

The University of Oklahoma

College of Continuing Education

Advanced Programs – Course Syllabus

Course Title:

Current Problems in Human Relations

Course Number:

HR 5013-110

Course Description:

Students will study current problems pertaining to social services practitioners, including racism, sexism, poverty, and human rights. Also, strategies for change and the ethics of particular interventions will be discussed.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: January 6-8 & 13-15, 2017

Location: OCCE, Norman, Oklahoma. Classes are held at the Thurman White Forum Building of OCCE, 1704 Asp Avenue.

Hours: Friday 5:30-9:30 p.m.; Saturday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sunday 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: December 8, 2016

Site Director:

Email: apnorman@ou.edu. Phone: 405-325-3333.

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: George Henderson, Ph.D.

Mailing Address: University of Oklahoma
601 Elm Avenue, Room 728
Norman, OK 73072

Telephone Number: (405) 325-2259

Fax Number: (405) 325-4402

Email Address: clsdean@ou.edu

Professor availability: The professor will be available via email to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:

Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK, and can be ordered online, by phone, by email, or by fax. Ordering online at <http://www.bkstr.com/oklahomastore/home> is strongly recommended – students can track the status of their order within 48 hours. If an order has not been shipped within three days, students can contact the Follett textbook manager by phone (405) 325-3511, (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or email 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com. Phone orders (ask for the textbook manager and identify yourself as an Advanced Programs student) can be placed 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; 10 a.m. to 4p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). Fax orders can be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Text prices are available online.

1. Finsterbusch, K. (2016). *Taking sides: Clashing views on social issues* (19th ed.). Boston: McGraw Hill. ISBN 9781259161124.
2. Henderson, G. & Long, W. (2016). *Introduction to human relations studies: Academic foundations and selected social justice issues*. Springfield, IL: C.C. Thomas. ISBN 9780398091217.

Note: The Follett/AP Bookstore is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through the Follett/AP Bookstore.

Course Objectives:

American society is undergoing rapid and turbulent changes. Often, changing stressful conditions set the stage for additional human relations problems. The purpose of this course is to expose each of us to some of various problems and their possible solutions. Special attention will be given to social inequality (class and race), individual and interpersonal alienation (the individual, family, violence, and intergroup problems), and international problems (cross-cultural and multi-national). Various change strategies will be examined and critiqued. The end goal is to:

- Identify the conditions that contribute to societal problems.
- Analyze specific problem areas pertaining to:
 - social inequality;
 - individual and interpersonal stress; and
 - conflicts that center on workplace issues.
- Utilize problem-solving strategies to prevent or abate the social problems.

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates

Readings:

Read the textbooks before attending the first class.

Pre-Seminar Paper:

Each student will select a social problem she or he has dealt with or read about and use it as the focus of her or his pre-seminar paper. The pre-seminar paper, which is due the first day of class, should describe the ways in which a problem was manifested and the responses to it in terms of programs, organization procedures, and individual behaviors. Use as a guide *Introduction to Human Relations Studies* to describe your topic and some of the role players in the situations(s) that you select. Each paper should discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the strategies for change that were used to deal with the problem. Try to be accurate, insightful and constructively critical. Each paper must consist of a minimum of ten typewritten pages. Compare and contrast the strategies utilized in your selected situation with those in the *Introduction to Human Relations Studies* textbook. You may, if you wish, use other textbooks that supplement or complement the Henderson and Long book. It is expected that your completed paper will be of a quality that reflects a serious and relevant graduate research project. Pay special attention to the content, organization, spelling and grammar in your paper.

Team Assignments:

Each student will be assigned to a team that will present a 30-minute oral report of their assigned readings.

Final Exam:

A final essay examination will cover the assigned textbooks, selected portions of classroom interactions, instructor lectures, team reports, and other information/data pertaining to the course.

Impromptu In-Class Assignments:

The instructor will assign to students impromptu learning-specific activities.

Post-Seminar Paper:

Based on **specific information** in the Henderson and Long book, select an ethnic or religious group, other than your own, and discuss how you would use particular information in the book to supervise, teach, or counsel an individual from that ethnic culture. This paper should be at least 15 pages long, carefully referenced, and correctly written. It is expected that your completed paper will be of a quality that reflects

a serious and relevant graduate research project. Pay special attention to the content, organization, spelling and grammar in your paper.

Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. Final grades will be based on total points earned: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), and F (59 or less).

Assignments	Due Date	Maximum Points
Pre-Seminar paper	First class session	25
Team analysis of assigned readings	During class sessions	25
Final exam and impromptu assignments	During class sessions	25
Post-seminar Paper	Two weeks after the last class session, January 29, 2017	25

Late Assignments:

Failure to meet the pre-seminar assignment due date will result in a loss of 5 points for each day the assignment is late. So, try to submit the assignment on the due date. Only with the instructor's prior approval will a student be given a grade of I (Incomplete) and allowed to submit the post-seminar paper beyond two weeks after the course ends.

Notice: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade that may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.

POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution's policy regarding "I" (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any "I" (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on "financial aid probation." If the "I" grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student's Financial Aid may be suspended making the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student's academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc...in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc...; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student's Guide to Academic Integrity at http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at <http://studentconduct.ou.edu/>

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Adjustment for Pregnancy/Childbirth-Related Issues

Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to accommodations based on temporary disability. Please see <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html>.

Title IX Resources

For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking, or intimate partner violence, the University offers a variety of resources, including advocates on-call 24/7, counseling services, mutual no-contact orders, scheduling adjustments, and disciplinary sanctions against the perpetrator. Please contact the Sexual Misconduct Office at smo@ou.edu or (405) 325-2215 (8-5), or the Sexual Assault Response Team at (405) 615 -0013 (24/7) to report an incident. To learn more about Title IX, please visit the Institutional Equity Office's website at <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo.html>

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: <http://www.goou.ou.edu/>

INSTRUCTOR VITA

George Henderson, Ph.D.

Education

Ph.D. in Educational Sociology, Wayne State University, 1965

Current Positions

- Advanced Programs Professor since 1968
- S. N. Goldman Professor Emeritus
- David Ross Boyd Professor Emeritus
- Regents' Professor Emeritus

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

- HR 5013 Current Problems in Human Relations
- HR 5013 Diversity in the Workplace

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- Racial and ethnic relations
- Diversity in the workplace
- Urban sociology
- Community policing

Representative Publications

- A human relations approach to multiculturalism in k-12 schools: Selected issues and strategies. (2013). Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas.
- Excellence in college teaching and learning: Classroom and online instruction. (2007). Co-authored with Susan Smith Nash. Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas.
- Psychosocial aspects of disability. (2004). Co-authored with Willie V. Bryan. Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas.
- Ethnicity and substance. (2002). Co-authored with Grace Ma, Springfield IL: Charles C. Thomas.
- Our souls to keep: Black/white relations in America. (1999). Lanham, MD: Intercultural Press.
- Human relations issues in management. (1996). Westport, CT: Quorum Books.
- Migrants, immigrants, and slaves: Racial and ethnic groups in America. (1995). Co-authored with Thompson Olasiji. Yarmouth, ME: University Press of America.
- Cultural diversity in the workplace: Issues and interventions. (1994). Westport, CT: Quorum Books.

Major Professional Affiliations

- American Sociological Association
- Alpha Kappa Delta (Sociology)
- Omicron Delta Kappa (National Leadership Society for College Men)
- Delta Tau Kappa (International Social Science Honor Society)
- Association of Black Sociologists