

Dear MIT Graduate Students and Postdocs, (pls excuse us if you receive this message more than once)

This Spring 2020, we have begun to offer a new course on professional strategies and skills and leadership at MIT. It has been widely recognized by MIT that such training is vital for advancing graduate student and postdoc careers in academia and industry. A large variety of topics useful for all career choices are covered throughout this set of two half-semester courses, together with interactive components and discussions.

Given current circumstances, now is the time to think about and proactively develop your leadership skills!

The second half-semester course on Leadership (8.S397) is starting March 31, 2020!

This is the 2nd part of our MIT LEAPS program: LEAdership and Professional Strategies and Skills

(Note: It is not a prerequisite to have taken Part 1 on Professional Strategies and Skills)

Graduate students and postdocs are encouraged to register for this spring course to take advantage of this opportunity!

Course Description

8.S397 -- Developing Your Leadership Potential (runs online Mar 29 to May 12, 2020)

Both leadership and management skills are critical to the success of an MIT PhD after they leave the Institute. Although there is some overlap between these two sets of skills, this course will focus on developing the leadership skills that will make it possible for you to have a greater

impact and success in your future work, whether in academia, industry or other area.

Each of us has to find their own way in the leadership labyrinth and develop their emotional intelligence, a critical component of leadership, which complements IQ and technical skills. We will investigate self-awareness, self-regulation, empathy, motivation and managing relationships. On the practical side, we will discuss team building, negotiation, managing and resolving conflict, bias, diversity and inclusion. This course is specifically for doctoral candidates in the School of Science.

Additional information

Graduate Students: Please register for 8.S397 in the same way as you do for your other classes during Spring registration.

Postdocs and Listeners: Please email us to register:
mitleaps@gmail.com

Classes meet online with zoom Tuesdays 9:30-11am and Thursdays 5:30-7:00pm until May 12.

This class has 6 credit units; expected weekly workload is ~5-6h, including class time. For registered students, there will be a pass/no record grade. All participants will receive a certificate upon successful completion.

Note: As this is a pilot, this course is hosted in the physics department. There are not yet any matching course numbers across other departments. The course will be co-facilitated by groups of selected postdocs who are learning to teach this course. This will provide for additional mentoring and networking opportunities.

This course is supported by Michael Sipser, Dean of the SoS, Beatriz

Cantada, Program Director, Institute Community and Equity Office,
Timothy Jamison, Associate Provost and Ian Waitz, Vice-Chancellor for
undergraduate and graduate education.

See you on the zoom,

Dr. Angeliki Diane Rigos, Associate Director, MITEI Education, Instructor
Prof. Anna Frebel, Associate Professor of Physics, Instructor

Questions? Email us at mitleaps@gmail.com