

## **The Use of the Alpha Verses Beta Simulation for Teaching Diversity in a Leadership Class**

Micol R. C. Maughan Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Business Administration and Leadership Studies

**Address:** Micol R. C. Maughan, Ph.D.  
Dept. of Business Administration  
Fort Hays State University  
600 Park Street  
Hays, KS 67601

**E-mail address:**mmaughan@fhsu.edu

**Phone Number:** (785) 628-4102

**Primary contact person:** Micol Maughan

**Goals of the presentation:** To demonstrate how a simulation using new cultural roles can be used to teach diversity in a leadership class.

**Outline:** A demonstration of the use of the Alpha verses Beta simulation would be conducted. Participants would be walked through an abbreviated version of the simulation. Each participate will take on a new role of either an Alpha or a Beta. They are not aware of the other groups norms or customs. They are put into a working situation and must produce outcomes. After they have worked for a period of time and experienced each other's roles they then have an opportunity to process the experience. They begin by asking each other questions that came up from their role playing experience.

**Time requirements:** 45 minutes

**Affiliated costs:** none