Course Title:
Current Problems in Human Relations

Course Number:
HR 5013-107

Course Description:
Students will study current problems pertaining to social services 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: January 31-February 2 & 7-9, 2014
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: January 2, 2014

Site Director:
Cathy Yeaman. Assistant: Kathie Nicoletti. 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 OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahoma.bkstr.com. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Representatives are available by phone at (405) 325-3511 or (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or E-mail at 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). (Text prices are available online.)


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
- utilize problem-solving strategies to prevent or abate the above 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 focus of her or his term paper. The paper, which is due the first day of class, should describe the ways in which the 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 problem 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 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 the class various 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. There is no predetermined length for the paper but it should be long enough to cover the topic. (See the advice given in the last two sentences describing the pre-seminar paper above.)

**Grading:**

This is a letter-graded course: A (90-100 points), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (60-69), F (59 or less).

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Seminar 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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-seminar Paper</td>
<td>February 23, 2014</td>
<td>25</td>
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**Notice:** Failure to meet assignment due dates will result in a loss of 5 points for each day an assignment is late if there is no instructor approval for turning in an assignment past the due date. Only with the instructor’s approval will a student be given a grade of I (Incomplete) for the course and allowed to submit work after February 23, 2014. A grade of I 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. 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 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

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.

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/
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