

Leadership: Effective Critical Skills

We've all known great political and historical leaders who thrive in difficult situations and may even become energized in such environments. However, leadership isn't limited to just a few occupations. In fact, leaders are everywhere, and those who lead schools are among the leaders whose actions have a lasting and significant impact.

In Leadership: Effective Critical Skills, we will examine six critical skills that are important for educational leaders:

- Communicating effectively
- Problem solving and decision making
- Resolving conflict
- Building high-impact teams
- Measuring and analyzing impact
- Eliminating obstacles to success

Additionally, this six-module course offers practical advice on emphasizing the importance of consistency in achieving change within the educational environment and avoiding several common obstacles to leadership success.

Course Objectives

In this course, you will

Module 1

- Identify techniques for more effective communication.
- Apply effective communication strategies to your place of practice.

Module 2

- Determine controllable and uncontrollable factors in a conflict.
- Handle difficult situations by focusing on the controllable factors.

Module 3

- Evaluate your skills in conflict management.

Module 4

- Evaluate group dynamics at your place of professional practice.

Module 5

- Evaluate key measures for your place of professional practice.
- Analyze the impact of school data.

Module 6

- Apply steps to avoid common pitfalls in leadership.

Course Syllabus

Module 1	Communicating Effectively <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Module Welcome• Reading 1: Parents Are from Mars, Kids Are from . . . ?• Reading 2: Effective Communication• Video: Adult Conflict Resolution• Application: I-Message• Knowledge Check• Post-Module Reflection
Module 2	Problem Solving and Decision Making <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Module Welcome• What Is a Problem?• Reading: Treating Problems Creatively• Knowledge Check• Application: Managing the Message• Post-Module Reflection

<p>Module 3</p>	<p>Resolving a Conflict</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module Welcome • What Is Conflict? • Reading: Developing a Capacity for Conflict Management • Coping with Anger • Knowledge Check • Application: Self-Evaluation • Post-Module Reflection
<p>Module 4</p>	<p>Building High-Impact Teams</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module Welcome • Reading: Characteristics of Effective Teams • A National Imperative • Video: Restructuring America’s Schools • Knowledge Check • Application: Evaluating Group Dynamics • Post-Module Reflection
<p>Module 5</p>	<p>Measuring and Analyzing Impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module Welcome • You Manage What You Measure • Choosing the Right Things To Measure • Reading: Developing Powerful Measures • Linking Strategic Goals to Classroom Practice • Knowledge Check • Application: Evaluating Key Measures • Post-Module Reflection
<p>Module 6</p>	<p>Eliminating Obstacles to Success</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: Common Pitfalls in Leadership • Knowledge Check • Application: Avoiding Common Pitfalls • Post-Module Reflection