

**College of Liberal Studies**  
**Challenges in a Changing World**  
**LSTD 3343 801**  
**August 21, 28, September 4, 11, 18, 25 October 2, 9 2007**  
**Tuesdays from 5:30-9:30**  
**Oklahoma City Community College**  
**Room 2N3 (Main Bldg)**

**Instructor:** Paula Willyard, Ed.D.  
Vice-President of Student Services  
OSU-Oklahoma City  
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**Course Description:**

This course introduces students to challenges that people living in the world are facing today. These new challenges include perspectives of conformity and deviance as they apply to sexual behavior, drugs, crime and violence. In addition, changes in population, environmental issues and global issues will be addressed.

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of issues concerning challenges in a changing world, specifically, the issues of conformity and deviance as applied to sexual behavior, drug use, crime and violence. Other issues addressed will include population, environmental and global issues.
- Successfully examine and critique opposing viewpoints/positions concerning addressed topics and how they pertain to current world problems.
- Explain some of the current problems presented in the texts
- Take a position on controversial topics and social issues
- Look at the course content and issues from multiple, interdisciplinary perspectives
- Make connections between course content and one's experiences
- Place the ideas, problem-solving and analytical strategies within one's life, academic, or professional objectives

**Required Texts:**

1. Coleman, J.W. and Kerbo, H.K. (2002). Social Problems, 9th edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall. ISBN-10: 013154053X
2. Finsterbusch, K. (2001). Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Social Issues, 14th Edition. Guilford, CT: McGraw-Hill/Dushkin. ISBN-10: 0073514969

## **Class Requirements:**

This seminar will consist of reading assignments, lectures, handouts, selected video reviews, individual papers, a group project, fieldwork experience, (journal and presentation) in addition to active class participation. Some time will be allocated in class for preparation of the group project; however, students will also be required to work on various assignments outside of class. In addition, students will be expected to give group presentations during this course. All papers and presentations must use appropriate documentation and topics must be pursued according to interdisciplinary perspectives and show significant impact on our society today.

## **Class Attendance and Participation:**

Attendance is mandatory and students are expected to actively participate in each class discussion, including the review of case studies and group activities. Students will not be able to receive participation points unless they are present. Make-up work for in-class assignments will only be allowed for excused absences. Students will receive participation points for each class period that will result in approximately 10% of the total course grade.

## **Written Assignments:**

Students will be expected to have completed assigned readings before class and be prepared to discuss the major ideas from each reading and writing assignment. Each written assignment should follow **APA guidelines**. Papers must be turned in as scheduled or reduction in both written and participation grades will occur. Grammar and spelling do count!

## **Pre-seminar assignments:**

Read Chapter 1, of the Coleman and Kerbo textbook  
Read Issue 1 Finsterbusch

## **Assignments:**

- In-Class Writing Assignments
- Class Attendance and Participation
- Outside Class Assignments
- Group and Individual Presentations

## **Grading Criteria:**

Grading Scale: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; Below 60=F

## **Academic Misconduct Statement:**

Any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student's academic performance or achievement, including but not limited to the following:

- (a) Cheating: the use of unauthorized materials, methods, or information in any academic exercise, including improper collaboration;
- (b) Plagiarism: the representation of the words or ideas of another as one's own, including:

- (1) direct quotation without both attribution and indication that the material is being directly quoted, e.g. quotation marks;
  - (2) paraphrase without attribution;
  - (3) paraphrase with or without attribution where the wording of the original remains substantially intact and is represented as the author's own;
  - (4) expression in one's own words, but without attribution, of ideas, arguments, lines of reasoning, facts, processes, or other products of the intellect where such material is learned from the work of another and is not part of the general fund of common academic knowledge;
- (c) Fabrication: the falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise;
  - (d) Fraud: the falsification, forgery, or misrepresentation of academic work, including the resubmission of work performed for one class for credit in another class without the informed permission of the second instructor; or the falsification, forgery or misrepresentation of other academic records or documents, including admissions materials and transcripts; or the communication of false or misleading statements to obtain academic advantage or to avoid academic penalty;
  - (e) Destruction, misappropriation or unauthorized possession of University property or the property of another;
  - (f) Bribery or intimidation;
  - (g) Assisting others in any act proscribed by this Code; or
  - (h) Attempting to engage in such acts.

Penalties are listed in the Academic Code. For further information on academic misconduct please refer to the following link: <http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity/>

**Disability Issues:** Any student in this course who has a disability that may prevent her or him from fully demonstrating his or her academic abilities should contact Frank Rodriguez (405-325-1061) as soon as possible to discuss the accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and to facilitate your educational opportunities. For further information on disability issues please refer to the following link: <http://www.dsa.ou.edu/ods/index.html>

### **About the Instructor:**

Dr. Paula Willyard was a Counselor and coordinator of academic support services at Tulsa Community College for sixteen years. She is currently Vice-President of Student Services at OSU-Oklahoma City. Dr. Willyard received her B.S. degree in Secondary Education from Oklahoma State University, her Master's degree in Counselor Education from Northeastern State University, and her Doctorate in Human Resources and Adult Education from Oklahoma State University. Dr. Willyard has taught for the College of Liberal Studies for the past seven years.