

Course Notes



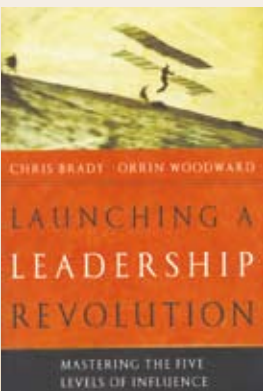
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Book Review

Launching a Leadership Revolution

by Chris Brady and Orrin Woodward

There is a leader in everyone. Whether your sphere of influence is a small team of individuals, a large corporation, or a group of college students, eventually you will find yourself in a position of leadership. The question is, are you really ready to lead?



In their book, *Launching a Leadership Revolution*, Chris Brady and Orrin Woodward offer a fresh look at just what it takes to become a successful leader. Their claim that leadership can be learned by

understanding the “Five Levels of Influence” is supported by years of experience in leadership development. By looking at timeless leaders such as George Washington, Winston Churchill, and even Saint Paul, the authors bring to life the five levels of influence: Learn, Perform, Lead, Develop Leaders, and Develop Leaders Who Develop Leaders.

The book is broken down into chapters that provide practical, step-by-step methods of developing your leadership skills and putting them to work for you.

Whether you are someone who has been in a leadership role for many years, or you are just beginning your quest to become a leader, this book will provide valuable insight into the skills and mind-set you need to become an influential leader.

Fall is Coming ...

Faculty Spotlight Gilbert B. Cross



Teaching Since: 1966
Department: English
Currently Teaching:
Intro to Children’s Literature (LITR 207/CHL 207)
Topics in Children’s Literature (LITR 588)
Intro to Shakespeare (LITR 210)

Q: Who inspires you?

A: I’m inspired by people who don’t let anything get in the way of their goals; like Churchill or Gandhi—but I wouldn’t want to be one of them because the sacrifices they make are enormous. I think of Mahatma Gandhi as the greatest man in the world, and Winston Churchill as the greatest Englishman who ever lived. John F. Kennedy would probably be the most inspiring American. [For more information on how you can become an inspirational leader, check out this issue’s featured book review, “*Launching a Leadership Revolution*.”]

We’re evolving into a non-reading society. We have high school graduates who get to college and have never read a novel.

Q: How do you motivate and inspire your students?

A: I think it’s a question of how much you like the stuff [you’re teaching]. If you’re enthusiastic and think it matters, then it will pass onto your students. But there’s no way to teach them if they ever get an inkling that you’re not interested.

Q: What is the biggest challenge you face in the classroom today?

A: We’re evolving into a non-reading society. We have high school graduates who get to college and have never read a novel. The discipline that used to exist in high school isn’t there today.

Q: How do you address those challenges?

A: You have to make it sound important. You have to raise the issues that are important to them. You show them why it’s important. For example, we have an African American currently running for president; I might tell a student to read *Othello* to see how the issues presented in that piece of literature are still relevant today.

Q: What movie title best describes what your classroom is like?

A: Well, it wouldn’t be “Blackboard Jungle.” Maybe “Chariots of Fire,” where the Englishman triumphs after a long, hard struggle.

Q: Your office is on fire! What one item do you choose to rescue?

A: First, my officemate, Dr. Ian Wojcik-Andrews. But if he wasn’t there, I’d say my memory stick that I carry my lecture notes on. And if that wasn’t there, I’d grab “*The Complete Works of Shakespeare*,” Norton Edition.

Q: Finish this sentence: If I weren’t teaching, I’d be...

A: Writing books. Espionage novels. Detective fiction, or police procedurals [a work where the reader follows the hero from start to finish as he solves a mystery] set in England, modern era. (Cross has already penned quite a few novels. To view all of his published titles, with reviews, visit <http://people.emich.edu/gcross1/publications.htm>)

Faculty Spotlight

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Q: My favorite place to visit in Ypsilanti is:

A: Sidetrack Bar and Grill. My favorite drink there is draft cider, Woodchuck cider. It's half-price during happy hour. The blue cheese burger is the main attraction; with the English fries on the side.

Q: What is the best piece of advice that you give to your students?

A: To my creative writing students, I would pass on to them the best advice that was given to me, by a colleague by the name of Paul McGlynn. He said to me, "You're not writing another *Wuthering Heights*." To my other students, I would tell them, "Don't panic. It's not worth it."

Q: What is the best lesson you've learned from a student(s)?

A: I think it's not to get worked up over certain issues. In general, I don't like students arriving late, and in particular, I don't like them to leave early. But in the virtual scheme of things, it's not worth getting worked up over it. In their minds, it's not bad manners, so I don't take it personally anymore.

Q: What is your favorite book?

A: I have two favorite books I didn't write: "*The Wind and The Willows*" by Kenneth Grahame (1908) and "*Wuthering Heights*" by Emily Bronte (1847).

Q: What cause are you currently passionate about?

A: In the past, I have contributed money to juvenile diabetes research because I think that's something we can beat in this lifetime. But currently, all of my money goes to Barack Obama.

Eastern Michigan University

Key Dates for 2008 Fall Semester

Aug. 30:	Freshman Residence Hall Move-in Day
Aug. 30-Sept. 1:	Freshman Orientation
Aug. 31-Sept. 1:	Upper Class Residence Hall Move-in Day
Nov. 26:	No Classes; Campus Open
Sept. 3:	Classes Begin
Nov. 26:	No Classes; Campus Open
Nov. 27-30:	Thanksgiving Recess; University Closed
Dec. 1:	Classes Resume
Dec. 10:	Last Day of Classes
Dec. 11-17:	Final Exams
Dec. 14:	Commencement
Dec. 18:	Fall Semester Closes
Dec. 19, 5:00 pm:	Grade Submission Deadline

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Mathematics Department
Teacher Education Department

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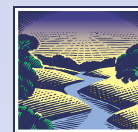
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