

**University of Oklahoma
College of Liberal Studies
Cultural Diversity in the World
LSTD 4633 Section 802
January 17, 24, 31, February 7, 14, 21, 28, March 6, 2008
Midwest City - Rose State College
Tom Steed Center, Room 212**

Instructor:

Willie V. Bryan, Ed.D
Professor Emeritus
University Of Oklahoma
Tel: (405) 424-2161
Email: williebryan@cox.net

Course Description:

Cultural diversity in the world is a course designed to acquaint students with social, racial, ethnic, religious, and other diversity such as gender, age and disability diversity in the world. A major goal of the course is to help the students appreciate the wealth of diversity in the world and understand how this diversity can cause both cooperation and conflict. Another goal of the course is to direct the students' attention to ways of increasing cooperation and decreasing conflict.

Course Objectives:

At the conclusion of the course the students will:
Understand some of the ethnic and racial composition of the United States of America
Understand some of the cultural diversity of North America
Understand some of the cultural diversity of South America
Understand some of the cultural diversity of Europe
Understand some of the cultural diversity of Africa
Understand some of the cultural diversity of Asia

Text: Bryan, Willie V., Multicultural Aspects of Disabilities (Second Edition). 2007, Charles C. Thomas publisher. Springfield Illinois.
ISBN # 978-0-398-077709-9

Course outline:

The class will consist of a combination of lecture, discussion, and group presentations. Students will be placed in groups and assigned topics to research and make presentations to the class. Additionally each student will choose a topic that relates to cultural diversity and write an eight (8) page paper. The paper must contain at least six

(6) references. Sample topics for papers are: African American cultures, American Indian cultures, Hispanic/Latino cultures, Asian American cultures, disability in America, religious groups in America, issues facing the elderly in America, ethnic/racial cultural groups in Europe and disability in the world. These are only suggestions, students may select other topics. Topics must be approved by the instructor. If the student wish to begin work on the paper prior to the beginning of class she/he can email the instructor for topic approval, otherwise topic approval will be done the first day of class. The paper will be due the last week of class; therefore there will be sufficient time to complete the paper.

Grading:

Paper is worth 40 points
Class presentation # 1 is worth 20 points
Class presentation # 2 is worth 20 points
Class attendance is worth 10 points
Class participation is worth 10 points

Grading:

90-100=A
79-89=B
68-78=C
57-67=D
Below 57=F

Academic Misconduct:

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 Rodriquez (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. Bryan is professor emeritus of the University of Oklahoma. He served as a professor and administrator for 32 years at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. His primary research areas are disability and cultural diversity. He has written eight text books related to these areas.

Course Assignments

Topics:

Racial and Ethnic Diversity in America
Religious Diversity in America
Diversity in North America
Diversity in an Asia Country
Diversity in an Africa Country
Diversity in a South American Country
Diversity in Australia and/or New Zealand
Diversity in a European Country
Cultural Calendar
Immigration as a means of cultural control
Ethnic/Racial, Gender and Disability Statistics
Sexual Harassment

Assignments:

Students will be placed in groups and given the following assignments:

1. Pick a country from the following continents (Europe, Asia, Africa, South America, North America and Australia) to develop a written report to be presented to the instructor and an oral report to be presented to the class.

**The report must cover racial and ethnic groups in the country, as well as religious groups in the country, and some major cultural issues of the country
Develop a cultural calendar for the country.**

2. Groups will develop a report with regard to the following religions (Christianity, Buddhism Judaism Islam and Hinduism.

Identify and discuss the central theme(s) or messages of the religion

Identify and discuss the founder or founders of the religion

Identify and discuss significant events of the religion

Identify and discuss some of the significant cultural impacts the religion has had.

Develop a cultural calendar of significant events with regard to the religion

3. Each student will select a topic related to cultural diversity and write an eight page double spaced paper with a minimum of six references, to be presented to the instructor no later than the last class period.

Class dates and topics

Jan. 17, Willie Bryan

Pre-test

USA-Diversity

Jan. 24, Willie Bryan

Disability, Sexual Harassment in the USA

Jan. 31, Willie Bryan

Gender and Elderly issues in the USA

Feb. 7, Student group presentation

Feb. 14, Student group presentation

Feb. 21, Student group presentation

Feb. 28, Student group presentation

March 6, Willie Bryan. Conclusion

**Each group written report must be a minimum of five (5) type written pages.
Issues and cultural calendar will be discussed in class.
Length of oral report will be discussed in class.**

Grading:

Each group presentation is worth 20 points (there are two).

The written report is worth 40 points.

Points will be deducted for each unexcused absent and late attendance.

Dr. Bryan can be reached in the following manner:

Home phone (405) 424-2161 Email williebryan@cox.net