

Leadership & Teaching

There are many different types of leaders and not every leadership style fits everyone. It's all about figuring out what style matches you the best. We are going to focus on how to apply leadership skills when working with your peers. The important thing to remember is that every member of your subteam loves our team and wants to make it better. They are trying to help in their own way and we just need to get everyone on the same page.

Below are the skills that will help you effectively lead your peers:

- Building genuine relationships
- Identifying shared goals and create join plans to achieve them
- Leading by example
- Practicing positivity
- Displaying gratitude to your teammates
- Having empathy
- Being honest
- Communicating effectively
- Allowing for flexibility
- Listening to your peers
- Showing your dependability

It's hard to adapt to all these things at once and we don't expect you to. Your mentors are here to support you. All of these skills are good things to practice when developing your own style of leadership and figuring out who you want to be as a person.

The leadership skills above are going to help want to come to your meetings and care about your subteam. However, it's not the only thing that is needed. Now that you have people at your subteam, it's your responsibility to teach them what they need to know.

Teaching is easier said than done. There's a reason that your teachers have to go to four years of college and do years of student teaching to be able to do what they do. There are a few skills that we haven't talked about that are important to being a good teacher: patience, creativity, and tolerance. These things help you develop and practice good communication specifically where you know more than the person who you are talking to.

My advice to you (and from Indeed) are using the steps below:

1. Create a positive learning environment
 - a. Make it a safe place to not know the answers and ask questions
 - b. An easy way to do is by using positive reinforcement - "That's a really good question - Thank you for asking that"
2. Connect with your teammates
 - a. If you show that you care about them, then they will care what you have to say about this subject
 - b. Help them trust that you have their best interest in heart

3. Be prepared
 - a. If you don't know the answer (and that's okay if you don't - you won't know everything), then know where to find the answer
 - b. Plan activities or what you want to say before the meeting
4. Use clear language
 - a. There are a lot of technical things or team history that your teammates might not understand yet
 - b. Try to start with simple terms and work your way up
5. Set reasonable expectations
 - a. No one who joins your subteam is going to be at your same level right away
 - b. Don't expect them to be able to do the same things as you
 - c. Provide baby steps and support so they can get to your level
6. Adapt to different situations
 - a. Nothing is ever going to go 100% the way you expect it to
 - b. What's important is to take a deep breath, take a step back, and work with what you got
 - c. If you are angry, don't lash out on your teammates - walk away and address them when you are more calm
7. Find resources
 - a. Sometimes it's helpful to hear things from other people
 - b. Try to switch things up by having your mentor lead, using videos, using articles, going to the mentor round table as a group, having a captain present, etc.
 - c. It's okay to be creative and try new things
8. Reflect on practice
 - a. Feedback is an important part of growth
 - b. It's going to be hard to get teaching right on your first try
 - c. Be flexible and try new things to help your team learn
9. Have a sense of humor
 - a. It's okay to show your teammates that you are human too
 - b. Joke around and make references - it can help your team remember things too
10. Offer practical applications
 - a. This tip is going to be fairly easy to accomplish since you are teaching these skills to have them be applied
 - b. Having a hands on activities to help with learning and comprehension might make things more fun
11. Be kind to yourself
 - a. You are going to make mistakes and not everything is going to go your way
 - b. Please remember that you are a student and the goal is for you to get better at these things
 - c. As long as you come back, try again, and try to do better - then it's going to work out in the end

The most important thing is that you do your best to work with your mentors and teammates instead of against them. As long as you do that, you are going to make a great lead!

Helpful Article:

- Teaching
 - <https://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/philosophy-of-teaching/the-best-teaching-a-dvice-i-have-received/>
 - <https://www.wgu.edu/blog/8-essential-teaching-tips-someone-who-has-seen-it-all-1901.html>
 - <https://www.weareteachers.com/50-tips-and-tricks-high-school/>
- Leadership
 - <https://www.cmich.edu/blog/all-things-higher-ed/what-is-a-good-leader>
 - <https://www.businessnewsdaily.com/4991-effective-leadership-skills.html>
 - <https://www.ccl.org/articles/leading-effectively-articles/characteristics-good-leader/>

Helpful Videos:

- Teaching
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vrU6YJle6Q4>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V5OXV8JUTQg>
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dZTIJAS8_gE
- Leadership
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oDsMImfLjd4>
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R2qu_j6GAG8
 - <https://youtu.be/bpcusZxgTw4?si=OKgwF-02FXtIBd2R>
 - <https://youtu.be/3lOXf7Suy84?si=p4F9nN7UpYPbT5Pk>