Description

The materials included in this handbook are, most obviously, intended to accompany The Leader's Companion: Insights on Leadership through the Ages (New York: The Free Press, 1995). Nonetheless, this manual seeks to serve a larger purpose as well. Most immediately, it is a teaching guide for those using The Leader's Companion in the classroom. In a larger sense, however, these materials serve as a primer for the conceptualization, organization, and implementation of an introductory course on leadership. The exercises contained herein, while geared to the specific readings of The Leader's Companion, can be adapted easily to other texts and reading (depending upon instructor desires and preferences) and thus can form the basis for a wide variety of introductory courses in leadership studies.

Two difficulties confront an instructor charged with the task of teaching a course on leadership: (1) what materials to select to adequately convey a sense of this enormous and amorphous topic and (2) how to organize and teach such a unique course. The Leader's Companion represents an effort to address the first problem. It collects in one place some of the most significant writings on leadership over the centuries, drawing upon a variety of sources and disciplines. Moreover, it organizes and annotates this collection in such a way that it presents a cogent and sequential treatment of the concept of leadership. The reader can thus take away from this anthology a sound introduction to this complex phenomenon. The response to this book from leadership educators has been gratifying, but it has been accompanied by a steady drumbeat of requests for further materials focusing on its implementation in the classroom. This manual, then, seeks to address the second difficulty: to take the further step of providing a guide to all aspects of teaching an introductory course in leadership.

This manual, when coupled with The Leader's Companion or other texts of the instructor's choosing, is intended to make the teaching of an introductory course in leadership a "turnkey" operation. That is to say, an instructor with this manual has the necessary information and materials to produce a substantive and creditable course in leadership.

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Leadership is also dispersed down through the many levels of social functioning, from the loftiest levels of our national life down to the school principal, the local union leader, the shop supervisor. We have always associated both kinds of dispersion with our notions of democracy and pluralism. Citizens must understand the possibilities and limitations of leadership. We must know how we can strengthen and support good leaders; and we must be able to see through the leaders who are exploiting us, playing on our hatred and prejudice, or taking us down dangerous paths. Understanding these things, we come to see that much of the responsibility for leaders and how they perform is in our own hands. The Leader's Companion book. Read 7 reviews from the world's largest community for readers. This book serves as a guided introduction to the richly diverse perspectives on leadership throughout the ages and throughout the world. Each of the selections, introduced by the editor, presents enlightening thoughts on a different aspect of leadership. Writings by Plato, Aristotle, Lao-tzu and others demonstrate that the challenges of leadership are as old as civilization. Machiavelli, Tolstoy, Ghandi, and W.E.B. Du Bois provide a wide range of insights into the eternal practice and problems of leadership. Modern masters of leadership such as James MacGregor Burns, John Kotter, and Warren B.