Assignment 1 guidance - Critical Evaluation:

Critical Evaluation:

The Critical Evaluation is concerned with **two models of leadership**. You can choose any two valid models.

 The ones in the session would be suitable,

- ie. two of Situational, Transactional, Transformational, or two others from a text such as Northouse, eg. Servant, Follower etc.
- You should evaluate them, perhaps considering their relevance within the context of organisational activity, as distinct from their theoretical structure, ie. some models will work effectively in some situations but are of no relevance in others.

- It is also a good idea to include **actual examples**, eg. from your own workplace, or other real-world employment environments.

- Examples will demonstrate your understanding of the topic.

- Your evaluation should be *critical* through evaluation of the models in their theoretical construction, eg. do the factors included in the model represent all, or a significant proportion, of the components of organisational behaviour? Do they represent real world scenarios? What does the literature indicate about the relevance of their models in previous studies reported in journal articles for example?

- The word-count limit is **1500** words so there is not much scope for expansive arguments, just individual points as indicative of the value of the models.

- You might find value in tabulating these in order to save word-count and increase immediacy, ie. the examiners will identify the issues that you raise very clearly

The guidance below is with regard to general characteristics of the assignments.

References:

I do not recommend reading any textbook from cover-to-cover, but selecting relevant chapter/s.

10-15 references

I also recommend that you have a look at some recent journal articles.

+ - 10% of 1500

These are particularly useful since:

a) they address contemporary issues and provide examples of recent research of leadership and models and,

b) they provide somewhat more critical content than standard textbooks. An obvious example of a relevant journal, available via Primo, is Strategy and Leadership. However if you enter Leadership as a search term into Primo's list of journals then you will see a lot more.

I recommend having a look at only the most recent three or four years' issues of each journal so that you are finding out the latest research.

Then you should use the literature to produce the critical evaluation which requires perspectives on the models that might differ, or be similar with an indication as to the extent to which each model is applicable. Also, use examples from your own experience, although cite them in the third person, not first person, ie. don't use **"I", "My", "Our"** etc.

Reflective statement is report . what do think about it

- **The Critical Evaluation**:
  - is an essay and so it is important that you validate your statements through support from literature references.
  - There is no fixed number, but for **1500 words of text**, it is likely that around **10-15 references** will be needed to justify your statements. However more would be needed if you prefer a theoretical discussion in place of a practical one.

- *Evaluation criteria*: the criteria are in the module handbook. The most recent version in on Blackboard.
- *Word count*: **1500 words f**or each assignment.

On successful completion of this task should be able to:
1. critically evaluate the range of academic approaches to leadership
2. critically evaluate the importance of vision, values and responsible leadership to the strategic and operation management of research programmes and projects
3. understand and evaluate the challenges of leadership in complex, boundary-spanning contexts such as found in inter- and multi-disciplinary research programmes involving a range of stakeholders
4. critically self-reflect on personal leadership attributes and style, and appreciate areas of potential future personal leadership development