

Leadership and Management Course

Teaching Strategy for “More Than a Mentor”

Length of lesson: 1-2 days

Lesson Introduction

- Attention getter: Show a picture of Superman or Superwoman *or both* on your overhead projector or Smartboard

Discussion questions:

- As a child, who was your superhero that wore a cape?
- What might be another term for superhero? (*Answer: mentor*)
- What does the term mentor mean to you?

Definitions of mentor

1. an experienced and trusted adviser
2. trusted counselor or guide
3. tutor, coach
4. an experienced person who advises and helps somebody with less experience over a period of time
5. a person who shares their knowledge, skills, and/or their experience, to help another person, or group of people to progress (Traditionally a mentor would guide a mentee in a one-to-one mentoring relationship.)

Option: Give students 30 seconds to use their phones to look up the definition of mentor and award points for the first 3 students (to be used on the next class test), then discuss their definition finds.

Option: Have a large poster board at the front of the room or use the smart board; divide students into groups, and ask students to look up the definition of mentor and condense it to 1 to 3 words, then use color markers to write those definitions on the board of choice.

Assignment

Assign students to read “More Than a Mentor”. After reading, students should then write a one-page comparison report. Students should define three mentors in their life and discuss three traits of those mentors.

Following the writing assignment, have a class discussion of the traits of the mentors of the students. Create a list on a posterboard or butcher paper on a bulletin board if you want students to continue to see these terms or on the Smartboard.

Conclusion

How important are mentors in our life?

Do you think that you are a mentor for anyone?

Will you aspire to be a mentor for someone in the future?