Self-Efficacy: The Power of Belief in Leadership and Growth

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LDR-807 Leader Development: Transforming Self-Concept

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April 6, 2025

**Assignment #1 – Core Essential Elements**

1. Select One (1) Core Essential Element from the Syllabus Outline (self-efficacy, self-concept, leader development, or developmental stage theory):

a. Create a 350-word original discussion paper (with cited sources) during the week of the residency. Be prepared to discuss and engage with other students during the live sessions. Post this document in DIAL.

b. Professor will check for quality of content and word-count requirements. Grade assigned will be Credit or No Credit (CR/NC).

c. Make sure that your paper is double-spaced, Calibri font, size 11. Make sure to include References at the end with bibliographical resources in proper alphabetical APA 7 formatting.

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# Self-Efficacy: The Power of Belief in Leadership and Growth

# Self-efficacy, the belief in one’s ability to succeed, has long been a beacon for growth and perseverance. Introduced by Bandura (1977), it is far more than a psychological concept; it’s the spark that ignites determination and fuels the pursuit of goals, no matter how daunting. Bandura’s seminal work illustrates how self-efficacy shapes behavior, proving itself pivotal in the face of challenges. His insights form the foundation upon which many modern applications of self-efficacy are built.

# In academics, self-efficacy is a defining trait of success. Cheng et al. (2019) revealed its role in fostering resilience, while Neroni et al. (2022) connected self-efficacy to grit, showing how confidence breeds persistence. Similarly, Alhadabi and Karpinski (2020) found that students with higher self-efficacy perform better, crafting achievement orientation goals that propel them forward. Together, these studies demonstrate how the power of belief can transform potential into reality.

# Leadership is another realm where self-efficacy shines. Dalakoura (2010) explored its influence in leader development frameworks, emphasizing the transformational cycle of leadership maturation. Day et al. (2014) highlighted self-efficacy’s role in fostering relational trust and inspiring innovative behavior, a notion echoed by Tao et al. (2025) in their study on creative self-efficacy. Lapierre et al. (2012) further extended its scope, illustrating how self-efficacy enhances mentoring and strengthens task performance within relational leadership models.

# In high-pressure environments, self-efficacy drives risk management and resilience. Koval et al. (2024) uncovered its impact on decision-making during competitive activities, while Shahrbabaki et al. (2024) emphasized its protective role against COVID-19 anxiety in adolescents. Zali et al. (2024) took the conversation further, linking self-efficacy to entrepreneurial behavior, proving that belief can birth innovation.

# As a Christian schoolteacher and church leader, these insights honestly feel like a call to action. Promoting self-efficacy both in the classroom and the congregation, reflects the biblical principle of stewardship (Matthew 25:14–30). Encouraging others to believe in their God-given abilities fosters resilience, innovation, and leadership, enabling individuals to grow into world-changers, capable of transforming families, communities, and beyond. Self-efficacy isn’t just a concept; it is a catalyst for impact.

# References

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