

HR 5100-101: International / Intercultural Awareness

Course Description:

In this course we will study ways to understand diverse cultures. We will use a multi-disciplinary approach as we look at how cultures are different and what factors contribute to their cultural distinctiveness. As we review other cultures we will use the tools of history, geography, economics, sociology, and other social and physical sciences to understand the *why's* behind cultural distinctiveness. We will study how to adapt to cultural differences and to work with people from other cultures, both domestically and internationally.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: September 22-24 & 29-October 1, 2017
Location: College of Allied Health, OU Health Sciences Center, 1200 N. Stonewall, Oklahoma City, OK 73117-1215
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: August 24, 2017

Site Director:

Email: apokc@ou.edu. Phone: 405- 739-7365 or DSN 339-7365.

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Rodger Randle, J.D.
Mailing Address: Department of Human Relations, Room 1J06
OU Tulsa Schusterman Campus
4502 East 41st Street
Tulsa, OK 74135
Telephone Number: (918) 660-3495
E-mail Address: randle@ou.edu
HR website: <http://ou.edu/cas/hr>
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@fhg.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. Diamond, J. M. (1999). *Guns, germs, and steel: The fates of human societies*. New York: W.W. Norton. ISBN 9780393317558.
2. Landes, D.S. (1999). *The wealth and poverty of nations: Why some are so rich and some are so poor*. New York: W.W. Norton. ISBN 9780393318883.

3. 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.

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.

Recommended Reference Texts:

1. Strunk, W., & White, E.B. (2008). *The elements of style*. White Plains, NY: Longman. ISBN 9780205632640.
2. American Psychological Association (2009). *Publication manual of the APA* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. ISBN 9781433805615.

Course Objectives:

In this class we will:

- learn about the origins of culture(s);
- recognize and understand the significance and meaning of the expressions of culture (housing, dress, food, language, non-verbal symbols, etc.);
- see how to identify cultural expressions and their meanings in the world around us;
- study processes of transmission of culture;
- observe how old cultural traits often survive even when submerged in new cultural settings;
- understand the different kinds of cultural conflicts and the contexts in which they occur, and how they are resolved;
- become aware of the differences in etiquette in different cultures;
- discover the relationship between culture and identity, and gain appreciation for the importance in people's lives for maintaining culturally rooted self-identity; and,
- become equipped to carry out independent learning so that principles of cultural analysis learned in the class can be applied in future situations in which students may find themselves.

Course Outline:

Class will be divided between lectures, class discussion and student presentations. Students are expected to be active participants in class discussions. The goal of the class is to internalize new ways of thinking about cultures and to create a basis for life-long growth in cultural awareness and appreciation. Although we will be using texts as resources for the class, the learning objectives go beyond the materials contained in the text. Essential to success in the class, therefore, is the active engagement of students in class discussions and student presentations.

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

Readings:

Before the first class, students should have read the Diamond and Landes texts.

Written Report:

Each student will prepare a written report that explains a "cultural trait" in terms of its function, origin, and meaning. Appropriate "cultural traits" will be selected by the students, but the professor will be available to assist in the selection of appropriate traits. Further details about this report will be posted on Canvas and discussed at the first class meeting. Students who wish to get an early start on their report may contact the professor in advance by email to seek approval for a proposed trait topic. The cultural traits paper should be at least 3,500 words which is about ten (10) pages in length (not counting the cover page or the reference page); using a font size no larger than 12 Times New Roman. At least eight sources should be cited, and at least three of the sources should be from scholarly journals, books, or personal interviews (references to dictionaries, encyclopedias, course assigned readings, or the Wikipedia, will not

count towards this requirement); references should follow the “Guide to Reference Style” posted on the canvas.ou.edu page for the class. The paper should be organized into three sections: (1) explanation of the trait; (2) recounting of the origins of that trait; and (3) explanation of the ways in which the trait provides insight into the culture from which it arises.

Written reports should be submitted using the Canvas dropbox no later than midnight on the Sunday three weeks following the last day of class, **October 22, 2017**. Papers will be graded 10% writing or presentation clarity, and 30% on each of the three sections of the paper (described above). No paper will qualify for a grade of A that does not carefully follow the instructions in the Guide to Reference Style posted on the Canvas site for this course.

Class Presentation

Students will present a short oral version of their papers in class and will lead a brief class discussion of the topic beginning on Friday and Saturday of the second weekend, so that all the class members may share in the benefits of the research projects.

OU Email:

Students are expected to check their OU email for messages concerning the class. Students who do not regularly check their OU mailbox should set their OU mail account to forward messages to an account that the student regularly checks for messages, however, you may do so at your own risk. We cannot guarantee successful email delivery to outside email addresses. It is your responsibility to ensure you are receiving all communication from The University of Oklahoma

Additional instructions for the class will be posted on the Canvas website for the course at least three weeks before the first class meeting.

Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. 90% or above constitutes an “A”, 80-90% a “B”, 70-80% a “C”, 60- 70% a “D”, and lower than 60% shall not be considered passing.

| Assignment | Percent of Grade |
|---|-------------------------|
| Report and Classroom Presentation of a Cultural Trait | 100% |

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 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

Rodger Randle, J.D.

Education

- 1967 B.A., University of Oklahoma
- 1979 Juris Doctor, University of Tulsa

Current Positions

- Advanced Programs professor since 2005
- Professor of Human Relations, OU Tulsa
- Director of the Center for Studies in Democracy and Culture, <http://tulsagrad.ou.edu/csdc>

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

- HR 5013 Current Problems in Human Relations
- HR 5110 International Human Relations

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- International Cultures
- Public Policy

Major Professional Affiliations

- Governor's International Economic Development Team
- Oklahoma Humanities Council
- President of the Tulsa Global Alliance (the organization that operates Tulsa's Sister City and international visitor programs, among other activities)
- Co-Chair of the Bond Oversight Committee of the Tulsa Public Schools which is monitoring the expenditures made under the Tulsa School District's largest ever bond issue