

Appendix A
Critical Assignments #1: Leadership Essay
Due Tuesday, November 29

Your Leadership Essay should address the following components:

1. Define Leadership – specifically in the context of an educational setting.
2. **Craft a personal “vision statement”**. Use the following to guide you in this process:
(Your personal vision statement guides your life. Your personal vision statement provides the direction necessary to guide the course of your days and the choices you make about your career. Use these questions to guide your thoughts - What three things must you do every single day to feel fulfilled in your work? What are your five most important values? (Values are traits or qualities that are considered worthwhile; they represent an individual’s highest priorities and deeply held driving forces). What strengths have other people commented on about you and your accomplishments? What strengths do you see in yourself?)
3. Using the results of the self-assessment inventories you completed during this course (MBTI, Colors, Leadership and Management Style) how would you describe yourself as a leader? What are the particular leadership skills and capabilities you tend to rely on?
4. Describe the research and theories (e.g. authors & theories you have read about in this class) that have contributed to your development as an educational leader.
5. Describe how you have used your leadership abilities to promote a positive culture in your school or organization.
6. Describe a time in your life when you had an opportunity to demonstrate your leadership skills & abilities in developing others **within** your school or organization.
In what ways did you apply your leadership skills and abilities in this situation?
7. Describe a time in your life when you had an opportunity to demonstrate your leadership skills & abilities in developing others **outside** of your school or organization.
In what ways did you apply your leadership skills and abilities in this situation?
8. Describe how you demonstrate “moral purpose” in leadership. Share how ethics, fairness, and integrity are an integral part of who you are as an educational leader.
9. Please conclude your Leadership Essay with a statement of your personal career goals.