Course Title: 
Current Problems in Human Relations

Course Number:
HR 5013-105

Course Description:
In-depth studies of outstanding problems facing social practitioners, including racism, sexism, poverty, and human rights. Strategies for change and ethics of intervention also will be discussed.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:
Dates: March 2-4 & 9-11, 2012
Location: OCCE, Norman, Oklahoma. Classes held in 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: February 2, 2012

Site Director:
Cathy Yeaman. Assistant: Jan Plavchak. Phone: 405-325-3333; 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 Follett/AP Bookstore located in the Oklahoma Memorial Union, 900 Asp Ave., Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahomaunion.bkstr.com or by telephone at 866-369-9713 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-5960 (outside the U.S.). E-mail orders may be sent to oklahomaunion@bkstr.com. Representatives are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST on Friday. Summer hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. CST. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day to 866-223-5607 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-1557 (outside the U.S.).


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. Out of change come stressful conditions that set the stage for problems in human relations. The purpose of this course is to expose us to some of these problems and their possible solutions. The areas we will concentrate on are social inequality (class and race), individual and interpersonal stress (the individual and the family, intra-family violence, and life cycle problems), and international problems (cross-cultural and multi-national). Various change strategies will be examined and critiqued. The end goal is to be critical thinkers.

The student will be able to:

- identify the conditions that contribute to societal problems;
- analyze specific problem areas:
  - social inequality,
  - individual and interpersonal stress,
  - conflicts centering on workplace issues; and
- apply problem-solving strategies to the above problem areas.

**Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:**

1. **Term Paper:** Each student will select one of the problem areas dealt with in the texts as a basis for a term paper. The paper, which is due the first day of class, should deal with the ways in which the problem area is manifested within the student’s environment, and his or her responses to it in terms of programs, procedures, and practices. Use as a guide *Race and the University* to describe some of the role players in your personal situation. 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.

The paper must consist of a minimum of ten typewritten pages. Compare and contrast the strategies utilized in your situation with those used in the textbook. You may, if you wish, draw upon other textbooks that supplement and complement the Henderson book. It is expected that the paper will be of a quality reflecting serious and mature graduate study.

2. **Team Analysis:** each student will be assigned to a team to present analyses of the assigned readings.

3. **Final Exam:** A final examination will cover selected portions of the materials/data pertaining to the course.

4. **Impromptu In-Class Assignments:** Various learning specific activities will be assigned.

5. **Post Seminar Assignment:** Based on information in the Henderson, Spigner-Littles, and Milhouse book, select an ethnic group other than your own and discuss how you would use some of the information to supervise, teach or counsel an individual from that culture. There is no predetermined length for the paper.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>% of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term paper</td>
<td>First class session</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team analyses 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>
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<tr>
<td>Post-seminar assignment</td>
<td>On or before two weeks after the last class</td>
<td>25</td>
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Grading: This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

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. 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 Honesty**

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the “Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity” found at [http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity](http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity)

**Accommodation Statement**

The [College of Continuing Education](http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity) is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your 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.

**Copyright**

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

George Henderson, Ph.D.

Education

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

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 and Presentations


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