Overview: The first four sessions of the module will survey theories of good and bad leadership and the ethical frameworks for making such judgments. Specific emphasis is on the particular context of world politics and foreign policy as a setting for ethics and leadership. The next six sessions will then analyze a series of case studies regarding selected American presidents in the 20th century and the foreign policy decisions they made. There are no pre-requisites.

Time: Tuesday and Thursday 10:15-11:30

Room: L130

Office Hours: Tuesday 2:00 PM -4:00 PM (phone or e mail Jeanne Marasca to schedule appointment.
E mail address: joseph_nye@hks.harvard.edu

Reading: Students are required to complete an average of 100-120 pages of readings a week; study questions will be provided to help guide your reading. Additionally, the following books are available for purchase at the Harvard COOP:

- J. S. Nye, Presidential Leadership and the Creation of the American Era (2013)

Specific Requirements and Grading: Each student will be required to write a final exam. More details will be provided in class. Course grades will also be affected by class participation, including a group exercise. Students are expected to have done the reading before class, and there will be occasional cold calling.
Course Outline:

Tuesday, January 26 – Transformational and Transactional Leadership (79 pages)

Required:
- J. S. Nye, *Presidential Leadership and the Creation of the American Era*, pp 7-14, 23-62

Thursday, January 28 -- Leadership and Ethics (37 pages)

Required:
- J.S. Nye, *Presidential Leadership*… pp.75-91

Tuesday, February 2 -- Ethics and International Relations (65 pages)

Required:
- J. S. Nye. *Presidential Leadership*… pp.91-132
- Owen Harries, “Power and Morals” *Prospect* April 2005, pp 26-31

Thursday, February 4 -- Robert McNamara: Cuba and Vietnam (Video plus 42 pages)

Required
- View movie: “The Fog of War” – *Location/Time TBA*
Tuesday, February 9 -- John F. Kennedy (64 pages)

Required:
- Fred Greenstein, *The Presidential Difference*, pp 59-74
- Alan Brinkley, *John F. Kennedy*, pp 124-158

Thursday, February 11 – No Class

Tuesday, February 16 -- Lyndon B. Johnson (71 pages)

Required:
- Fred Greenstein, *The Presidential Difference*, pp 75-91
- Robert Caro, *The Path to Power*, xvi-xxi
- Robert Caro, *Passage of Power*, pp 601-604

Thursday, February 18 – No Class

Tuesday, February 23 -- Richard M. Nixon -- Richard M. Nixon (53 pages)

Required:
- Peter Rodman, *Nixon’s Opening to China*, in David Abshire, ed., pp. 195-7

Thursday, February 25 -- James Earl Carter (77 pages)

Required:
- Hendrick Herzberg,” Jimmy Carter,” in Robert A Wilson, ed., *Character above All: 10 presidents from FDR to George Bush*, pp. 172-201
Tuesday, March 1 -- William J. Clinton  (73 pages)

Required:
- Fred Greenstein, The Presidential Difference, pp. 173-88
- John Harris, The Survivor, pp. 120-141, 191-201, 400-424.

Thursday, March 3 -- George W. Bush (68 pages)

- Fred Greenstein, The Presidential Difference, pp 191-210
- George W. Bush, Decision Points, pp 355-7, 367-78

Tuesday, March 8 -- Final