

MGMT 425 Leader in the News Final Project

From your Syllabus: *As you read the Wall Street Journal this semester take note of a business leader you find particularly interesting. Midway through the semester you must identify a first, second and third choice leader to analyze in more depth as your final paper in this class. For this individual you will be applying the frameworks learn in the class to their handling of organizational situations and analyzing their effectiveness. Detailed instructions for the paper will be posted on the course web site. Your "choice memo" is worth 10 grading points. The final paper is worth 80 grading points, and is in lieu of a final in the course.*

Final Paper Requirements:

Section 1: Summary of the leader's current and previous positions and career highlights.

Use the Wall Street Journal articles you have found about your leader as the start of your research on this individual. Using the library databases find at least 4 other articles or good sources of information about your leader and his/her background and career. Articles should be from credible business press or newspaper sources (not blogs!). Company web sites are allowable sources. Your final list of sources should be 5-7 credible sources all cited correctly and in APA format (meaning citations within your paper and the reference list at the end).

Based on your research/sources, write a description of your leader's career highlights and current position. Length and depth guideline is 3-4 well developed paragraphs.

10 points available

Section 2: Summary of the leader's traits, behaviors and style.

Using the sources you have compiled describe (using examples from the background articles) and simultaneously analyze (using theories and models from your text), the individual characteristics of your leader. What behaviors and traits do they display? What leadership style or styles do his/her behaviors and actions demonstrate? This section should also be 4-6 well developed paragraphs. Be sure to use at least 2 different theories/frameworks from your text in this section.

20 points available

Section 3: Summary of the organizational circumstances that led this leader to be in the news

Compile a timeline of the organizational circumstances that led to your leader being in the news. Try not to quote the actual articles but paraphrase in your own words what the dynamics of the situation were. Be sure to include enough description so that the organizational stakeholders, context and your leader's actions are well

described. This section can either be a bulleted list of events or in paragraph form. Length and depth guideline is 2-3 well developed paragraphs or 6-9 bullet points. Include citations where necessary.

10 points available

Section 4: Apply the LFS Framework

Using the leader, follower, situation framework we have been studying all semester analyze the dynamics of the situation or situations you described in Section 3. Explain how the three parts of the model worked and how they influenced each other (or not). Take extra attention to fully analyze the leader actions your chosen leader took and how it influences either the followers or the situation (or vice versa). This section should be 4-6 well developed paragraphs. ALL aspects of the model should be fully explored fully; you will want to demonstrate your complete understanding of the model.

25 points available

Section 5: Advice for the Leader

In this section offer your analysis of the actions the leader took and your expert recommendation for actions he/she might have done differently (and why). You will want in this section to not only use the theories you have learned but some of the reflection exercises to think through how this leader could improve on their skills. It is not enough in this section to say "they are doing a great job", leaders can always improve! After you have identified things he/she might have done differently, offer them advice for going forward – what can they do to improve their leadership?

15 points available

Total points available: 80

Grading Criteria within each Section:

1. Fully proofread and clear writing
2. Proper citations with strong sources given where necessary, citations and reference list all in APA format.
3. Full application of text frameworks used
4. Insightful and accurate analysis

Format:

- Citations within paper and reference list at end of paper must be in APA format.
- Paper does not have to follow APA format, use the following format:

- Title your paper with .doc name: last name_MGMT 425_leader last name.
- Insert a running footer with page number and your last name.
- Double space between sections and paragraphs. Single space within paragraphs.
- Clearly label each section.