

Leadership Development and Decision Making Reading List Chief Officer

Introduction

At each point in our career, we embark on an endeavor toward mastery through professional development. You will find that with each promotion, we take on new responsibilities that will require us to master new skills. With this new requirement will come a new assessment in the hierarchy of skills. Based loosely on the Maslow's "Hierarchy of Needs", the hierarchy of skills states that we all begin as students. As we progress throughout our journey, we will transition to apprentice, specialist, expert, and eventually craftsman. These points are defined in the image below:



Reference: Kokcharov, Igor (2015) Hierarchy of Skills

While practical experience, realistic training, and formal education are indispensable for the development of first-class leaders, so too is independent study. A program of independent reading keeps the mind fresh and enhances professionalism. The Instructors from the Leadership Development and Decision Making (LDDM) Program have compiled their suggested reading list, which is designed to assist you in the development of your leadership and critical decision making skills. These texts are listed in a manner to help guide you along this journey but are not listed in order of importance.

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Suggested

Student:

- 1. "Firefighter Emotional Wellness How to Reconnect with Yourself and with Others" - Jada Hudson
- 2. "Start with Why: How Great Leaders Inspire Everyone to Take Action" Simon Sinek
- 3. "Think Again: The Power of Knowing What You Don't Know" Adam Grant
- 4. "It's Your Ship: Management Techniques from the Best Damn Ship in the Navy" Captain D. Michael Abrash
- 5. "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People" Stephen R. Covey
- 6. "The Ethical Brain: The Science of Our Moral Dilemmas" Michael S. Gazzaniga
- 7. "Lessons from the Mouse" Dennis Snow
- 8. "The PMA Effect" John Joseph
- 9. "Good to Great" Jim Collins
- 10. "Ethics 101" John Maxwell

Apprentice:

- 1. "San Francisco is Burning: The Untold Story of the 1906 and Fires" Dennis
- 2. "To Sleep with the Angels: The Story of a Fire" David Owens & John Kuenster
- 3. "Killer Show" John Barylick
- 4. "Leaders Eat Last" Simon Sinek
- 5. "The Anatomy of Courage" Charles Wilson & 1st Baron Moran
- 6. "The Rescuer: One Firefighter's Story of Courage, Darkness, and the Relentless Love That Saved Him" – Jason Sautel with Dr. Jacobsen
- 7. "Indispensable: When Leaders Really Matter" Gautam Mukunda
- 8. "Hard Call: Great Decisions and the Extraordinary People Who Made Them" John McCain with Mark Salter
- 9. "Team of Rivals" Doris Kearns Goodwin
- 10. "Leading with Heart: Living and Working the Southwest Way" Herb Keller, Colleen Barrett, Gary Kelly, Bob Jordan, Mike Van de Ven, and others

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Specialist:

- 1. "Extreme Ownership: How U.S. Navy SEALS Lead and Win" Jocko Willink & Leif Babin
- 2. "Why Everyone (Else) is a Hypocrite: Evolution and the Modular Mind" Robert Kurzban
- 3. "Endurance: A Year in Space, A Lifetime of Discovery" Scott Kelly
- 4. "Leaders Eat Last" Simon Sinek
- 5. "Deep Survival: Who Lives, Who Dies, and Why" Laurence Gonzalez
- 6. "Executive Toughness: The Mental-Training Program to Increase Your Leadership Performance" – Jason Selk
- 7. "Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption" -Laura Hillenbrand
- 8. "Everyday Survival: Why Smart People Do Stupid Things" Laurence Gonzales
- 9. "Greedy Bastards" Sherly Sculley
- 10. "Own Your Past, Change Your Future" Dr. John Delony

Expert:

- 1. "Thinking, Fast and Slow" Daniel Kahneman
- 2. "Why Leaders Fail and the 7 Prescriptions for Success" Peter Stark & Mary Kellv
- 3. "Don't Bullsh*t Yourself! Crush the Excuses that are Holding You Back" Jon Taffer
- 4. "The Power of Habit: Why We Do What We Do in Life and Business" Charles Dunhigg
- 5. Don't Leave Your Mind Behind: The Mental Side of Performance Keith Henschen & Nichole Detling
- 6. "Switch: How to Change Things When Change Is Hard" Chip Heath & Dan Heath
- 7. "Team of Teams: The Power of Small Groups in a Fragmented World" General Stanley McChrystal
- 8. "The Impulse Factor: Why Some of Us Play It Safe and Others Risk It All" Nick
- 9. "The Bully Pulpit" Doris Kearns Goodwin



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Suggested

Craftsman:

- 1. "The Mission, The Men, and Me: Lessons from a Former Delta Force Commander" - Pete Blaber
- 2. "Man's Search for Meaning" Viktor Frankl
- 3. "Emotional Intelligence: Why It Can Matter More Than IQ" Daniel Goleman
- 4. "Radical Inclusion: What the Post 9/11 World Should Have Taught Us About Leadership" – General Martin Dempsey & Ori Brafman
- 5. "The Leader Habit" Martin Lanik
- 6. "The Trust Edge: How Top Leaders Gain Faster Results, Deeper Relationships, and a Stronger Bottom Line" - David Horsager
- 7. "Checklist Manifesto" Atul Gawande
- 8. "The Talent War" Mike Sarraille and George Randle
- 9. "How to Win Friends and Influence People" Dale Carnegie