ESD.801 Leadership Development
Assignment 4: Personal Leadership Plan

The first two learning objectives in the course focused on *assessment*, *analysis* and *reflection*. You discussed your individual actions and the actions of others in groups, and how these affected your success at various tasks. You also considered how tendencies in your actions over time led to patterns of behavior, including leadership.

We then introduced the concepts of *values*, *vision* and *mission*— and (long-term) Strategy. You were invited to begin thinking about your personal values, vision and mission, and these may have formed a context for your Assignment 3: Elevator Speech.

Personal Leadership Plan

The final course learning objective is to **synthesize a personal blueprint or leadership plan for action**.

Use this opportunity to orient yourself to make best use of your time at MIT and beyond. Consider what forms of leadership you will need to exercise in the future, and how you can practise and prepare. This may also include:

- Identifying non-technical skills or abilities that you need to acquire, and means to do so.

- Naming key contacts (allies, mentors, advisers, teammates, supporters) you will need to find or recruit to pursue your mission.

- Addressing how you will prioritize or choose between activities and demands on your time, according to your stated goals.

- Checkpoints, metrics, deadlines or processes of self-evaluation to ensure you make progress on the above items.

Personal Leadership Plan (continued)

To synthesize your plan, you may want to use or consider the following:

- Your own work for previous assignments.
- New concepts encountered or experiences in your first few months of TPP, including within this course.
- Other life experiences which you haven't yet revisited in the course.
  - Practices of one-on-one and group listening or conversation that allow you to share your thoughts and solicit valuable feedback from others.[1]
- Quotations or references from literature, art, or other sources that mirror your own thoughts.

Your plan should demonstrate depth of thought, and show that you have translated that deep self-examination guidelines, which are practical and useful in your daily decisions.

Submission

Upload a PDF document to Course site of no less than 3 and no more than 5 single-spaced letter pages (excluding graphics and illustrations). Use a clearly-structured format to organize and detail the elements of your Personal Leadership Plan, **including citing all references.** If your response takes an unconventional format, please e-mail Dava before submitting to obtain approval for your alternate plan.

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[1]Adding time to your final Discussion Group meeting, or adding an extra meeting, could create a venue for group feedback. Instructor office hours are another option.

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