

**TECHNICAL LEADERSHIP, PROFESSIONALISM,
AND DECISION MAKING**
ChBE 8801
Fall 2026

- Lecture:** T and/or Th 5:00 – 5:50 PM
Clough 325 / EST L1125
- Text:** *Leadership by Engineers and Scientists*, D. W. Hess (REQUIRED)
Wiley/AIChE, 2018
- Instructor:** Prof. Christopher W. Jones
Room 1378 EST
404-385-1683 (x5-1683)
cjones@chbe.gatech.edu
- Course Originator &
Supplementary Instructor:** Prof. Dennis W. Hess
Room L1232 EST
dennis.hess@chbe.gatech.edu
- Office Hours:** By Appointment
- Course Grade:**
- | | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Homework (5) | 25% |
| Class Participation | 25% |
| Attendance | 40% |
| Final Assignment | 10% |
- Minimal Grade Cut-Offs:** 90% A; 85% B; 80% C; 75% D; 70% and below, F
Instructor can lower these values but will not elevate.

**NOTE: The slides posted on Canvas are for student personal use only
and should not be posted to any public forum.**

- Course Objectives:** Develop approaches to leadership, people management
Develop emotional intelligence
Evaluate scenarios commonly encountered in technical positions
Develop approaches to team building
Develop approaches to hold effective meetings
Learn to manage change
Develop approaches for conflict resolution
Develop/practice communication skills

Health and Well-Being: GT, ChBE and I are committed to the health and well-being of our community of students, staff, and faculty. When you feel overly stressed and that your life is out of balance or control, we encourage you to seek assistance. In addition to speaking with your instructor, there are several additional resources available, including the CARE Center (Room 102B, Smithgall Student Services Building; 404-894-3498), the Counseling Center (404-894-2575), and the GT Campus Police (404-894-2500).

If you feel ill and do not wish to attend class in person, please tell me **>1 hour before class** and I will arrange to record the class and broadcast virtually via Zoom. In the absence of such a request, classes will be primarily given live, and in-person. This class strongly benefits from in-class participation and discussion.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services (404-894-2563) as soon as possible to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Please note that we support the guidelines on academic integrity offered by the Georgia Tech Honor Advisory Council; two of the guidelines are shown below.

Plagiarizing is defined by Webster's as "to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own, or use (another's production) without crediting the source." If caught plagiarizing, you will be dealt with according to the GT Academic Honor Code.

Cheating using another person's assignment or quiz is unethical and unacceptable. Cheating by using anyone else's work is a direct violation of the GT Academic Honor Code and will be dealt with accordingly.

For any questions involving these or any other Academic Honor Code issues, please consult me, your teaching assistant, or <https://policylibrary.gatech.edu/student-life/academic-honor-code>

Use of AI Tools

AI tools are useful and it is important that you know what they can do, and what the tools do poorly. **However, for this course, you may not turn in work generated by AI tools for the assignments.** You may complete an assignment on your own and subsequently ask AI to complete the assignment, then compare the two products to see how effective the tool is and whether there were differing points of emphasis.

**ChBE 8801, Fall 2026: Technical Leadership, Professionalism and
Decision Making – A Rough Outline**

<u>Week</u>	<u>Reading(s)</u> – from Hess	<u>Topics</u>
8/24 8/31	Preface, Part I Chapters 1 & 2	Introduction; Leadership Definitions;
9/7	Chapter 2	Management/Leader Traits; Values
9/14	Chapter 2	Self-Awareness
9/21	Chapter 3,5	Emotional Intelligence
9/28	Chapter 5,6	Authentic Leadership
10/5 10/12	Chapter 7,9	Team Building/Teamwork
10/19 10/26	Chapter 3,6	Ethics, Risk-Taking, Innovation
11/2	Chapter 8 Chapter 4	Vision/Mission Time & Stress Management
11/9 11/16	Chapter 9,12	Multi-Cultural Leadership
11/23	Chapter 10	Meetings & Mentors
11/30	Chapter 11,13	Conflict Management/Resolution