**GENE 415: Practical Analysis of Student Leadership Experience**

# Instructional Team

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## GENE 415 Winter 2021 Course Description

## Title: Practical Analysis of Student Leadership Experiences

This course provides student leaders with a practical framework to analyze and understand their role in their service organization, either in Waterloo Engineering or outside. The course is structured to both develop and encourage students to reflect on their leadership experiences to become better leaders in the future using the SLICC (Student-Led, Individually-Created Course) model. Classroom time is used for workshops, guest presenters, and peer-to-peer learning experiences from discussions of the week’s topic to formal presentations. Topics include positionality and power, conflict and inter-personal relationships, emotional intelligence, leadership and management, communication, teamwork, sponsorship, and succession planning.

# Intended Learning Outcomes

**Through this course, I will:**

1. Describe and discuss how personal understanding of course concepts (e.g., power/privilege) influence(d) and impact(ed) my student leadership experiences.
2. Draw upon personal experience to analyze the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to student leadership roles when viewed through the lens of organizational and societal factors (e.g., succession planning, media influence).
3. Identify areas for personal growth in (student) leadership skills and develop an action plan to address them.
4. Apply an adapted SLICC framework to develop my SLICC proposal.
5. Investigate, collaborate, and share learning as a student leadership community.
6. Reflect on the development and evolution of my leadership mindset.
7. Evaluate and critically reflect upon my approach, my learning, and my development throughout my SLICC.

# Engineering Graduate Attributes, Learning Objectives and Assessments

Table 1. Relationships between Engineering Graduate Attributes & Intended Learning Outcomes & Assessments

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Engineering Graduate Attribute** | **Intended Learning Outcomes** | **Assessment** |
| Knowledge Base for Engineering | 1 | Weekly Reflections |
| Problem Analysis | 2 | Weekly Reflections |
| Investigation | 4,5 | SLICC Project |
| Design |  |  |
| Use of Engineering Tools |  |  |
| Individual and Teamwork |  |  |
| Communication | 4,5 | SLICC Project |
| Professionalism (Engineering) |  |  |
| Impact of Engineering on Society and the Environment |  |  |
| Ethics & Equity | 1,2 | Weekly Reflections |
| Economics & Project Management |  |  |
| Life-Long Learning | 3,6,7 | Weekly Reflections, SLICC Project |

## Adaptation of SLICCs ILOs

## How can you define the context of your chosen Learning Experience at the start of your SLICC?

Provide details on how you found the opportunity.

Outline your current perceptions about your role within the context of your SLICC.  Who you will be interacting with or, if you are examining a past leadership experience, who were you interacting with?

Link your leadership experience to a wider scope. What could the potential future outcomes be for the leadership context you are analyzing?

For each Learning Outcome, anticipate what evidence you might use to demonstrate this Learning Outcome.

## Learning Outcome 1: I am able to demonstrate how I have actively developed my understanding of the topic I have chosen for my SLICC.

**What?**

* What topic (e.g. power/privilege/positionality; conflict and inter-personal relationships, emotional intelligence, leadership and management, communication, teamwork, succession planning)  have you chosen to investigate with respect to your leadership experience and why?
* How much do you already know about the topic?

**So what?**

* What are some of the first questions you need to address?
* What do you think will be the main challenges?

**Now what?**

* What steps will you take to start answering the questions you have identified?
* How can you overcome some of the challenges you identified?

Learning Outcome 3: I am able to demonstrate how I have used experiences during my SLICC to actively develop my leadership skills in the focused area of (Choose one)

* power/privilege/positionality
* conflict and inter-personal relationships
* emotional intelligence
* leadership and management
* communication
* teamwork
* succession planning

**What?**

* What particular skill have you chosen to focus on during your experience? Why have you chosen this skill?
* What are your current strengths and weaknesses in this skill?

**So what?**

* What challenges do you expect in using this skill during your SLICC?
* How will you be able to periodically take a step back and reassess your effectiveness in using this skill during your SLICC?

**Now what?**

* How can you overcome some of the challenges you identified?
* How will you use your experiences throughout your SLICC to develop this skill?

Learning Outcome 4: I am able to demonstrate how I have used experiences during my SLICC to actively explore my leadership mindset.

* What challenges do you expect you might encounter in exploring your leadership mindset during this SLICC?
* How will you be able to periodically take a step back and reassess your mindset in this area during your SLICC?

**Now what?**

* How can you overcome some of the challenges you identified?
* How will you use your experiences throughout your SLICC to explore your mindset in this area?

## Learning Outcome 5: I am able to evaluate and critically reflect upon my approach, my learning and my development throughout my SLICC.

Showing how you will actively reflect on your learning throughout the experience is essential. Summarise below:

**What?**

* How would you describe your current approaches to learning, to your own development, and to managing new experiences?

**So what?**

* In what ways do you think these approaches will help you during your SLICC?
* In what ways would they need to adapt?

**Now what?**

* How do you plan to reflect on and evaluate your progress, learning and approaches throughout your SLICC? Include your planned schedule for reflecting, any stages that will be particularly important for reflection, plus any tools or strategies your plan to use.
* What challenges do you expect in following this plan? How can you overcome some of them?