

# NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION COLLEGE (NALC)

## COURSE SYLLABUS

**Course Title:** Servant Leadership in The American Legion, a Nonprofit Membership Organization

**Course Description:** This course explores the principles and practices of servant leadership within The American Legion, a nonprofit membership organization dedicated to veterans, their families, and community service. Participants will learn how to lead with empathy, integrity, and purpose while fostering collaboration and empowerment within their posts, counties, districts, and departments. Through a combination of readings, discussions, and practical applications, this course equips members to embody servant leadership in advancing The American Legion's mission.

**Course Duration:** 37 Sessions (60 minutes each) over 6 Days

**Total Instruction Time:** 54.5 hours (10 hours per day, plus lunch & breaks)

**Target Audience:** Leaders, staff, and active members of The American Legion.

**Learning Objectives:** Equip participants with servant leadership skills to enhance their leadership effectiveness in The American Legion and its mission of service. By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Define the core principles of servant leadership and their relevance to Legion's mission.
- Develop practical strategies for leading with empathy, accountability, and a focus on service.
- Identify ways to build trust and foster collaboration among members and stakeholders.
- Apply servant leadership concepts to enhance community impact and organizational effectiveness.
- Create a personal leadership action plan to integrate servant leadership values into day-to-day activities within The American Legion.
- Build leadership skills to inspire and empower others effectively.

### **Instructional Methods:**

- Lectures and presentations.
- Interactive workshops and role-playing exercises.
- Group discussions and peer learning activities.
- Hands on workshops and collaborative activities

### **Grading Rubric and Evaluation Methods:**

- Graded on a pass/fail basis
- Participation in discussions and activities.
- Completion of a capstone project.
- Feedback from instructors and peers.

## **Policies and Rules of Conduct**

- Serious personnel or behavior issues will be the only grounds for expulsion of a student and notification to your department leadership.
- Students may withdraw at any time and return home.
- Completion of the week's instruction is considered satisfactory to meet graduation requirements.
- No formal class ranking will be kept.
- All graduates will receive a diploma indicating completion
- Participants are expected to uphold respect, integrity, and professionalism in all interactions and discussions.
- Accessibility: If you require special accommodations, please contact the instructor as soon as possible to ensure your needs are met.
- Contact Information: For questions or concerns, reach out to the instructors via email or phone during office hours, Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

## **Required Readings (See additional reading materials at the end of this document)**

- Greenleaf, R. K. (1977). *Servant Leadership: A Journey into the Nature of Legitimate Power and Greatness*.
- Covey, S. R. (2006). *The Speed of Trust: The One Thing That Changes Everything*.
- Spears, L. C. (1995). *Reflections on Leadership: How Robert K. Greenleaf's Theory of Servant Leadership Influenced Today's Top Management Thinkers*.

## **Materials and Resources Provided:**

- Comprehensive course handbook with templates and guides.
- Access to digital resources and tools for continued learning.
- All course materials will be supplied before, and throughout the course of instruction.
- No additional material is required but students are encouraged to
- explore additional outside sources on their own initiative.
- The use of a personal laptop or tablet is encouraged but not required or provided.
- Students will be informed in those instances when only college-supplied materials may be used.
- Materials and Resources:
- Access to The American Legion's internal leadership training materials.
- Online resources and discussion forums.

## **Material Needed for Staff and Instructors**

- Projector and screen (or TVs in NEC room)
- Handouts for each session
- Workshop supplies (flip charts, markers, sticky notes)
- Access to relevant case studies and readings