

Cultivating the Strategic Mind: Growing from Leader to Visionary, Creator & Architect of Strategy

Being a *great leader of people* is not enough anymore – in today's hypercompetitive world it's a bare minimum and the effective leadership of people is inadequate. To survive and thrive, organizations need great managers, great employees...and great leaders who excel as *architects of strategy*. Why does strategy matter so much? Because strategy is the blueprint around which everything revolves. Strategy is the sun at the center of an organization's solar system. In profound and fun ways, *Cultivating the Strategic Mind* describes how *great leaders* can and do transform themselves into *exemplary strategists* who lead not only people, but ideas as well. *Cultivating the Strategic Mind* is the crystallization of fifteen years of work with strategic leaders in more than 100 organizations across the country and around the globe.

Course Outline

I. Organizational Research: Leveraging What is Known

- A. Definition of Terms: Strategic & Systemic Thought
- B. Review of Key Findings from the Literature
- C. Review of Key Findings from the Field: Lessons from Politics, The Military, Business, and Sports

II. Twisting the Kaleidoscope: A Few Perspectives on Strategies and Systems

- A. Biology: Limbic, Neo-Cortex, and Brain Stem Relevance
- B. Physics: Thermodynamics (Conservation & Entropy), Gravity, Chaos Theory
- C. Sociology: Culture, East/West Variances
- D. Psychology: Mental Blindspots, Target Fixation, and The Third Eye
- E. Mathematics: Game Theory & Fractal Theory
- F. Astronomy: Ptolemy, Copernicus, Galileo, Johannes Kepler, and Isaac Newton
- G. Religion: Faith, Hope, Love and the Importance of Immeasurability

III. The Intellectual Element: Core Model Introduction

- A. The Mind Map: An Anatomy of Strategies & Systems
- B. The Triad

IV. The Strategic Leader

- A. The One I Feed
- B. The Philosopher-King
- C. The Importance of Solitude
- D. The Solomon Effect

- E. Conscious Competency
- F. Visualization
- G. Transcending Politics
- H. Principles of Hapkido
- I. Outcomes vs. Incomes
- J. Microscoping & Telescoping: Working In the Organization, On the Organization, and Beyond the Organization
- K. From Reconnaissance toward Renaissance
- L. The Worry Wheel: An Outside-In Approach
- M. Self-Management and Burnout

V. The Toolbox

- A. Honoring the Fundamentals: VMV & Teleological Pursuits
- B. The Vision into Action Model
- C. Bluetooth Strategies
- D. Unlearning & Learning: Mental Habituation and Ruts
- E. Luddism
- F. Behind the Curtain of Oz
- G. Four Types of Thinking
- H. MindTaffy: Methods for Transcending the Box
- I. What TRIZ and Other Approaches Can Teach Us
- J. Three Types of Winning: The Competitive Typology
- K. The Omniscience Octagon

VI. Applications, Implementation, and Execution at Work: From Thought to Action

- A. Summary: From Complexity to Simplicity & Difficulty to Ease
- B. Cases and Personal Applications

BLAKE LEATH.com

STRATEGY | CULTURE | LEADERSHIP | CHANGE