

Center for Business, Workforce & Community Learning

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Wildland Fire Training Pre-Course Work

L-280, Followership to Leadership, 2008

The pre-course work is based on a reading assignment that encourages you to examine how well prepared you are to lead others. The reading assignment is followed by a few questions that ask you to reflect on the reading in terms of your own situation. The intent of this reading assignment is two-fold. First, by reading this book as pre-course work you are afforded some time to think about the topic of leadership prior to attending the course. Second, reading in order to foster continuous learning is a key strategy for individuals who desire to improve their leadership skills throughout their career, no matter what type of business or endeavor they pursue.

Option A:

Part 1

Read the assigned book *Leadership Secrets of Attila the Hun* by Wess Roberts, Warner Books, Inc., 1985. This book is less than 100 pages and is an enjoyable and quick read.

Part 2

Write up brief responses to the following three questions regarding the reading assignment. The entire assignment should not require more than one or two pages.

- **Question #1** After reading Chapter 1, identify which of Attila's 17 essential qualities are your strongest three and which are your weakest three. Briefly explain why.
- **Question #2** After reading Chapter 2, briefly explain why you want to be a leader of firefighters.
- Question #3 Identify which chapter in the book (other than Chapters 1 and 2) you found to be most valuable to you as a future leader of firefighters and briefly explain why.

Bring your completed written responses with you to class.

Option B:

As an alternative to the current pre-course work (*Leadership Secrets of Attila the Hun* by Wess Roberts, Warner Books, Inc., 1985), the Leadership Committee approved the following:

Have students read <u>Leading in the Wildland Fire Service</u>, PMS 494-2, as the pre-course work prior to attending the course. Instructor should introduce and discuss the <u>Professional</u> <u>Reading Program</u> during the course. At the completion of the course have students complete the <u>WFLDP Self Development Plan</u>. This will give students the post-course assignment of choosing books from the Professional Reading Program library.

Bring your fireline gear with you to class (full Personal Protective Equipment, web gear, and boots).