HR 5113-104: Cultural Diversity in Human Relations

Course Description:
This course focuses on all key dimensions of cultural and cross-cultural diversity and relations (including but not restricted to race, ethnicity, nationality, class, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability, and age) in various forms of organizations, with implications for problem-solving, conflict resolution, human resource development, leadership development, and organizational development.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: March 9 – 11, & 16 – 18, 2018  
Location: McCarter Hall, 1610 Asp Ave. Executive classroom, 1st floor.  
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: February 8, 2018

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

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Tamara Roberson  
Mailing Address: 470 Daniel Lee Dr.  
Choctaw, OK 73020  
Telephone Number: (405) 769-5053  
E-mail Address: ktmr7@yahoo.com  
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail 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 4 p.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.
2. Materials posted on the OU Canvas learning management system: Access Canvas at https://oklahoma.instructure.com/, enter your OU NetID and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.
Note: Follett 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 Follett.

Course Objectives:
This course has theoretical and experiential components to enhance the students’ cognitive and affective understanding of the major concepts covered in the course.

Course Outline:
- Dimensions, concepts, and issues of cultural diversity related to race and ethnicity in US society, the world, the workplace, and other types of formal and informal organizations.
- Concepts and issues related to social class and sexism.
- Issues related to ageism, religious diversity, and sexual orientation.
- Issues of physical and mental disability, weight and appearance, and concept of reasonable accommodation.
- Possible resolution of cultural diversity issues; development of cultural diversity education and training.

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:
Consistent with the tradition of a graduate seminar, the course has been designed to be highly-interactive, providing the students with plenty of opportunities for active student learning and participation, which is considered critical to the success of the course. The course will consist of open class discussions, collaborative learning exercises, team and individual presentations, lectures, PowerPoint presentations, video presentations, and relevant simulation exercises.

Readings:
Consistent with pre-class expectations, read the required textbook prior to the first class session.

Paper: Personal Understanding of Cultural Diversity
Based on the readings from the textbook and/or your personal knowledge and experience with any form of cultural diversity, write a three to four paged report explaining your personal understanding of the topic (e.g., how do you see or assess the current status of cultural diversity or relations in the US or elsewhere; why do you think cultural conflicts are common place in the US or elsewhere; and how do you think peoples may begin to alleviate or resolve some of the issues you have articulated. These essays will form the bases for initial discussion about cultural diversity and relations. Due: This assignment must be turned in to the professor at the first class session.

Literature Search:
Search in the literature base for scholarly pieces of work involving theories, concepts, or issues related to cultural diversity or relations in the US or elsewhere. Literature searches will be used for your final group presentation/final. The literature searches should deal with a different aspect of cultural diversity (such as race, religion, gender, social class, or nationality). These materials may be from refereed and non-referred journals, books, monographs, magazines, or well-circulated newspapers, training documents, and even the internet (use your discretion when using this medium).

Final: Group Presentation
You will work with your assigned group to complete your final/presentations. Your group will be given time at the end of each session to work together on this project/final. Using the results of the literature search, you are required to collaborate within your group and prepare a presentation (PowerPoint) using all of the collected, scholarly pieces. Each presentation should give a brief discussion of the points raised and then analyze the points using the concepts of cultural diversity and relations discussed in class or covered in the textbook. For example, explain why these points make or do not make sense to your group, the logic or completeness of their arguments, and the potential implications of these concepts for
understanding, managing, improving, or resolving cultural diversity issues in the workplace or globally. This exercise is calling for an analysis of the points rather than a journalist reporting of the article or book. **Due: Presentations will be given at the last class session. This exercise, in essence, serves as your final exam.**

**Participation:**

The quality of your class participation is determined by three factors: (1) your active participation in open class discussions; (2) your participation in collaborative work based on team evaluations; and (3) the quality of your class presentations.

At the end of class, there will be an opportunity for you to offer team evaluations relative to other students’ performances in collaborative activities.

**Grading:**

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. The penalty for late papers will be a 10% reduction to your overall course grade.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Percent of Course Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assignment #1: Paper- Personal Knowledge &amp;/or Experience with any form of Cultural Diversity</td>
<td>First class session.</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment #2: Group Presentation</td>
<td>(Final Exam) Last class session</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>During Class</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Notice:** Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and 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 make 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/oo.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
Tamara Roberson

Education
- 2010 Walden University, Ed. D., Specializing in Administrative Leadership for Teaching and Learning
- 1992 University of Central Oklahoma, M.Ed., School Administration
- 1986 University of Central Oklahoma, B.S., Elementary Education

Current Positions
- 2014 – Present Adjunct Professor, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK.
- 2012 – Present Principal – Pleasant Hill Elementary, Midwest City-Del City Schools, Midwest City, OK.

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses
- Multicultural Issues in Human Relations
- Cultural Diversity in Human Relations

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest
- Adult & Informal Learning
- Quantitative Research
- Civic Engagement
- Community & Organizational Change

Representative Publications and Presentations
- Roberson, Tamara S. (2010). The relationship between principal personality type and elementary school student achievement. MI: UMI
- Roberson, Tamara S. (September, 2010). Learning from the ineffective teacher. Professional Development, Midwest City – Del City Schools, Oklahoma.
- Roberson, Tamara S. (September, 2010). Lead and learn presentation to mid-del association of elementary principals: Coaching cycle: Diagnose – teach objectives, assess, gather results, adjust instruction; start over. Professional Development, Midwest City – Del City Schools, Oklahoma.
• Roberson, Tamara S. (April, 2009). Quality time analysis. Parkview Elementary Professional Development, Midwest City – Del City Schools, Oklahoma.
• Roberson, Tamara S. (February, 2009). How to help children build better language skills. Parkview Elementary Professional Development, Midwest City – Del City Schools, Oklahoma.
• Roberson, Tamara S. (December, 2008). Differentiated instruction in the classroom part 2. Parkview Elementary Professional Development, Midwest City – Del City Schools, Oklahoma.
• Roberson, Tamara S. (October, 2008). Differentiated instruction in the classroom part 1. Parkview Elementary Professional Development, Midwest City – Del City Schools, Oklahoma.
• Roberson, Tamara S. (September, 2008). Climate of high expectations for all students in the classroom. Parkview Elementary Professional Development, Midwest City – Del City Schools, Oklahoma.
• Roberson, Tamara S. (August, 2008). Implementing policies and procedures: ensuring quality time on task. Parkview Elementary Professional Development, Midwest City – Del City Schools, Oklahoma.
• Roberson, Tamara S. (September, 2007). School improvement: date driven decision making. Epperly Heights Elementary Professional Development, Midwest City – Del City Schools, Oklahoma.
• Roberson, Tamara S. (March, 2007). No child left behind: expectations of 2014 and strategies to achieve the demands. Epperly Heights Elementary Professional Development, Midwest City – Del City Schools, Oklahoma.
• Roberson, Tamara S. (December, 2006). In-service for the classroom teachers role in adhering to DHS regulations. Epperly Heights Elementary Professional Development, Midwest City – Del City Schools, Oklahoma.
• Roberson, Tamara S. (May, 2006). Using discussion and data to assign students to next year’s teachers. Epperly Heights Elementary Professional Development, Midwest City – Del City Schools, Oklahoma.
• Roberson, Tamara S. (March, 2006). Following up on benchmark data: objectives not mastered. Epperly Heights Elementary Professional Development, Midwest City – Del City Schools, Oklahoma.
• Roberson, Tamara S. (February, 2006). Follow up on benchmark data for the higher achieving students. Epperly Heights Elementary Professional Development, Midwest City – Del City Schools, Oklahoma.

Representative Honors and Awards Received
• Who’s Who Among American Young Women of America (1997).
• Midwest City – Del City Schools Service Award (May, 2006).
• Recognized by Midwest City – Del City Schools for Mastery and Understanding of the Effective School Correlates (2009-2010).
• Recognized by Midwest City – Del City Schools for the MVP Award (2009-2010).
Major Professional Affiliations

- Council Member, Governor Fallin’s Oklahoma Economic Development Council – 2011-2012
- Committee Member, Mid-Del Association of Elementary School Principal’s – 2008-2010
- Chairman, Safe & Healthy School Committee, Mid-Del Schools, 1997 – Present
- Committee Member, Title I Committee, Mid-Del Schools, 1997 – Present
- Committee Member, Professional Development Team, Mid-Del Schools, 1997 – Present
- Committee Member, Staff Development Team, Mid-Del Schools, 1997 – Present
- Committee Member, Mid-Del Discipline Committee, Mid-Del Schools, 1997 - Present
- Committee Member, Technology Team, Mid-Del Schools, 1997 – Present
- Committee Member, Mid-Del School Calendar Committee, 1990 - Present
- Committee Member, Mid-Del Schools School Improvement Committee 1997 - Present
- Committee Member, Mid-Del Schools Elementary Curriculum Council 1988 – 1997
- National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP)
- Mid-Del Association of Elementary School Principals (MDAESP)
- Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD)
- Cooperative Council for Oklahoma School Administration (CCOSA)
- Oklahoma Association of School Administrators (OASA)
- National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
- American Educational Research Association (AERA)