

# Agile Leadership: Activating Curiosity in Yourself and Others



Explore · Discover · Encourage · Experiment · Engage · Open · Activate · Create

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Did you know agile executives deliver 25% higher profit margins than their non-agile peers? Curiosity is not only about having an attitude of exploration and experimentation. It is also about being able to manage the anxiety, doubt, and discomfort when exploring new ideas and navigating through uncertainty and complexity. This is the cornerstone of agile leadership. Join us to understand why curiosity matters for agile leadership, including healthy interpersonal dynamics and engagement, and innovative solutions.

This course offers you the unique opportunity to access evidenced-based frameworks and practices to consciously develop this essential attribute that you can no longer overlook and must instead understand, active, and harness. Highly interactive using polling, breakout discussions, and experiential exercises, this course will help you explore the what and how of activating curiosity as integral component of your leadership imperative.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS

In this interactive course, you will learn:

- What curiosity is and why it is the must-have meta-skill for agility in our accelerating digital and changing world
- Why values matter and the connection between your core values and your curiosity-led behaviors
- Curiosity-led frameworks that are practical and evidence-based and will enable you to activate and model the elemental components of agile leadership
- The role of anxiety in curiosity-led behaviors and how to build stress tolerance to remain agile
- How to identify and diffuse common curiosity blockers in yourself and in your team members to enable continuous innovation

**DATE:** Tuesday, May 18 & Friday, May 21, 2021

**TIME REQUIREMENT:** 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon PST  
Two 3-hour sessions

**LOCATION:** ONLINE LIVE

**PROGRAM COST:** \$1,350

**WEB PAGE:** [www.marshall.usc.edu/activatingcuriosity](http://www.marshall.usc.edu/activatingcuriosity)

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Anyone who has responsibility for or aspires to align, motivate, and organize people and teams to get unstuck and transform the seemingly impossible into the possible. This program is ideal for seasoned individual contributors and those who are either leading a team or a business unit.

## FACULTY

Alison Horstmeyer, PhD, MS, MBA, Adjunct Faculty,  
USC Marshall School of Business

Always at the forefront of emergent technology, Dr. Alison Horstmeyer built next generation businesses for multi-billion entities such as Walmart, Dolby Laboratories, NBC Universal, Liberty Media, and Omnicom. Alison then transitioned from Fortune 500 executive to executive coach, talent development practitioner, and humanistic researcher.

Her research focuses on curiosity and associated mental, emotional, and motivational attributes of agile leadership. Alison is one of the emerging humanistic researchers pioneering research and application of workplace curiosity. Her work is published in various peer-reviewed journals and business publications including Forbes, CEOWORLD Magazine, and Chief Learning Officer.

## **FACULTY BIO CONT...**

Alison serves as the Director of Client Development and adjunct faculty for USC Marshall Executive Education and as the inaugural Research Fellow appointed to the USC Annenberg Center for Third Space Thinking in which she contributes empirical rigor and thought leadership to soft skills development. Alison regularly works with clients on leadership development, team performance and cohesion, and agile experimentation. She believes curiosity is innate in each one of us, we just tend to stifle it away.

## **FACULTY ARTICLES**

Why we must deliberately embed curiosity instead of conformity, Alison Horstmeyer, PhD  
Chief Learning Officer, January 31, 2021

<https://www.chieflearningofficer.com/2021/01/31/why-we-must-deliberately-embed-curiosity-instead-of-conformity/>

Curiosity in the Workplace, Alison Horstmeyer, PhD

Choose to be Curios Podcast, January 20, 2021

<https://lynnborton.com/2021/01/20/curiosity-in-the-workplace-with-alison-horstmeyer-ph-d/>

Curiosity: A Key to Compassionate Leadership, Laurel Donnellan, Contributor, and Alison Horstmeyer, PhD

Forbes, July 8, 2020

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/laureldonnellan/2020/07/08/curiosity-a-key-to-compassionate-leadership/?sh=35d46846548b>

Leadership with Dr Alison Horstmeyer

HR Partners, September 12, 2020

[https://www.hrpartners.com.au/career-advice/archives/leadership-with-dr-alison-horstmeyer\\_909/](https://www.hrpartners.com.au/career-advice/archives/leadership-with-dr-alison-horstmeyer_909/)



The Generative Role of Curiosity in Soft Skills Development for Contemporary VUCA Environments, Alison Horstmeyer  
Journal of Organizational Change Management, April 28, 2020

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/JOCM-08-2019-0250/full/html>