clearly how we impact others and how others may perceive and affect us. When we have skills to listen well and communicate appropriately, we can serve as a positive influence in the life of a community or organization. This course is an introduction to this crucial aspect of effective leadership—an inflection point in the lifelong journey towards gaining wisdom.

This course is required for all MA-PPL and M.Div. students, and is a prerequisite for the Leadership Studio (PT651/652) and TFE2. Most students will take PT501 to fulfill requirements of a degrees such as the MDIV, MATS, MA-PPL, or MA-IIS. Others may consult the registrar.

PREREQUISITES
None

COMPETENCE OBJECTIVES
SAH-PT 501, students will have opportunities to:

- Deepen their self-awareness, especially in relation to leadership
- Develop tools to support the ongoing journey of growing awareness
- Gain a theoretical grasp of the multiple dimensions and dynamics of leadership
- Apply theoretical models to understanding oneself and others
- Practice active and empathetic listening skills
- Explore the appropriate use of assertive communication behaviours
- Reflect on their personal history and current faith journey as related to leadership

Expected outcomes for students include:

- Expanded capacity for assessing accuracy of perceptions of self and others
- Participation in a cohort group for mutual learning
- Improved ability to communicate appropriately and effectively
- Clearer ability to articulate the connection between leadership and faith
- Personal learning goals determined, based on themes of the course

**FORMAT AND CONTENT**

The class is 1.5 credit course taught in an intensive style over consecutive days, October 12-14, 2017. The class begins Thursday evening from 6:00-9:00 p.m., and continues from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. All students must attend all sessions of the course in person.

The course is designed for learning through reflective practice and experience. The curriculum is generative, meaning that some content will arise from the experience of the group as a cohort, as well as from the pre-determined course outline. The course is a combination of presentations, participatory activities, times for reflection on experience, discussion, reading, and some journal and spiritual practices.

The foundational skills developed and practiced in the course will continue to be used and applied in other courses and areas of learning. The learning cohort established in the course will be encouraged to continue as a reflexive learning group in future terms at VST. The experience is designed to support the student’s participation in Studio, as well as in achieving other competencies in the PPL stream within the overall curriculum.

**TEXTS**

*Students should purchase books through Amazon or another source.*

**Required Reading: both of the following books …**


… and one of these (or a title from the course bibliography approved by the professor).


**COURSE CALENDAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 12, 2017</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, October 13, 2017</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, October 14, 2017</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
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EXPECTATIONS, ASSIGNMENTS, AND EVALUATIVE CRITERIA

This course is graded on an “Approved/Not Approved” basis. Students will be evaluated on their attendance at all class sessions, engagement in the activities and discussions of the course, and completion of the required readings and assignments. Student competence in using skills introduced in the course, and timely completion of assignments will also be accounted for in the final evaluation. Completion of all assignments is necessary to receive a mark of “Approved.”

1. **Class participation:** Students are expected to participate in all class discussions and activities, and to demonstrate their readiness to be fully present to others in the cohort as well as to their own learning and process.

2. **Journal:** Following the intensive weekend, students will make weekly journal entries of no more than one page (200-250 words maximum) each, reflecting their continued engagement with the material and main themes of the course. These must be submitted electronically on a weekly basis until the end of the term.

3. **Integrative Paper:** Students will write a paper of 1,500 – 2,000 words indicating areas of self-realization and learning gained in the course. Due at the end of the term.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

*Additional readings relevant to the subject of this course*


**COURSE POLICIES**

1. **Attendance**: For an intensive course, VST requires 100% attendance. This is an intensive course and in-person attendance is required of all students, without exception.

2. **Reading and assignments**: Students are expected to read all required assignments before class and to complete all assignments as outlined in the syllabus within the specified dates of the course and term.

3. **Academic honesty**: Students are expected to adhere to VST’s requirements for academic honesty as published in the Student Handbook.

4. **Inclusive language**: In speaking and writing, inclusive language is expected when making reference to humans and a variety of metaphors are anticipated when making reference to God.

5. **Assignment and Course Evaluation**: All assignments and the final evaluation for this course will be graded on an “Approved/Not Approved” basis. Every assignment in this course must receive “Approved” in order to pass the course.

6. **Late assignments**: Submission of assignments on time is a part of academic, professional and pastoral competence and a part of every course at VST. All assignments in courses are due on the dates specified in the syllabus. Failure to submit an assignment on time will be noted in the narrative evaluation of an assignment. Repeated failure to submit assignments on time may affect the final grade for the course.

7. **Limitations on use of social media**: Ordinarily, the use of electronic devices in the context of classrooms or meetings will be limited to support the learning, formation, or agenda at hand. Behaviors that distract the user or others from these purposes are socially discourteous and will be noted negatively in evaluating class participation.

8. **Special Needs**: VST is committed to creating safe space and an inclusive learning environment. If you have a diagnosed or suspected learning disability, chronic condition, mental health concern, or physical requirement which may impact your participation in this class, you are encouraged to discuss your needs with the instructor and the Dean within the first week of classes.
External self-awareness is understanding how we are perceived and the impact we have on others. Both are needed to maximize the benefits of self-awareness. This shift in focus is no different from many others that the health care industry has seen in recent years. Care delivery has been transforming for the past decade and with it, all the methods, systems and technologies have been turned upside down. Leadership must be able to adapt and grow with it. Self-awareness, introspection and commitment to coachability are key factors in one’s capability to do so and an organization’s future successes will likely be determined by their level of dedication to these concepts. Review and cite SELF-AWARENESS protocol, troubleshooting and other methodology information. Contact experts in SELF-AWARENESS to get answers. Animal self-awareness usually be tested with the classical mirror test (The mirror test is a measure of self-awareness developed by Gordon Gallup Jr in 1970, and animals which have passed the mirror test are common chimpanzees, bonobos, orangutans, dolphins, elephants, humans and possibly pigeons.). Self-awareness is a key concept in psychology, a concept that is not at the reach of, for example, young children.