

Fundamentals of Leadership

The Module is about understanding and explaining leaders and the practices of leadership. We explore what leadership is (and is not) – and the difference leadership makes (if any?) and why. We introduce leadership theory – consider the contribution(s) and limits of theory - and discuss and debate varieties of leadership experience across different 'real life' settings.

We introduce students to critical reflection in leadership studies and in relation to the 'actual & real' enactment of leading/leadership (So ... What is it that leaders do? Why do they do what they do? And, what are the outcomes?). We also discuss and debate the limits and possibilities of leadership. In small group seminars and with experienced guest speakers, students will begin to develop a sense of their own leadership potential and aptitude(s). Students are also introduced to the most recent ideas around the 'doing' of leadership in relation to debates about equality, diversity and inclusivity in modern business settings.

Learning outcomes

By the end of this module, you will:

- Have an understanding of the nature and dynamics of leadership;
- Understand the contribution academic theory makes to explaining leaders & leadership;
- Be able to draw upon relevant theories and concepts from the academic literature when analysing and explaining leaders and leadership styles and approaches;
- Understand the importance of context – and how leadership plays differently through different 'real life' settings;
- Have developed a sense of the possibilities and limits of leadership;
- Gain a sense of your own leadership potential and aptitude(s);
- Understand some of the 'new' thinking around leadership in & for 'responsible business' in an era of equality, diversity and inclusion.

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