



# Introduction to Leadership: Concepts and Practice

By Peter G. Northouse



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Offering a straightforward introduction to the basic principles of leadership, Peter G. Northouse provides readers with practical strategies for becoming better leaders. An applied text by the author of the best-seller *Leadership: Theory and Practice*, this new text provides the much needed "how-to" component for students in leadership courses. Three interactive components in every chapter—self-assessment questionnaires, observational exercises, and reflection and action worksheets—get readers actively involved in applying leadership concepts to their own lives. Grounded in leadership theory, yet accessible and reader-friendly, this book covers a fundamental aspect of leadership in each chapter and illustrates its application in real leadership situations. A final chapter discusses the key topic of ethics in leadership.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

*"I found Northouse's style of writing to be unambiguous, complex but wonderfully understandable. His writing style stoked the fires of my imagination regarding my own approach to leadership. It also made complex concepts in leadership understandable without sullyng the integrity of the academic discipline of leadership or leadership praxis. The content of the book flows seamlessly and logically. Northouse's book gets a strong recommendation from this reviewer. **Introduction to Leadership: Concepts and Practices** demonstrates Northouse's depth and breadth of experience as an academician and consultant. He is patently passionate about communicating not only the essence of leadership but the manner in which thoughtful leadership can transform people, communities, and organizations."*

(Journal of Leadership Studies 2010-12-01)

*"I have followed Peter Northouse's work for years. He has written another excellent book, this time a perfect introductory book for the new student of leadership."*

(Carl Larson 2008-12-21)

"In Northouse's most recent publication, **Introduction to Leadership: Concepts and Practices**, he continues his impressive ability to render leadership theories and concepts extremely accessible. Despite the fact that this book is much lighter on theory than Northouse's previous work, it is nonetheless better than most resources I have used in the past in addressing the personal and organizational implications of leadership in a matter-of-fact, nuts-and bolts manner. The content of the book flows seamlessly and logically. Northouse's book gets a strong recommendation from this reviewer. He is patently passionate about communicating not only the essence of leadership but the manner in which thoughtful leadership can transform people, communities, and organizations. In this latest publication, he has done exactly that."

(Jeffrey D. Yergler 2009-11-06)

"This textbook is a very useful introduction to the fundamental concepts and practices of leadership. The background theoretical inputs are short, snappy and relevant and designed to engage and inspire students towards further study...The interactive features are definitely the distinguishing factor of this textbook and allow readers to apply theoretical concepts to practice. With its use of questionnaires, reflective analyses, action planning worksheets and observational exercises, the textbook provides a valuable mechanism for transferring knowledge into practice." (David McGuire *Journal of European Industrial Training* 2009-08-09)

*"For four editions and more than a decade, its concise, intelligent, insightful introduction to the study of leadership has made "Northouse" [Leadership: Theory and Practice, Fourth Edition, SAGE, ©2007] the go-to text for students and teachers. With this book, Peter Northouse has done the same for the practice of leadership."*

(Richard A. Couto 2008-12-21)

*"The theoretical concepts are brought to life through the readings and there's more "how to" info to actually become a better leader as opposed to just studying the theories, all of which have many, many gaps anyway. Moreover, with only 10 chapters and a CLU 11 week term, the flow of the book makes it easy to cover 1 chapter per week (no cramming)."*

(Karen Hanen 2009-02-06)

*"I have been looking for a good intro to Leadership [book] with class exercises?this is it!"* (Richard Bell 2009-08-05)

*"This text is critical, concise, theory based, and engages students with activities."* (Lauren Williams 2009-09-11)

*"Peter Northouse's Introduction to Leadership is an excellent text that I have used for freshman/sophomore levels classes. It contains most of the major topics from his more comprehensive Leadership: Theory and Practice but omits much of the more academic content that we love but freshman don't. It also has 3 excellent activities at the end of each chapter for self-reflection/ application on each topic, with abbreviated versions of many typical leadership assessments."* (Frank Markow 2009-09-14)

#### About the Author

Peter G. Northouse, PhD, is Professor Emeritus of Communication in the School of Communication at Western Michigan University. In addition to publications in professional journals, he is the author of *Leadership: Theory and Practice* (now in its seventh edition) and *Introduction to Leadership: Concepts and Practice* (now in its third edition) and coauthor of *Health Communication: Strategies for Health Professionals* (now in its third edition). His scholarly and curricular interests include models of leadership, leadership assessment, ethical leadership, and leadership and group dynamics. For more than 30 years, he has taught courses in leadership, interpersonal communication, and organizational communication to both undergraduate and graduate students. Currently, he is a consultant and lecturer on trends in leadership research, leadership development, and leadership education. He holds a doctorate in speech communication from the University of Denver, and master's and bachelor's degrees in communication education from Michigan State University.

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