Course Title: Adolescents Issues in Human Relations

Course Number: HR 5443-491

Course Description:
This course, Adolescent Issues, analyses, debates and conceptualizes the paradoxes presented in the construction, perception and intervention of adolescent issues. Such constructs are shaped by culture and socio-economic backgrounds. Adolescent as a concept has been of interest to several social science disciplines to determine the welfare of the individual, community and society as a whole. Therefore, this course will examine several issues pertaining to the universal and relative notions of adolescent biological and cognitive development and culture. Adolescence, as a stage of development, constructs individual sexual orientation, identity, behavior and relationships. This course illustrates the vast interpretations of several key issues relating to differences and similarities of adolescent issues and therefore the dilemmas and challenges of their growth.

Course Dates:
November 1 – December 31, 2016
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: October 3, 2016

Site Director:
This is a three-credit hour online course. Please see your local Site Director or e-mail our online site coordinator at aponline@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: Janette Habashi, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Mailing Address: Department of Human Relations
OU-Tulsa Schusterman Center
4502 E 41st St, Room 1J26
Tulsa, OK 74135-2512
Telephone Number: (918) 660-3365(O) 918-299-3351(H) 918-409-1060
E-mail Address: jhabashi@ou.edu
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students during the above listed Virtual Office Hours and other methods by arrangement.

Instructinal Materials:
Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: Please check your OU-email address frequently as I will use it for correspondence. In addition, pay attention to my posting on the D2L course home page. Access D2L at http://learn.ou.edu; enter your OU NetID (4+4) and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

Required Readings
• McHale, S., & et al. (2009). The development of gender interests and personality quality from Middle childhood through adolescence: A biosocial analysis. *Child Development, 80*, 2, 482-495

**Methods of Instruction**

During class, assignments and activities will be listed on the course website and will be facilitated via the Desire2Learn course management system. Hence, in order to successfully learn you need to engage online. Your engagements and reading reflections are essential to the learning experience. The discussion board will also assist in the participation in our cyber classroom. The course website will provide a Drop Box for you to deposit the paper assignments.

**OU E-Mail:**

All official correspondence from distance learning instructors will be sent only to students’ ou.edu address.

**Online Orientation:**

The College of Arts and Sciences offers an online orientation for students who are enrolled in online or blended courses. The purpose of the orientation is to ensure that students are well prepared both technically and practically to take online courses. The orientation can be found on their website at: [http://www.ou.edu/content/cas/online/student-online-orientation.html](http://www.ou.edu/content/cas/online/student-online-orientation.html)

The College of Arts and Sciences Online and Academic Technology Services office is here to assist you with any questions, problems, or concerns you may have. For assistance visit their website at [http://www.ou.edu/content/cas/online/student-information.html](http://www.ou.edu/content/cas/online/student-information.html) or contact them by telephone at: (405) 325-5854 or email: casonline@ou.edu

**Course Objectives:**

This course discusses development during the adolescent and early adult years. Contemporary theories and research will be used to help students understand issues central to adolescence including: pubertal and neuro-cognitive development, rites of passage, social and government laws, cultural and personal identity, sexual and gender orientation, obesity, media, substance abuse, family and peer relationships, adolescent violence, technology and work, culture and the media, and challenges faced by adolescents. Adolescence will be discussed both as a distinct stage of life, and as an integral component of development across the life span.
Assignments, Grading, and Due Dates:

Discussion Participation (online):
You will post your views and deconstruct the reading in a professional manner. Discussion policy is included in the syllabus. **30 points.**

Elements included in the evaluation of discussion board participation will include evidence of critical thinking, clear identification of the issue, understanding of the problems, and the ability to propose and evaluate solutions. All participants are expected to welcome open expression of opinion, attitudes and beliefs and to accept the legitimacy and value of dissent. In addition, to respect the ideas of your classmates and the instructor, common courtesy is also expected. There are 3 discussion points for every online discussion. You are expected to post your original response on the issue and another response to the class discussion. I encourage you to read 80% of the other students’ postings. If you select only a few postings to read, you will lose points.

Interview

Interview an adolescent and a caregiver or activist on an issue significant to adolescence. The interview could be conducted face to face, or via email/phone. I encourage you to develop a rapport with interviewees early in the course. If you start late, your quality of work will be jeopardized. The issue could be of a personal interest but with a new perspective. **20 points**

Written Paper #1

Utilizing information gained from the interviewees and incorporates adolescent issues. This framework of the paper should be supported with academic literature. At the beginning of the paper, you need to identify the issue from multiple perspectives while integrating the interviews. You also need to deconstruct the interviewees’ claims using literature. This is an academic paper and should be supported by at least 10 references (only 2 course materials can be used for references). Wikipedia and dictionaries will not be considered references. The paper should be between 8-10 pages. This does not include cover and reference pages. I encourage you to structure your paper using headings and subheadings. This creates a cohesive and organized argument. **25 points**

Written Paper #2

Focus on an issue or dilemma pertaining to adolescence and how an issue is articulated in social policy and adhered in social programs. This paper should show the paradoxes, alignments, possibilities, and disconnects of what we know as a society concerning these adolescent issues. Elaborate on the current adolescent issue and how it is manifested in social policy and therefore in the intervention pronounced in social programs. This is an academic paper and should be supported by at least 10 references (only 2 course materials can be used for references). Wikipedia and dictionaries will not be considered references. The paper should be between 8-10 pages. This does not include cover and reference pages. I encourage you to structure your paper using headings and subheadings. This creates a cohesive and organized argument. **25 points.**

Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

Final Word:

I value each of you and do not want to lose any of you because of misunderstandings or confusion. So please let me know what I can do to clarify my lectures or otherwise fill in missing holes in your perceptions of classroom verbal exchanges or assignments. What do you need (other than a guaranteed “A” or “B”) to make our class worthwhile? You have the final word!!!!!!!!!!
Grading Policy:
Grades are based on total points, which are earned via objective and subjective scoring. A=90-100%: superior work, B = 80-89 %: above average work, C = 70-79%: average work, D = 60-69%: below average work (passing), F = below 60%: failing work 90%, B=80%, C= 70%, D=60%

Subjective criteria for evaluating work include quality of individual writing assignments, participation/quality in group papers, presentations, and discussions. Attendance and completion of work in a punctual manner are also part of the evaluation process.

Deep vs. Surface Learning
Below are descriptions of varying degrees of work which reflect the level and quality of learning student/learner. Keep these in mind as you navigate the course.

Excellent Work
Writing demonstrates unusual competence; obvious analytical thinking with thoughtful evaluation; outstanding contributions to group presentations, papers and group discussions. Student exhibits a continuous and enthusiastic effort over the course of the class. Manifests initiative, meets all deadlines and due date. Deep Learning—understanding of the content and applications to real world.

Good Work
Writing demonstrates competence; interpretive/inferential thinking, drawing conclusions, and reading between the lines; strong contribution to group presentations; active participation in group discussions, meets all due dates. Deep & Surface Learning—understanding of some course content, possible examples.

Average Work
Individual writing is competent; literal thinking and mere regurgitation of readings; some contribution to group presentations and papers; occasionally contributes to group discussions. Meets all due dates. Surface Learning—overview of the content.

Unsuccessful Work
Individual writing suggests or demonstrates incompetence. Little thought to developing ideas. Periodic contributions to group presentations, papers and discussions. Forgetfulness regarding assignments, due dates.

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.

Policy for Late Work:
Please contact the professor regarding his/her policy for late work

Attendance Policy:
In addition to interaction via Desire2Learn and E-mail contact, students are required to contact the instructor via E-mail or telephone before the beginning of the course term for an initial briefing. Although physical class meetings are not part of this course, participation in all interactive, learning activities is required.

Student assignments and student/instructor communications will be conducted via Desire2Learn, although students may contact the instructor via telephone, postal mail, e-mail, or fax as needed

Incomplete Grade Policy:
A grade of “I” is not automatically assigned, but rather must be requested by the student by submitting to the instructor a “Petition for and Work to Remove an Incompleted Grade” form. An “I” can never be used in lieu of an “F” nor can an “I” be assigned because of excessive failure to participate in class activities.
Technical Support Information:
If you experience technical problems, contact Information Technology by visiting their website at: http://webapps.ou.edu/it/ or contacting them by telephone at: (405) 325-HELP (4357).

Procedures for Completion of Course Evaluation:
Upon completion of the course students should go to the Advanced Programs Online Learning Information webpage and click on the applicable semester link under “Online Course Evaluation” which will direct them to the evaluation. The evaluation will take approximately five minutes to complete. Completion of the online evaluation is an important tool allowing Advanced Programs to gain information and student feedback for improvement of courses.
Your responses will be kept confidential. They will be reviewed by the department and only supplied to the professor once grades for the course have been submitted.
Anonymous

POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

**Note:** Attendance/absences do not apply to online courses. However, participation in all course activities is extremely important to student success in online courses.

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.

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.

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/](http://www.goou.ou.edu/)
INSTRUCTOR VITA

Janette Habashi, Ph.D.

Education

- 2004  Educational Psychology, PhD. Kent State University
- 1991  Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Social Work, Bethlehem University, Palestine

Current Positions

Associate Professor, Department of Human Relations, University of Oklahoma

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- Social Science theories
- Qualitative research
- My research interest is children and indigenous discourse.

Representative Publications and Presentations

Refereed Publications

Published Refereed Book Chapters in Scholarly Books and Monographs


Under Review Articles for Refereed Journals

- Habashi, J. (under review). Children's religious agency: Conceptualizing Islamic idioms of resistance. AREA

Research Projects in Progress

- Habashi, J. (in progress). Children’s age of responsibility: Analysis of social political on the age of maturity. This project uses content analysis in identifying the discrepancy of children’s age of responsibility in three main areas: crime, heath and community engagement.
- Habashi, J. (in progress). Children’s historical images: Analysis of religious discourse in three constitutions. This project uses content analysis to deconstruct children’s capacities in three nation-states which adopt religion as a fundamental element of their constitution.
- Habashi, J. (in progress). Imprinting children’s participation in the Palestinian constitution: The democratization of children in international settings? This project is a conceptualize piece that will set the foundation for a grant proposal.
- Habashi, J. (in progress). Intergenerational dialogue: children collecting historical narratives. This project provides an analysis of the intergenerational narrative whereby children are active in creating a digital oral history.

Refereed Abstracts or Proceedings


Non-refereed Articles

• Rogers, L., Safford, J., Kabha, O., & Habashi, J. (April 2001). A qualitative study of day care plus: Children, providers, and the consultation process. Positive Education Program of Cuyahoga County and Starting Point. Cleveland, OH.

Representative Honors and Awards Received

• Present Awarded $500,000 by a private philanthropist to fund the development of a gifted program for Palestinian children.
• 2011 International Alumni Award, Kent State University, Ohio
• 2005-Present Invited to be on the Editorial Review Board for the Research and Practice Online Journal (for second time). Published two times a year to provide a scholarly space for the “subaltern” and “subjugated knowledge(s)” to speak (Cross- listed under national service).
• 2008-2009 Speaker, in the international research project, Children Living Rights: Theorizing Children’s Rights in International Development. Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch, Switzerland.
• 2005-2006 Fellowship Award, Child on the Wing Rockefeller Foundation Resident Fellowships Program, Humanities and the Study of Culture Program, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD.
• 2005-2006 Presidential International Travel Fellowship Award. International Programs Center, University of Oklahoma, OK.
• 2001 & 2003 Center Scholarship. Center for International and Intercultural Education, Kent State University, Kent, OH.
• 2002 Graduate Student Senate, Outstanding Dissertation Award. Kent State University, Kent, OH.
• 2000 College of Education Award for Outstanding Achievement in Leadership. Scholarship and Services, Kent State University, Kent, OH.

Major Professional Affiliations

American Educational Research Association