The University of Oklahoma  
College of Continuing Education  
Advanced Programs – Course Syllabus

Course Title:  
Current Problems in Human Relations

Course Number:  
HR 5013-102

Course Description:  
Students will study current problems pertaining to social services practitioners, including racism, sexism, poverty, and human rights. Also, strategies for change and the ethics of particular interventions will be discussed.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:  
Dates: September 11-13 & 18-20, 2015  
Location: OCCE, Norman, Oklahoma. Classes are held at the Thurman White Forum Building of OCCE, 1704 Asp Avenue.  
Hours: Fri 5:30-9:30 p.m.; Sat 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sun 1:00-5:00 p.m.  
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: August 13, 2015

Site Director:  
Bethany Neubauer. Phone: 405-325-1263; Fax: 405-325-9148; email: apnorman@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:  
Course Professor: George Henderson, Ph.D.  
Mailing Address: University of Oklahoma  
601 Elm Avenue, Room 728  
Norman, OK 73072  
Telephone Number: (405) 325-2259  
Fax Number: (405) 325-4402  
E-mail Address: clsdean@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.


Note: The Follett/AP Bookstore 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 the Follett/AP Bookstore.

**Course Objectives:**

American society is undergoing rapid and turbulent changes. Often, changing stressful conditions set the stage for additional human relations problems. The purpose of this course is to expose each of us to some of various problems and their possible solutions. Special attention will be given to social inequality (class and race), individual and interpersonal alienation (the individual, family, violence, and intergroup problems), and international problems (cross-cultural and multi-national). Various change strategies will be examined and critiqued. The end goal is to:

- Identify the conditions that contribute to societal problems.
- Analyze specific problem areas pertaining to:
  - social inequality,
  - individual and interpersonal stress,
  - conflicts that center on workplace issues.
- Utilize problem-solving strategies to prevent or abate the social problems.

**Assignments, Grading and Due Dates**

**Readings:**

Read the textbooks before attending the first class.

**Pre-Seminar Paper:**

Each student will select a social problem she or he has dealt with or read about and use it as the focus of her or his pre-seminar paper. The pre-seminar paper, which is due the first day of class, should describe the ways in which a problem was manifested and the responses to it in terms of programs, organization procedures, and individual behaviors. Use as a guide *Race and the University* to describe your topic and some of the role players in the situations(s) that you select. Each paper should discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the strategies for change that were used to deal with the problem. Try to be accurate, insightful and constructively critical. Each paper must consist of a minimum of ten typewritten pages. Compare and contrast the strategies utilized in your selected situation with those used in the *Race and University* textbook. You may, if you wish, use other textbooks that supplement or complement the Henderson book. It is expected that your completed paper will be of a quality that reflects a serious and relevant graduate research project. Pay special attention to the content, organization, spelling and grammar in your paper.

**Team Assignments:**

Each student will be assigned to a team that will present a 30-minute oral report of their assigned readings.

**Final Exam:**

A final essay examination will cover selected portions of classroom interactions, instructor lectures, team reports, and other information/data pertaining to the course.
Impromptu In-Class Assignments:
The instructor will assign to students impromptu learning-specific activities.

Post-Seminar Paper:
Based on specific information in the Henderson, Spigner-Littles and Milhouse book, select an ethnic group, other than your own, and discuss how you would use particular information in the book to supervise, teach, or counsel an individual from that ethnic culture. This paper should be at least 10 pages long, carefully referenced, and correctly written. It is expected that your completed paper will be of a quality that reflects a serious and relevant graduate research project. Pay special attention to the content, organization, spelling and grammar in your paper.

Grading:
This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. Final grades will be based on total points earned: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), and F (59 or less).

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Maximum Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Seminar paper</td>
<td>First class session</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team analysis of assigned readings</td>
<td>During class sessions</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam and impromptu assignments</td>
<td>During class sessions</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-seminar Paper</td>
<td>Two weeks after the last class session, October 4, 2015</td>
<td>25</td>
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Late Assignments:
Failure to meet the pre-seminar assignment due date will result in a loss of 5 points for each day the assignment is late. So, try to submit the assignment on the due date. Only with the instructor’s prior approval will a student be given a grade of I (Incomplete) and allowed to submit the post-seminar paper beyond two weeks after the course ends.

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. Each class session that a student misses will cost her or him 5 grade points.

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 and 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.

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, syllabi, 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 laws.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA
George Henderson, Ph.D.

Education
Ph.D. in Educational Sociology, Wayne State University, 1965

Current Positions
• Advanced Programs Professor since 1968
• S. N. Goldman Professor Emeritus
• David Ross Boyd Professor Emeritus
• Regents’ Professor Emeritus

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses
• HR 5013 Current Problems in Human Relations
• HR 5013 Diversity in the Workplace

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest
• Racial and ethnic relations
• Diversity in the workplace
• Urban sociology
• Community policing

Representative Publications

Major Professional Affiliations
• American Sociological Association
• Alpha Kappa Delta (Sociology)
• Omicron Delta Kappa (National Leadership Society for College Men)
• Delta Tau Kappa (International Social Science Honor Society)
• Association of Black Sociologists