MERCURY

Project Leadership Skills Training Course

16 – 20 November 2026
Madrid (Spain)



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Introduction

The early development of project management focused heavily on techniques such as planning and controlling large, multi-functional, multi-organizational projects. While these activities remain central to professional project management, the leadership role of the project professional has been increasingly recognized as a key determinant in delivering success.

This project leadership and management skills program focuses on the project leadership skills needed in project situations where tight budgets and deadlines demand high levels of performance from a frequently changing team and where the working environment presents fresh challenges daily.

Understanding Project Leadership

Project leadership constitutes a pivotal element of project management leadership training. The project leadership skill encapsulates the ability to guide a team towards completing a project. This project leadership and management skills course emphasizes what project leadership entails, exploring its nuances and how it ties into the larger leadership framework in project management.

Upon completing this project leadership course, participants will receive a project leadership certificate, recognizing the advanced skills they have acquired. This formal acknowledgment proves their expertise in leadership and project management. The project leadership and management skills course positions them as qualified project leaders within their organizations and industries.

Targeted Groups

- Project managers.
- Managers, supervisors, and team leaders.
- Project technical.
- Workstream leaders.
- This project leadership and management skills course is for individuals interested in project management and leadership skills to enhance their profile.

Course Objectives

At the end of this project leadership and management skills course, the participants will be able to:

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- Understand the significance of leadership skills to project professionals and the impact of these skills on project performance.
- Review the key skills needed to be an effective, multi-dimensional project leader and learn how to develop, adapt, and apply them in practice.
- Learn how to identify the preferred leadership style for a project's context and organizational culture and how to develop personal style versatility.
- Understand the role of the project leader in building an effective team and the skills required to promote and sustain team performance.
- Gain a better understanding of the interpersonal skills needed to motivate individual team members and harness the team's full potential.

Targeted Competencies

At the end of this project leadership and management skills course, the target competencies will be able to improve ability the following:

- Project management.
- Leadership skills.
- Situation analysis.
- Problem-solving.
- Understanding motivational needs.
- Customer orientation.
- Leading projects.
- Controlling projects.

Course Content

Unit 1: Project Management and Leadership

- What is a leader? How much can leadership be learned?
- The project environment and the impact of project leadership skills.
- The characteristics of high-performance project teams and their leaders.
- Some useful models and theories of project leadership are explored.
- Types of leadership choosing how to use leadership power.
- Evaluating personal leadership style and how to develop style flexibility.

Unit 2: Essential Skills For Project Leaders

- 3 key dimensions of project leadership: inwards, outwards, and upwards.
- Developing a project vision: strategic thinking skills.
- The vital role of communication skills and how to develop them.
- Understanding other's emotional intelligence skills.
- Being a visible leader requires behavioral and influencing skills.
- Building effective relationships is the importance of trust and respect.

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Unit 3: Leading The Project Team

- The role of leadership in developing team performance.
- Understand individuals in the team and recognize team role preferences.
- Managing conflict and promoting positive team dynamics.
- Setting standards, maintaining discipline, and rewarding performance.
- Harnessing team potential: building motivation within the team.
- In promoting team learning, the team leader is a coach/mentor.

Unit 4: Leading Across Organizational Boundaries, Internal and External

- Gaining the support of other leaders and developing effective influencing skills.
- Getting empowerment from key stakeholders.
- Knowing when and how to take the initiative and lead.
- Building and maintaining rapport with key partners.
- Becoming an effective team player in leadership teams.
- Becoming a business leader and leading other leaders.

Unit 5: Leading More Senior Stakeholders

- The challenges and skills of leading and managing upwards.
- Communicating with senior stakeholders, building credibility.
- Essential negotiation skills: knowing when and how to negotiate.
- The role of networking skills building and sustaining rapport.
- Handling disagreements between senior stakeholders is the art of diplomacy.
- Handling personality and style conflicts with more senior people.