HR 5703-220: International Human Relations

Course Description:
The goal of this course will be to familiarize you with significant international issues relevant to human relations. We will explore the meaning of being a Human Relations professional in an increasingly globalized world, including the role of human relations in addressing issues such as warfare, terrorism, gender discrimination, international issues affecting children, and definitions of and the protection of human rights. Student participation is highly encouraged. We will use multiple formats, including lectures, student papers, student presentations, and class discussions to cover the material.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:
- Dates: November 14-19, 2017
- Location: Building 2775, Rooms 10 and 11. Kapaun Air Station on Vogelweh Air Base
- Hours: Tuesday - Friday 6:00-9:30 pm; Saturday and Sunday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: October 16, 2017

Site Director:
Email: apramstein@ou.edu, Phone: DSN 480-6807, Civilian 06371-47-6807.

Professor Contact Information:
- Course Professor: Zermarie Deacon, Ph.D.
- Mailing Address: 601 Elm Avenue; PHSC 728
  Norman, OK 73019
- Telephone Number: (405) 325-2749
- E-mail Address: zermarie@ou.edu
- 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://canvas.ou.edu, enter your OU NetID and password, and select course to access material. If you require assistance with Canvas, please click on the Help icon. You can search the Canvas guides, chat with Canvas support, or contact OU IT.

Please consult the Purdue University OWL website for information regarding APA format and general writing style: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/
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:**

It is expected that you will not only become familiar with the topics we cover in class, but that you will also develop the skills necessary to think critically about the various dimensions that impact the human experience across various international settings. These include, but are not limited to, gender, nation of origin, culture, etc. Finally, it is anticipated that you will begin to develop the skills necessary to work towards the resolution of significant international concerns such as poverty, terrorism, child labor, etc. The problems that impact the international community change over time. Hence, it is important for you to develop the capacity to think critically about international social problems in general. This includes evaluating current efforts at resolution and the ability to think of novel approaches to solving these problems.

**Course Format:**

The course will consist of lectures, class discussions (both instructor and student lead), and presentations.

**Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:**

In addition to class attendance, you will be responsible for various in-class and individual projects. All assignments will be outlined below. On the first day of class, time will also be dedicated to an overview and discussion of all assignments. All due dates and times are local time. Please contact the professor with specific questions.

**Book Review Paper:**

You will be expected to complete a book review relevant to this class. You may select a book from the list below, or you can select your own text. Any text that is not the list below needs to be approved by the instructor first (this can be done via email). You should read your selected text **before** the start of class.

**Book list (not provided by Advanced Programs):**

2. *Night*, E. Wiesel, 2006
3. *War is not over when it’s over: Women speak out from the ruins of war*, A. Jones, 2010
4. *No good men among the living: America, the Taliban, and the war through Afghan eyes*, A. Gopal, 2015

You will be expected to complete a written review of your chosen book. The book review should be three to five double-spaced pages long and should include your critical analysis of the book (this should include your substantive and substantiated reflections and thoughts on the material presented, the author’s perspective, and your own reactions to the book). In addition to your perspectives on the materials presented by the authors, I would like you to relate the material to what we have learned in class. Any outside sources should be cited appropriately using correct APA formatting.

The books available for this assignment all illustrate particular international problems and expand upon the material that we will be discussing in class. The book review paper thus provides you with an opportunity to engage more deeply with a topic. It allows you to apply the material we are covering in class to your analysis of the book. This contributes to your capacity to think critically about key international problems.

Your paper should be typed using 12-point font and conventional margins should be proofread and spell and grammar checked, and should be formatted using APA stylistic guidelines. All papers should be submitted via Canvas. Your paper will receive a grade out of 100 and will be graded using the following
criteria: 20% for using appropriate formatting, etc.; 30% for critical thinking (i.e., the degree to which you provide a thoughtful analysis of the book); and 50% for the content of your paper (i.e., the degree to which you meet the requirements of the assignment).

Unless prior arrangements have been made with the professor, or you experience a documented personal emergency, all late papers will be subjected to a grade deduction. Following the due date, ten points will be deducted for each day that your paper is late.

We will additionally dedicate class time to a discussion of each selected text. On the first day of class we will ascertain who read which books, and we will select book review discussion days. On the book review days, those students who read the same book will be expected to share with the class an overview of their book, their perspective on the material presented by the author(s), and their perception of how the material relates to the class – this should include class discussion.

You will receive a grade out of 100 for participating in the book review discussion based upon your selected text. Your grade will be based upon the degree of your participation as evidenced by your sharing of your thoughts and your participation in the larger discussion. In addition, you will be graded based upon the degree of critical thinking and independent thought you demonstrate during the discussion.

Please do not hesitate to contact the professor if you have any questions about this assignment.

**Book Review paper due via Canvas: Sunday, November 26, 2017, Midnight**

**Reaction Paper 1:**

A reaction paper provides you with an informal, yet scholarly forum in which to respond to the assigned reading. You should select one of the scholarly articles or book chapters posted on Electronic Reserve and complete a reaction paper providing your perspective on this article. Your paper should be one to two double-spaced pages long, and you should consider the following questions: How are the issues the author raises relevant to international human relations? Do you agree with the author’s perspective? Why or why not? What are your reactions to the paper or chapter you selected?

The goal of this assignment is to provide you with an opportunity to reflect on the material in a relatively unstructured manner. This allows you to develop your perspective and capacity for critical thinking.

Your paper should be typed using 12-point font and conventional margins and should be spell and grammar checked. You are not expected to refer to outside sources for this paper, but rather, should provide your perspective on and reactions to the paper. All papers will receive a grade out of 100, with papers showing the most critical thinking receiving the highest grades.

Unless prior arrangements have been made with the professor, or you experience a documented personal emergency, all late papers will be subject to a point deduction. Following the due date, ten points will be deducted for each day that your paper is late.

**Reaction Paper 1 due via Canvas: Sunday, November 12, 2017, Midnight.**

**Reaction Paper 2:**

On the first day of class, each student will be asked to select a paper from Callaway & Harrelson-Stephens (2007) on which to focus for their second reaction paper and presentation. Students may select a paper (other than the introduction) from one of the following chapters – 5, 6, 7, or 9. More chapters will be added if needed. The presentations will take place on the days that we discuss the relevant chapters. The papers will be due on the date specified below. You may want to review the available papers prior to the first day of class in order to make a decision about the papers that are of most interest to you. This will facilitate the selection process.

Your reaction paper should be one to two double-spaced pages long, and you should consider the following questions: How are the issues the author raises relevant to international human relations? Do you agree with the author’s perspective? Why or why not? What are your reactions to the paper you selected? This paper should be informal, yet written in scholarly language.

Like the other reaction paper, the goal of this assignment is to provide you with an opportunity to respond to the course material and to hone your critical thinking skills.
Your paper should be typed using 12-point font and conventional margins and should be spell and grammar checked. You are not expected to refer to outside sources for this paper, but rather, should provide your perspective on and reactions to the paper. All papers will receive a grade out of 100, with papers showing the most critical thinking receiving the highest grades.

Unless prior arrangements have been made with the professor, or you experience a documented personal emergency, all later papers will be subject to a point deduction. Following the due date, ten points will be deducted for each day your paper is late.

**Reaction Paper 2 due via Canvas: Sunday, November 19, 2017, Midnight**

**Presentations:**

Students will be expected to provide a brief overview of their chosen papers on the day that we cover the relevant chapters in class. Your presentation should be 10 to 15 minutes long and should provide a concise overview of the paper to which you have been assigned. You should additionally address the questions that you have been asked to respond to in your reaction paper. You are not required to use visual aids, but you are welcome to use any aids that you find helpful in your presentation.

You will receive a grade out of 100. You will be graded on the completeness of the overview that you provide as well as the thoroughness of your responses to the assigned questions. Unless prior arrangements have been made with the professor, or you experience a documented personal emergency that prevents you from attending class on the date of your presentation, no extension will be given for presentations.

**Chapter due dates:**

- Thursday, November 16 – Chapter 5, Witness to Torture
- Friday, November 17 – Chapter 6, Gender-Based Repression
- Saturday, November 18 – Chapter 7, Children as Targets
- Sunday, November 19 – Chapter 9, Human Rights in the War on Terror

**Final Paper:**

For your final paper, you will be expected to select an issue relevant to international human relations to analyze. On the first day of class we will discuss the criteria for selecting your topics. Students will be expected to have their topics selected by the Saturday of class (students who are having a hard time selecting a topic should see the instructor for assistance). On November 18, each student will have an opportunity to briefly present their topic to the class in order to get feedback and assistance. This will give you an opportunity to refine your topic and to bounce ideas around. We can continue our presentations the next day if more time is needed.

For your final paper, you should provide a thorough analysis of the issue that you have selected. You should not only discuss the reasons why this issue is relevant to international human relations, but you should additionally discuss potential solutions to this problem (including evaluating solutions already attempted). As such, your paper should provide a thoughtful analysis of the issue that you choose to address. Your final paper provides you with a forum to practice your analytic skills when it comes to your chosen international problem as well as its potential solutions.

You should use at least seven outside sources in your analysis, of which at least four should be scholarly books and/or journal articles. The other three sources may be websites of non-governmental organizations or agencies, newspaper articles, and/or reports published by international organizations such as Amnesty International, etc.

Your paper should be seven to ten double-spaced pages long, should be typed using 12-point font and conventional margins, should be proofread and spell and grammar checked, and should be formatted using APA stylistic guidelines. All papers should be submitted via Canvas.

Your paper will receive a grade out of 100 and will be graded using the following criteria: 20% for using appropriate formatting, etc.; 30% for critical thinking (i.e., the degree to which you provide a thoughtful
analysis of the issue that you have selected); and 50% for the content of your paper (i.e., the degree to which you meet the requirements of the assignment).

Unless prior arrangements have been made with the professor, or you experience a documented personal emergency, all late papers will be subjected to a grade deduction. Following the due date, ten points will be deducted for each day that your paper is late.

Please do not hesitate to contact the professor if you have any questions about this assignment.

**Final Paper Due via Canvas: Sunday, December 3 2017, Midnight**

**Grading:**

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. The following scale will be used: A = 90%-100%; B = 80%-89%; C = 70%-79%; D = 60%-69%; F = < 60%

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final paper topics</td>
<td>November 18, during class</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaction paper 1</td>
<td>November 12, Midnight</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reaction paper 2</td>
<td>November 19, Midnight</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reaction paper presentation</td>
<td>See above chapter due dates</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book review presentation</td>
<td>TBD on first day of class</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book review paper</td>
<td>November 26, Midnight</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final paper</td>
<td>December 3, Midnight</td>
<td>30%</td>
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**Attendance:**

Class attendance is mandatory. Unless a written or otherwise reasonable excuse is provided (please see below for the definition of an excused absence), your final grade will be reduced by one letter grade if you are absent for more than 20% of class hours. An excused absence may require a make-up assignment if three hours or more of class time will be missed.

**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](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/](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](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

Zermarie Deacon, Ph.D.

Education

- 1997  B.A. (Honours) Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa, Department of Politics; Major: Political Philosophy.

Current Positions

- 2013 – Present  Department of Human Relations, University of Oklahoma, Associate Professor.
- 2007 – 2013  Department of Human Relations, University of Oklahoma, Assistant Professor.
- 2007 – Present  Affiliate Faculty, School of International and Area Studies.
- 2008 - Present  Women’s Studies Program, University of Oklahoma, Adjunct Professor.
- 2012 – Present  Women’s and Gender Studies Program Center for Social Justice, University of Oklahoma, Affiliate Faculty.
- 2013 – Present  Department of Human Relations, University of Oklahoma, Associate Professor.

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

- International Human Relations.
- Current Problems in Human Relations.

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- In addition to Current Problems in Human Relations I also teach International Human Relations and Strategies for Social Change at the graduate level. At the undergraduate level I teach a class entitled Gender and War as well as International Human Relations and Social Change Processes.
- My primary research interests are in cross-cultural definitions of health and wellbeing and factors that facilitate individuals’ attainment of wellbeing across different ecological contexts.

Representative Publications and Presentations

Refereed Publications:


Presentations:


Representative Honors and Awards Received

- 2011 PI: Deacon; Co-PI: Pendley (Center for Applied Social Research, OU); Co- PI: Jervis (Center for Applied Social Research, OU) – CHRs as facilitators of health for Chickasaw elders. OU Center for Research Program Development and Enrichment, Faculty Research Challenge Grant Program; $44,225
- 2011 University of Oklahoma, College of Arts and Sciences, Junior Faculty Summer Fellowship
- 2011 University of Oklahoma, College of Arts and Sciences, Faculty Enrichment Grant
- 2011 PI: Miller; Co-PI: Deacon; Co-PI: Wedel; Co-PI: Fitzgerald – Norman Center for Children and Families Photovoice Project/Girl Power Photovoice. Seed grant awarded by the OU-TULSA Program in Community Health Research; $38,477
- 2010 University of Oklahoma, College of Arts and Sciences, Faculty Enrichment Grant
- 2009 University of Oklahoma, Research Council, Junior Faculty Research Program Grant
- 2009 University of Oklahoma, College of Arts and Sciences, Faculty Enrichment Grant
- 2008 University of Oklahoma, College of Arts and Sciences, Faculty Enrichment Grant
- 2008 University of Oklahoma, Office of the President, Presidential International Travel Fellowship
- 2007 University of Oklahoma, College of Arts and Sciences, Faculty Enrichment Grant
- 2007 Michigan State University Graduate School, Dissertation Completion Fellowship