

Political Psychology- Leaders and Followers Training Course

Professional Development Training Course Outline

Category	Political Science and International Relations	Duration	5 Days
Base Fee	\$1,500 USD	Delivery Mode	Online / On-site Hybrid

Course Introduction

Political Psychology- Leaders and Followers Training Course delves into the intricate and dynamic field of political psychology, an **interdisciplinary domain** that explores the psychological underpinnings of political behavior. It's designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of how cognitive, emotional, and social factors shape political attitudes, influence leadership styles, and drive mass movements. By bridging the gap between political science and psychology, this training empowers participants to critically analyze the motivations of political elites and the collective behavior of followers. The program is crucial for navigating today's complex political landscape, offering insights into **strategic communication**, **decision-making processes**, and the **dynamics of power**.

The curriculum is built on a foundation of cutting-edge research and real-world case studies, focusing on the powerful psychological mechanisms that define the **leader-follower dynamic**. Participants will explore topics from **authoritarianism** and **propaganda** to **emotional intelligence** in politics and **groupthink**. The training is structured to foster a deep, practical understanding of how leaders exert influence and how followers respond, providing the skills to predict and understand political trends. It's an essential program for anyone seeking to master the psychological tools needed for **political analysis**, **leadership development**, and **strategic influence** in a globally interconnected world.

Programme Curriculum

Political Psychology- Leaders and Followers Training Course

Introduction

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Course Duration

5 days

Course Objectives

1. **Analyze Political Behavior:** Critically assess how psychological principles like **cognition**, **emotion**, and **social identity** influence political attitudes and voting patterns.
2. **Evaluate Leadership Styles:** Deconstruct different leadership archetypes from **charismatic** to **transactional** and their psychological impact on followers.
3. **Understand Followership Dynamics:** Explore the motivations and psychological profiles of followers, including their susceptibility to **propaganda** and **collective action**.
4. **Master Strategic Communication:** Learn how political messaging and **persuasion** are crafted to appeal to specific psychological traits and biases.
5. **Examine Political Extremism:** Investigate the psychological roots of political polarization and the rise of **populism** and **authoritarianism**.
6. **Apply Cognitive Biases:** Identify and analyze the role of **cognitive heuristics** and biases in political decision-making and public opinion formation.
7. **Explore Intergroup Relations:** Understand the psychology of **group conflict** and cooperation, and its application to international relations and domestic politics.
8. **Develop Emotional Intelligence:** Enhance skills in **political emotional intelligence** for effective leadership and negotiation.
9. **Analyze Political Narrative:** Deconstruct the psychological power of **narrative** and **storytelling** in shaping political realities and mobilizing support.
10. **Assess Crisis Leadership:** Evaluate the psychological demands of leadership during crises and how public perception is managed.
11. **Understand Political Socialization:** Grasp how political attitudes are formed from childhood and throughout life through **socialization** and media exposure.
12. **Study Political Propaganda:** Learn to identify and counter psychological tactics used in **misinformation** and **disinformation** campaigns.
13. **Conduct Behavioral Analysis:** Apply **behavioral science** methodologies to conduct effective political analysis and forecasting.

Target Audience

- Political Strategists & Consultants
- Aspiring Political Leaders & Public Officials
- Journalists & Political Commentators
- NGO & Non-Profit Professionals
- Public Relations & Communications Specialists
- Academics & Researchers in Social Sciences
- Security & Intelligence Analysts
- Advocacy & Campaign Managers

Module 1: The Foundations of Political Psychology

- **Psychological theories** shaping political behavior.
- **The leader-follower dynamic:** a historical perspective.
- **Cognitive and emotional processes** in political judgment.
- **Case Study:** The rise of populism in the 21st century.
- **Training Methodology:** Interactive lectures, group discussions, and concept mapping.

Module 2: Leadership: The Psychology of Power & Influence

- **Archetypes of political leaders:** From charismatic to totalitarian.
- **Personality traits and political success.**
- **The psychology of crisis leadership.**
- **Case Study:** Winston Churchill's wartime leadership and his ability to inspire public morale.
- **Training Methodology:** Socratic seminars, role-playing, and leadership simulations.

Module 3: Followership: The Psychology of the Crowd

- **Why people follow:** The needs for security, identity, and belonging.
- **The psychological appeal of political movements.**
- **Voter behavior and decision-making:** The influence of heuristics and emotion.
- **Case Study:** Analyzing voter loyalty in a modern democratic election.
- **Training Methodology:** Data analysis workshops, behavioral experiments, and follower-centric simulations.

Module 4: Persuasion & Propaganda: Shaping Public Opinion

- **Theories of persuasion:** Cialdini's principles and their political application.
- **Propaganda techniques:** Deconstruction and analysis.
- **The role of media and technology** in influencing perception.
- **Case Study:** The psychological tactics used in Cold War propaganda.
- **Training Methodology:** Media literacy workshops, content analysis, and ethical debates.

Module 5: Political Polarization & Intergroup Conflict

- **Social Identity Theory** and its role in political divides.
- **The psychology of "us vs. them":** Stereotypes and prejudice.
- **Conflict resolution** and reconciliation from a psychological perspective.
- **Case Study:** The psychological drivers of political polarization in modern societies.
- **Training Methodology:** Conflict resolution role-plays, intergroup communication exercises.

Module 6: Political Narratives & Strategic Communication

- **The power of storytelling:** Building political myths and national identity.
- **Rhetoric and emotional appeals** in political speeches.
- **Crafting effective campaign messages** based on psychological insights.
- **Case Study:** Analyzing the narrative strategy of a historical political movement.
- **Training Methodology:** Speechwriting workshops, narrative deconstruction, and pitch sessions.

Module 7: The Psychology of Political Institutions

- **Groupthink** and decision-making in political bodies.
- **Bureaucratic behavior** and the psychology of power structures.
- **Ethical decision-making** in political life.
- **Case Study:** A psychological analysis of the Bay of Pigs invasion to understand groupthink.
- **Training Methodology:** Institutional simulations, ethical dilemmas discussions, and case-based learning.

Module 8: Political Forecasting & Behavioral Analysis

- **Predicting political behavior** using psychological models.
- **The psychology of negotiation and diplomacy.**
- **Ethical considerations** in the application of political psychology.
- **Case Study:** Using behavioral science to forecast the outcome of a referendum.
- **Training Methodology:** Predictive analytics exercises, live polling simulations, and peer review of forecasts.

Training Methodology

- **Interactive Lectures:** Foundational concepts delivered through engaging presentations and real-time Q&A.
- **Case-Based Learning:** Deep dives into historical and contemporary political events to apply psychological frameworks.
- **Simulations & Role-Playing:** Hands-on exercises where participants assume roles of leaders, followers, or analysts to test theories.
- **Workshops & Group Projects:** Collaborative activities to develop practical skills in analysis and strategy.
- **Socratic Seminars:** Facilitated discussions to challenge assumptions and foster critical thinking.
- **Media Analysis:** Deconstruction of political messages, speeches, and campaigns.
- **Guest Speaker Sessions:** Insights from seasoned political psychologists, strategists, and public figures.
- **Action Learning:** Participants apply learned concepts to a real-world political issue of their choosing.

Register as a group from 3 participants for a Discount

Send us an email: info@fineskilltrainingcenter.org or call +254769199797

Certification

Upon successful completion of this training, participants will be issued with a globally- recognized certificate.

Tailor-Made Course

We also offer tailor-made courses based on your needs.

Key Notes

- a. The participant must be conversant with English.
- b. Upon completion of training the participant will be issued with an Authorized Training Certificate
- c. Course duration is flexible and the contents can be modified to fit any number of days.
- d. The course fee includes facilitation training materials, 2 coffee breaks, buffet lunch and A Certificate upon successful completion of Training.
- e. One-year post-training support Consultation and Coaching provided after the course.
- f. Payment should be done at least a week before commence of the training, to Fineskill Training Center account, as indicated in the invoice so as to enable us prepare better for you.

Upcoming Scheduled Sessions

Start Date	End Date	Location	Price
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Online	\$1,000
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$1,500
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0
21 Sep 2026	25 Sep 2026	Physical	\$0

Ready to enroll or request a customized program? Book online or contact us:

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