Lejeune Leadership Institute

Marine Corps University

Marine Corps Civilian Leadership Development Program

Lead Self Seminar

Overview

The Lead Self Seminar is the first Lejeune Leadership Institute (LLI) produced Civilian Leadership Development Seminar course for Marine Corps University (MCU). The initial course was completed in June 2013. The course underwent a content review in February 2022 and recommendations for updated video content were made that same month. The course was updated by Dr. James I. Van Zummeren, Deputy Director of the LLI, Mr. Jamie Deets, Head, Civilian Leadership Development Branch, LLI, and Ms. Cynthia Dowd, Program Manager CLDP.

The seminar has been presented to Marine Corps federal employees around the globe since 2013 with incredible feedback reinforcing its need and value. It is a three-day seminar-based course stressing individual leadership development concepts. The course framework consists of six four-hour seminar sessions spread over three days. Students are provided selected leadership and other relevant readings in preparation for the daily sessions. During each session students explore various applications of leadership concepts through discussions; reflections, introspection of self, critical thinking, solutions-orientation and analysis skills needed for and by leaders. The seminar sessions are instructor lead facilitation with student interaction and group work to reinforce session learning objectives. The group activities are student led with presentations or feedback given to the seminar.

***A) Day One: Self Development and Decision Making***

Session One: Developing the Leader Within

Purpose: Students realize the power of taking responsibility for self-development and self-awareness. This session has students engage in reflection and introspection of self. Students use their critical thinking to analyze their personal strengths and weaknesses as they relate to one’s behavior and ability to lead self by developing a personal philosophy.

Learning Objectives:

1. Define Self-Concept

2. Define leading self

3. Understand how to build one’s self leadership

4. Create a personal leadership philosophy

Session Two: Decision Making for Vision to Action

Purpose: The purpose of this session is to engage in action planning for self-direction and achievement by thinking, defining, and developing an action plan based off of a personal vision statement that specifically identifies and stresses individual goals at a personal and professional level. It is a process of setting an action plan in place to achieve one’s vision of individual achievement.

Learning Objectives:

1. Define and develop your personal vision statement

2. Identify and prioritize goals to achieve personal vision

3. Construct and apply an action plan

***B) Day Two: Understanding Behavior and Self-Talk***

Session Three: Behavioral Control and Perception

Purpose: The purpose of this session is for students to engage with others using critical thinking to analyze their personal strengths and weaknesses as they relate to one’s behavior and ability to lead self. Key to this understanding and exchange with fellow seminar students is their understanding of how one’s behavior and perceptions impact self-leadership.

Learning Objectives:

1. Examine controls of self-behavior

2. Recognize your “locus of control”

3. Understand how perceptions influence relationships

Session Four: Intrapersonal Communication

Purpose: The focus of this session is to develop the ability to lead self by understanding how intrapersonal communication impacts our ability to inspire ourselves to achieve our vision we began to develop in Session Two.

Learning Objectives:

1. Define and understand intrapersonal communication

2. Develop intrapersonal communication skills

3. Recognize inner resources to understand ourselves and other people

***C) Day Three: Ethics and Reflections of Leadership Development***

Session Five: Ethics and You

Purpose: The purpose of this session is to analyze the role of ethics and values as they relate to civilian Marines in the workplace. The primary outcome of this session is to provide students with the knowledge and appreciation required to make ethical decisions and to serve the Marine Corps professionally and clarifying their individual ethical framework in reference to the Marine Corps and the Government Employee Code of Ethics. The goal is to help the student recognize and act appropriately when facing ethical dilemmas.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understanding Why Ethics is Needed

2. Applying Ethical Behavior in the Workplace

3. Writing an individual reflective summary of the course (content and future application)

Session Six: Lead Self Reflections

Purpose: This session affords students the opportunity to self-assess their learning during the seminar and determine how they will apply that new knowledge in their futures. Their thoughts will be shared and discussed with the seminar.

Learning Objectives:

1. Identify concepts learned and collaborate to develop a group presentation

2. Reflect on skills learned to enhance continuous self-awareness and self-leadership