

# UNIVERSITY OF THE PEOPLE

BUS 4405-01 LEADERSHIP - AY2025-T1

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT UNIT 1

INSTRUCTOR: JULIUS GETIGAN



## Developing as a Leader: A Personal Reflection

Understanding my strengths and shortcomings is crucial as I set out on my road to become a more effective leader. My top five-character qualities, as determined by the VIA Signature qualities testing, are judgment, kindness, perseverance, curiosity, and honesty. In the meanwhile, my least desirable traits are zeal, humility, self-control, and spirituality.

I consider myself to be a leader that respects honesty and openness. I have always agreed that open communication is a fundamental component of any successful collaboration, so honesty is a trait I support. Kindness enables me to create a welcoming and inclusive workplace, while Curiosity nourishes my drive to learn and experiment with new concepts. My perseverance makes sure that, in the face of difficulties, I maintain my commitment to my objectives. Finally, Judgment helps me make thoughtful decisions, weighing evidence before acting.

I find myself in agreement with this assessment, as it highlights many qualities I've relied on in both academic and personal settings. For example, in group projects, I often take the lead by encouraging open discussion and giving others the space to voice their ideas (Curiosity and Judgment). At the same time, my perseverance has allowed me to push through difficult assignments or extracurricular challenges without giving up, inspiring others to follow suit.

However, the assessment also pointed out areas for growth, particularly my lower scores in Humility, Self-regulation, and Prudence. While Humility is something I can work on—especially when balancing confidence with modesty—I understand why it ranked low, as I sometimes focus on showcasing results rather than stepping back. Self-regulation is another aspect I will prioritize. In stressful situations, I've noticed that I can sometimes react impulsively, which impacts my ability to remain calm. Prudence is a reflection of my inclination to take risks and act



quickly, a trait that can be valuable but also requires careful management to avoid unnecessary mistakes.

Throughout this course, I intend to strengthen the qualities of Self-regulation and Humility, recognizing that both are essential for mature leadership. For instance, implementing mindfulness techniques and practicing reflective thinking will help me manage emotions and impulses, allowing me to make more measured decisions. To enhance Humility, I plan to focus on giving credit to my peers during group tasks and asking for feedback more often, fostering an atmosphere of shared success.

Simultaneously, I will try to balance my Curiosity and Perseverance with Prudence, as being thoughtful and cautious is as important as taking initiative. Structuring my problem-solving approaches more methodically and weighing risks carefully will enable me to guide teams more effectively, particularly when working on time-sensitive or high-stakes projects.

Finally, I think that as a peer in this leadership development course, I can help others by promoting honesty and curiosity in our conversations. My aim is to foster an environment where students can grow together, share knowledge, and realize their leadership potential by assisting one another in identifying their own areas of strength and weakness.

To sum up, the process of establishing leadership is dynamic and entails both utilizing one's talents and fixing one's deficiencies. I have faith that I will continue to develop into the kind of leader I want to be with deliberate work, introspection, and peer support.

Wordcount: 540

.....

