

# UNIVERSITY OF THE PEOPLE



BUS 4405-01 LEADERSHIP - AY2025-T1

**LEARNING JOURNAL UNIT 8** 

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## LEADERSHIP JOURNEY: A REFLECTION AND FUTURE VISION

#### Introduction

Thinking back on my career as a developing leader, it's important to recognize both the forward direction and the development already accomplished. Goleman (2020) claims that good leadership is mostly dependent on emotional intelligence and self-awareness, so this reflection process is essential for both professional and personal development.

#### Who I Am as a Leader

My leadership style is deeply rooted in the core strengths identified through the VIA Signature qualities assessment: judgment, kindness, perseverance, curiosity, and honesty. As a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) charter holder who successfully completed all levels, I've demonstrated my analytical capabilities and commitment to ethical leadership. Being a father of three young children (my "little dragons") has further enhanced my patience, empathy, and ability to nurture growth in others – qualities that Kouzes and Posner (2017) identify as essential for transformational leadership.

#### Strengths and Developmental Goals

My strongest attributes as a leader include analytical thinking, demonstrated through my CFA achievement, and perseverance in pursuing challenging goals. My natural curiosity drives me to explore innovative solutions, particularly in data analytics, where I aim to build my career.



The combination of technical expertise and interpersonal skills positions me uniquely for leadership roles in data-driven organizations.

However, there are areas requiring continued development. While my assessment highlighted lower scores in humility and self-regulation, I've made conscious efforts to improve these aspects. For instance, I now actively practice active listening during team discussions and implement structured decision-making processes to balance my quick-thinking tendency with more measured approaches.

#### **Future Organizational Contributions**

As I pursue a career in data analytics and advance toward a master's in data science, I envision contributing to organizations in several meaningful ways:

First, my analytical background, combined with leadership capabilities, will help bridge the gap between technical teams and business stakeholders. I plan to leverage my communication skills to translate complex data insights into actionable business strategies.

Second, my experience as a father has enhanced my ability to mentor and develop team members. I understand that nurturing talent requires patience, clear guidance, and creating a supportive environment where people feel safe to innovate and learn from mistakes.

#### Action Plan for Continued Development

To further enhance my leadership capabilities, I've developed a structured approach for ongoing growth:



- 1. Technical Excellence: By obtaining a master's degree in data science, I will expand my knowledge of analytics and be more equipped to confidently and perceptively lead datadriven projects.
- 2. **Emotional Intelligence:** Consistent reflection sessions and getting input from coworkers will support my ongoing development of empathy and self-control as well as my knowledge of how I affect other people.
- 3. **Networking and collaboration:** Building relationships within the data analytics community to share knowledge and best practices, while remaining humble and open to learning from others' experiences.

#### Conclusion

Growing and developing as a leader is a continuous process for me. A distinctive basis for effective leadership is created by combining my technical proficiency from my CFA accomplishment, real-world leadership experience as a father, and future goals in data analytics. I am certain that I can lead successfully in the changing environment of data-driven decisionmaking if I continue to prioritize both organizational contribution and personal growth.

The road ahead calls for constant learning, development, and adaptation. As I work toward my data analytics objectives and continue my education, I am dedicated to becoming not only as a technical specialist but also as a well-rounded leader who can motivate and mentor others to achieve success as a group.

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### References:

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