International Leadership: Adapting Business and Governments to New Realities (GEB 4930, 2 Credits)
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Description

The world is becoming a more complicated place economically and politically. This course provides students with an in-depth learning experience about adaptive leadership and how it can be used to address the forces that are shaping the future. Students examine how adaptive leadership can be used to help organizations adapt to new realities and shape those realities, all the while developing their own leadership skills. The course will use case studies, discussion, assignments, and presentations from international experts to focus on how countries, organizations, and individuals understand their changing world and respond to it.

The course takes full advantage of its Paris location. As a major international city in a country that has different views on international issues, Paris provides students with an opportunity to see international business and strategy from the viewpoint of another culture and in the context of geopolitics, and not just U.S. domestic politics. Exercising adaptive leadership—which is leading people through changes that challenge long-held beliefs and demand new ways of doing things—is particularly challenging in the international context because of the differences in cultures, world views, interests, and experiences.

Students should be prepared for a demanding and intense program that is well worth the effort. Subject matter for this course is rare in college curricula. When it is taught, it is included in MBA or MPA programs, and then only at the top graduate schools.
Readings

Students are required to read the following prior to arriving in Paris. Course packs containing items 3-5 below will be available at Target Copy. Items 1-2 will be emailed to students.


Grading

Students will be graded 50 percent on their substantive contributions to class discussions and 50 percent on their assignments and final report. Contributions to class discussions will be graded every day. Assignments are written debriefings of the class’s adaptive work.