

Leadership in



Course Objectives

The idea for this course came from discussions with my teenaged daughter, who has very different feelings about Dumbledore and Snape, and about whom to “ship” than those of earlier generations. I thought it might be interesting to explore what Rowling is saying, both intentionally and unintentionally, about leadership in this series.

This course is designed to help you practice and develop your skills in reading, understanding, and writing about texts. Texts, here, should be understood broadly as any object (written, spoken, drawn, etc.) that represents an attempt to communicate. Rowling’s texts are the focus of the course, both for their own value and because they are excellent examples of the ways in which texts in our society are read, reread, interpreted, and used. We will discuss the texts in terms of their rhetorical arguments, their historical context, the literary and philosophical tropes they employ, and readers’ responses to them. These texts tell us a great deal about our society and our selves; that’s what we are here to investigate.

Attendance

Because understanding the literature we read is reliant upon participation in active discussions, attendance is an important aspect of this class. **Therefore you will be allowed a maximum of two absences.** Your final grade will drop three points for each absence after the second. I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences.

Plagiarism

All work submitted in this course must be your own and be written exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly documented using MLA format. Remember that you are to adhere to the Oxford College Honor Code and that your signature on any assignment submitted in this class indicates that you have neither given nor received unauthorized information on the work. You can find a copy of the Honor Code in the Oxford Catalog.

Requirements and Grading

20%	Annotations/ leading discussion
30%	Four 3-4 page RAs
20%	Final Exam
30%	1 Research paper

Research Paper on Leadership

Your major project for the class is to choose one major character in the Harry Potter series and identify the type of leadership they exhibit. You will be researching leadership during the semester and posting articles for Discussion on Canvas to prepare you for the final paper. We will also be discussing some of these articles in class in our discussions of the books.



POSTS

For each, you'll find one article on leadership and write an annotation of it. Your annotation will include a summary of the article's central argument and a brief explanation of how you think it applies to Harry Potter.

20%

LEADING DISCUSSION

You will be responsible for leading class discussion in pairs once during the semester. For this, you will post reading questions the day before you lead class.

30%

RAS

These are short papers analyzing some aspect of the text we are reading. You'll have a thesis that answers a question at issue. You should use NO other sources on these essays. I won't require drafts, but I will give feedback on drafts if you bring them to my office hours. For ONE, you have the option to analyze FanFiction.

ITINERARY

1/16-1/28

Sorcerer's Stone

1/30-2/6

Chamber of Secrets

RA 1 due 2/6

2/11-2/20

Prisoner of Azkaban

Watch the film by 2/20

Annotation One due 2/18

2/25-3/6

Goblet of Fire

Annotation Two due 2/27

RA 2 due 3/6

3/11-15

SPRING BREAK

3/18-3/27

Order of the Phoenix

Watch the film by 3/27

Annotation Three due 3/20

RA 3 due 3/27

4/1-4/10

Half-Blood Prince

RA 4 due 4/10

4/15-4/24

Deathly Hallows

Paper Draft due 4/19

Final Paper due 4/29