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

Course Title:  
Violence Against Women and Children

Course Number:  
HR 5743-101

Course Description:  
This course will provide an overview of contemporary issues in the struggle to end violence against women and children. A specific focus of the course will be to discuss prevention and intervention research and efforts to address specific issues such as: sexual violence, interpersonal violence, legal and criminal justice issues, batterer’s treatment programs, youth violence, and dating violence. We will also address the bio-psycho-social needs of batterers and victims, education, safety planning, and danger assessment. Types of interpersonal violence to be discussed will include: physical, sexual, emotional, verbal, economic, using children as weapons, LGBT, persons with disabilities, older women and women who are recent immigrants.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:
  Dates: May 4 - 6 & 11 - 13, 2012  
  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: April 5, 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: Shannon Bert, Ph.D.  
Mailing Address: Department of Human Relations  
601 Elm Ave  
PHSC 706  
Norman, OK 73019  
Telephone Number: (405) 325-1766  
Fax Number: (405) 209-2555  
E-mail Address: Bert@ou.edu  
Virtual Office Hours: Monday and Wednesdays 9 – 12 PM CST  
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students during the above listed Virtual Office Hours and other methods by arrangement.

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 405-325-7140 (outside the U.S.).


4. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: 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.

You can find an excellent resource on APA style and general academic writing at Purdue University’s Owl website located at: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01

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:**

- To demonstrate a historical perspective of how violence has been perpetuated against women and children into epidemic proportions in the US.
- To obtain a general understanding of the legal system as it pertains to cases involving violence against women and children.
- To demonstrate an understanding of the impact of domestic violence on children and ways to assist them in overcoming the violence they have witnessed or been a part of.
- To demonstrate an understanding of the “cycle of violence” and how it evolves.
- To demonstrate an understanding of the impact of violence against women and children at the societal level.
- To develop a safety plan that addresses a woman’s unique risk factors, strengths, and respects their individual choices and values.

**Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:**

Students will be required to complete a total of three writing assignments (i.e., Pre-class Reaction, Midterm Reaction, and Final paper) and one presentation over the course of the semester. Reaction papers will receive a grade out of 100 points (50 points for completing the assignment; 20 points for following directions; and 30 points for quality). The class presentation will be worth 50 points (20 points for completing the assignment; 10 points for following directions; and 20 points for quality. Final papers will be worth 150 points (60 points for completing the assignment; 40 points for following directions; and 50 points for quality. All assignments are due in the relevant “Dropbox” by 5PM CST. Late papers will be subject to a 50% grade reduction.

**Pre-Class Reaction Paper**

Pre-class reaction Papers are due Friday, May 4th by 5:00 PM CST in its corresponding Dropbox. A Late Dropbox has also been set up for those who miss the 5:00 pm deadline. Reactions must center on *I Can’t See the Azaleas* by Dianna Cook Thomas.

Reactions should be typed using 12-point *Times New Roman* font and standard margins (1-inch on all sides) and should be 2-3 double-spaced pages in length. Your paper should be written as you would any other academic paper and should be proofread and spell and grammar checked. You should consider the goal of the author and your reactions to her statements (do you agree or disagree and why?). You should also consider whether the author changed the way you think about the topic, whether you learned something new, how it fits with the topic we are learning, etc. The more thorough and thoughtful your paper is, the higher your grade will be.
Mid-term Reaction Paper

Mid-term reaction Papers are due Friday, May 11th by 5:00 PM CST in its corresponding Dropbox. A Late Dropbox has also been set up for those who miss the 5:00 pm deadline. Reactions must center on Black and Blue by Anna Quindlen.

Reactions should be typed using 12-point Times New Roman font and standard margins (1-inch on all sides) and should be 2-3 double-spaced pages in length. Your paper should be written as you would any other academic paper and should be proofread and spell and grammar checked. You should consider the goal of the chapter author and your reactions to her statements (do you agree or disagree and why?). You should also consider whether the author changed the way you think about the topic, whether you learned something new, how it fits with the rest of what we are learning, etc. The more thorough and thoughtful your paper is, the higher your grade will be.

Class Presentation

Class Presentations will begin the 2nd week of class. A written handout of the presentation is due May 13th by 5:00 PM CST in its corresponding Dropbox. A Late Dropbox has also been set up for those who miss the 5:00 pm deadline. This presentation will be your opportunity to develop a personalized domestic violence safety plan.

The safety plan should address the following: (1) If you are in an abusive relationship, think about… (2) If you consider leaving your abuser, think about… and (3) If you have left your abuser, think about…. I would also like to see a checklist of possible items to take and/or pack. Class-presentation papers should be typed using 12-point Times New Roman font and standard margins (1-inch on all sides) and should be 2-3 double-spaced pages in length. Your paper should be written as you would any other academic paper and should be proofread and spell and grammar checked. Bulleted list are acceptable for this particular assignment when necessary; however, I would like as much detail as possible.

Final Paper

Final papers are due Friday, May 18th by 5:00 PM CST in its corresponding Dropbox. A Late Dropbox has also been set up for those who miss the 5:00 pm deadline. This paper will synthesize material covered in the course.

Choose a specific type of interpersonal violence committed against women and children (e.g., physical, sexual, emotional, verbal, economic, using children as weapons, LGBT, persons with disabilities, older women and women who are recent immigrants) and provide a rational for the significance of preventing this particular form of violence. Second, identify what you feel are the most important issues related to your specific topic. Lastly, using the knowledge you have gained from the course discussions and material, design a prevention/intervention program aimed at alleviating the specific form of violence. Make sure to include a discussion of the program’s structure, scope, target population, methodology, possible challenges, and potential results.

Final papers should be typed using 12-point Times New Roman font and standard margins (1-inch on all sides) and should be 7-10 double-spaced pages in length. Your paper should be written as you would any other academic paper and should be proofread and spell and grammar checked.

Grading:

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-class Reaction Paper</td>
<td>May 4, 2012</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Presentation</td>
<td>May 11 – 13, 2012</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Reaction Paper</td>
<td>May 11, 2012</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>May 18, 2012</td>
<td>37.5%</td>
</tr>
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Checking D2L:

Regular updates and relevant information regarding the course will be posted to the “headlines” page on D2L (that is the main page you access when you first log on). In order that you ensure that you do not
miss any new information of relevance to the course, you will be responsible for checking the “headlines” page at least once each week.

All course content and materials will be accessed via the D2L site under the “content” tab. Please also see the “link” page for websites that may be of interest to you and that are relevant to the course.

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

Accommodation Statement

The College of Continuing Education [Advanced Programs] 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. 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

Shannon S.C. Bert, Ph.D.

Education
- 2001  BA in Psychology, University of Oklahoma
- 2004  MA in Developmental Psychology, University of Notre Dame
- 2006  Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology, University of Notre Dame
- 2005 – 2007  Doctoral Fellowship, Georgetown University

Current Positions
- 2007 – Present  Assistant Professor, Department of Human Relations, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK.
- 2008 – Present  Graduate Program Instructor, Advanced Programs – Department of Human Relations, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK.
- 2008 – Present  Adjunct Assistant Professor, Women’s and Gender Studies Program, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK.
- 2010 – Present  Adjunct Assistant Professor, Liberal Studies Program, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK.

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses
- HR 5403  Psycho-Social Development
- HR 5743  Violence Against Women and Children
- HR 5013  Current Problems in Human Relations
- HR 5970  Special Topics/Seminar: The Prevention /Intervention of Critical Social Issues

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest
- Developmental Theory
- Applied Research Methods and Advanced Research Methods
- Research for Human Relations
- Protective Factors and Resilience
- Biracial/Multiracial Identity Development
- Prevention and Intervention Programs for Disadvantaged Populations
- Emergent Adulthood
- Current Problems
- Violence Against Women and Children
- Women, Work, and the Family

Representative Publications and Presentations

Refereed Publications

**Book Publications**


**Chapter Publications**


**Presentations**


• Carothers, S.S. (2004, August). *Social support as a coping resource for at-risk children exposed to negative life events.* Poster session presented at the meeting of the American Psychological Association, Honolulu, HI.


Symposia Presentations


Representative Major Professional Affiliations

- American Psychological Association (APA)
- Society for Research in Child Development
- Society for Research on Adolescence
- APA, Division 35 – The Society for the Psychology of Women
- APA, Division 35 – Section 1, Psychology of Black Women

Representative Honors and Awards Received

- Received University of Notre Dame KANEB Teaching Certificate
- Listed in Cambridge Who’s Who Among Executive and Professional Women Psychologists
- Received University of Oklahoma New Faculty Seminar Certificate for “High Attendance”
- Received University of Oklahoma, Research Council Junior Faculty Award in 2008
- Received University of Oklahoma, College of Arts and Sciences Junior Faculty Award in 2009 and 2010
- Selected to participate as a protégé in the University of Oklahoma, Office of the Vice President of Research, Excellence in Proposals Pilot Project.