Leadership Series Module Descriptions

Emerging Leaders

Module 1 - Critical Communication Skills: The Language of Success
Beyond strong technical skills, communication is fundamental to being a successful team member, consultant and leader. This module will focus on the importance of active listening, asking powerful questions, and understanding unconscious bias. Participants will take the CliftonStrengths® assessment and learn to use their identified strengths as a resource upon which to develop better self-awareness and gain a deeper understanding of emotional intelligence (EQ).

Faculty: Kate Allen, Stambaugh Ness

Module 2 - Critical People Skills: Relationship Building and Negotiation Skills
Relationship-based negotiation principles and practices provide the foundation for building collaboration with internal and external stakeholders. These doctrines are key for managing emotions and bias, earning empathy and trust, and crafting creative solutions with colleagues and clients. This module will be delivered by a former hostage negotiator who now works with consulting engineering firms to build cultures of clear communication and thus strong relationships.

Faculty: Dan Oblinger, Leadercraft

Module 3 – Critical Consulting Skills: Writing for Clarity and Elevating Thought Processes
The rise of digital communication tools has amplified the challenges of written communication. Mastering concise and clear writing, from emails to reports to proposals, is a pivotal business skill. This module will delve into best practices and help attendees harness their ability to think both critically and creatively. Focusing on these traits will help improve communication and problem-solving abilities through elevated thinking.

Faculty: Kate Allen, Stambaugh Ness

Module 4 – Critical Consulting Skills: Uncomfortable Conversations and Communicating with Different Personality Styles
Leadership in the consulting engineering industry requires the ability to communicate with stakeholders ranging from teams at sites to colleagues in the office to critical client meetings. Sometimes this includes uncomfortable conversations and the ability to drive a win/win outcome from such conversations is imperative to project success and the reputations of leadership and the firm.

This module will focus on skills needed to engage with a wide variety of stakeholders, particularly when navigating difficult conversations.

Faculty: Kate Allen, Stambaugh Ness

Module 5 – Managing Risk: Project Delivery and How to Mitigate Risk
Project communication has been identified as not only critical to the success of a project but is a leading non-technical cause of errors and omissions claims. This module will explore the nuance and risks involved with different project delivery methods. An expert in risk management will share strategies for risk mitigation on projects, job sites, and in written and verbal communication.

Faculty: Kate Allen, Stambaugh Ness and TBA

Module 6 – Critical Consulting Skills: Consultative Mindset
The consultative mindset means understanding coworkers' or clients' unique needs, challenges and objectives before proposing solutions or engaging in strategic conversations. This perspective can foster deeper team and client relationships. This module will bring into focus the skills needed to build trust and its significance when interfacing with clients or collaborating with teammates.

Faculty: Kate Allen, Stambaugh Ness and TBA