

**COUN 6210**

**Multicultural Counseling**

Ed. Leadership Department

College of Education

Middle Tennessee State University



**Course Description:**

This course is an introduction to the principles, theories, and applications of multiculturalism. Students will be required to examine one's own sense of self and others' identity, beliefs and assumptions, and behaviors. Theories, research, and skills will be explored so that students can acquire the necessary multicultural competencies for effective work with children and adolescents from diverse backgrounds (i.e., culture, race, ethnicity, class, & gender) in multicultural environments (i.e., public schools, community organizations).

**Required Textbook**

Diller, J.V. (2010). *Cultural Diversity (4th edition)*. Belmont, CA: Brooks/Cole

**Course Objectives:** Cultural diversity exists not only across cultures but within cultures. The Counseling field has an obligation to train students to be sensitive to the ways in which norms and values shape our understanding of ourselves and others from diverse backgrounds. Successful completion of this course should enable students to become culturally competent.

**Course Format** This course is a dialogue about multicultural Psychological and educational issues. Each class will include: (1). a brief lecture on a particular issue related to multicultural psychology, (2). an experiential learning activity, and (3). either a small or large group discussion (i.e., learning circle).

**Learning Circles** are a cooperative teaching and learning method in which students engage in open dialogue and careful listening. Students in learning circles work to challenge and develop each other's critical thinking skills. You will participate in different learning circles as either a discussant leader or a participatory member throughout the semester. Requirements for lead discussants and participatory members are described below. Learning circles will take place during class and you will be randomly assigned to different groups. Learning circle discussions will be based on experiential activities and reflections, as well as reading discussion questions so that students may think critically about the connections among assigned readings, experiential activities, and field or personal experiences. After each learning circle, large discussions will take place.

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**Course Ground Rules**

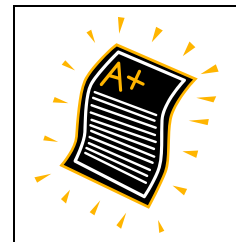
It is expected that each student will:

- ✓ be courteous and allow speakers to complete his/her thought(s) before speaking;
- ✓ be respectful of the opinions of others, even if there is a disagreement;
- ✓ be involved by participating in discussions and activities, but not dominating either;
- ✓ be respectful of the sensitive nature of comments and treat them as confidential statements that should not be shared outside of class;
- ✓ be an active participant/learner who is interested in increasing his/her knowledge-base and cultural awareness.

**Evaluation**

**Total of 1000 points**

|                                      |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| Class Attendance                     | 50  |
| Participation/Learning circles       | 100 |
| Current Events/ Discussion Questions | 150 |
| Festival of Knowledge                | 100 |
| Cultural Observation                 | 100 |
| Movie Review                         | 100 |
| Cultural Interview                   | 100 |
| Service Learning Project             | 300 |



**Grading Scale**

| <b>Grade</b> | <b>Percentage</b>    | <b>Points</b>       |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>A</b>     | <b>100-90%</b>       | <b>1000-900</b>     |
| <b>B</b>     | <b>89-80%</b>        | <b>899-800</b>      |
| <b>C</b>     | <b>79-70%</b>        | <b>799-700</b>      |
| <b>D</b>     | <b>69-60%</b>        | <b>699-600</b>      |
| <b>F</b>     | <b>59% and below</b> | <b>599and below</b> |

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## **Course Requirements**

### **Class Attendance:**

Due to the discussion based format of the class, it is very important to maintain good class attendance. You will be able to miss **2 CLASSES!** Consider these absences your “freebies”. After the two misses (excused or unexcused), you will drop a letter grade per miss.

### **Festival Of Knowledge.**

Similar to that of an Essay exam, the Festival of Knowledge will be an opportunity for you to display your knowledge of the covered material throughout the course. There will be several review opportunities throughout the course as well as study guides provided.

**Please do not freak out about the Festival of Knowledge....although it seems impossible....it should be fun!!! ☺**

### **Daily Readings & Discussion Questions**

You are expected to complete the assigned readings and discussion questions by the date they are listed on the schedule (Before Class). These assignments are due at the beginning of class. **These assignments are mandatory.**

- ✓ **Multicultural Observation.** One way to experience “diversity” is to participate in the activities of ethnic groups different from your own. For this project, you will be provided a list of possible activities that you can attend. You may also attend activities not on the list, but must obtain approval from the instructor. **NO RESTAURANTS OR HOOKAH BARS!**
  
- ✓ **Cross Generational/Cultural Interview.** Interviews are extremely important in understanding the ways in which cultural values and norms influence individual development across the life span. You will conduct a brief interview with one who differs from you culturally. The interview should focus on the respondent’s subjective life experiences and milestones and problems encountered by the individual. This paper should include a description of the respondent and a summary of main findings related to the text. **Please review the guidelines for the Cultural interview assignment.** A written transcript including questions and answers from the interview must be included in the final paper. **THE INTERVIEW MUST BE FACE-TO –FACE. NO INTERNET, WEB, CHAT, OR PHONE INTERVIEWS WILL BE ACCEPTED. THEREFORE YOU SHOULD SECURE YOUR INTERVIEWEE VERY EARLY IN THE SEMESTER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

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### ✓ **Cultural Current Events.**

You will be required to stay abreast of current events that have implications for multiculturalism throughout the world. You will need to document 10 current events from different sources throughout the semester. You will include ten (1 page typed) description of each current event in your cultural portfolio. Examples of sources include but are not limited to:

### **Service Learning Project.**

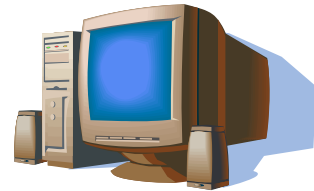
Training in cultural awareness indicates that a person can demonstrate their multicultural competencies in their work with culturally diverse individuals. You are to develop a service learning project in a community organization that would be of approximately ten hours duration all total. **Please see Service Learning Project description for details.**

### **Late Assignment Policy**

Assignments are expected at the beginning of class on the due date. A mandatory deduction of 10 points will occur for every day that the assignment is late. Extensions must be arranged in advance. (Remember the instructor is a counselor, so it doesn't hurt to ask). No assignments will be accepted later than two weeks from the original date due; after that time the assignment will be graded as a ZERO.

### **Technology Requirements/Computer Usage**

All students **MUST** have access to a computer and will be required to conduct online assignments using the appropriate technology. No exceptions will be made. Students can access computer labs at various locations on campus. Access to D2L will be required for this course. I will use your MTSU email address for communications. Check your MTSU email on a regular basis. If you have problems accessing your email accounts, including operating D2L, contact the HELP DESK at 615.898.5345.



### **Academic Honesty**

It is expected that all work you complete for this course is your own. You are expected to include appropriate citations (when applicable) in all of your work for this course. The University policy for academic misconduct will be followed. Academic misconduct includes the following behaviors: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, or facilitating. The following definitions apply:

- **Plagiarism** – the adoption or reproduction of ideas, words, statements, images, or works of another person as one's own without proper acknowledgement.
- **Cheating** – using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. The term academic exercise includes all forms of work submitted for credit or hours.



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- **Fabrication** – unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
- **Facilitation** – helping or attempting to help another to violate a provision of the institutional code of academic misconduct.

**Please make sure that all cell phones and pagers are turned off during class! Please do not answer phones or text in class. The instructor will ask you to leave, if you do not adhere to this rule.**



If you have a disability that may require assistance or accommodations, or if you have any questions related to any accommodation for testing, note taking, reading, etc., please speak with me as soon as possible. You may also contact the Office of Disabled Services (615.898.2783) with any questions about such services

***\*\*\*\*\*The instructor reserves the right to change any parts of this syllabus. You will be informed of any changes in class. \*\*\*\*\****

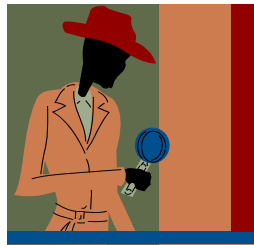
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### **Guidelines for Papers:**

- ✓ All work should be typed and doubled spaced and one sided.
- ✓ All work exceeding two pages should be stapled (a stapler will not be provided for you so please make sure your paper is stapled prior to the assigned date it is due).
- ✓ Please do not exceed the required page limit.
- ✓ Make sure all of your pages are numbered and proofread for spelling and grammar. Although this is not an English course, if I have problems comprehending your writing, I will make point deductions accordingly.
- ✓ All papers must be received in person at the beginning of class according to the assigned date.
- ✓ Papers should be written in APA style.



### **Multicultural Observation Guidelines**

You are to attend an activity associated with a culture or ethnic group distinctively different from your own. A 5 page paper should include the following information:

- ✓ Name of event or activity or place
- ✓ Date of Activity
- ✓ Description of participants (similar or different from you)
- ✓ Reflection of feelings during the event
- ✓ How did attending this function increase your awareness?
- ✓ What was is like for you to be a minority?

**\*THIS SHOULD BE IN PAPER FORM!!!!\***

\*Please include an artifact (maybe a brochure) in your portfolio as well.

Examples of Observations include:

Play in Nashville

Places of Worship

Stores catering to certain ethnic groups

Cultural Celebrations



## **Guidelines for Multicultural Movie Review**

Watch one of the movies and answer the following questions. Please remember to type all of the questions and answers. You should not exceed 4 **typed** pages. Please include the following headings:

1. **Introduction:** What movie did you select? Why did you select that movie?
2. **General Impressions:** Briefly describe your general impressions of the movie.
3. **Themes:** What was the main theme of the movie and how does it relate to cultural diversity?
4. **Main Character:** Identify the main character in the movie and explain how the character is similar to and different from you.
5. **Discussion:** What did you learn about cultural diversity and cultural sensitivity by watching the movie?
6. **Conclusion:** Please explain how this activity did or did not assist with your development of multicultural competencies (i.e., awareness, knowledge, skills, & values).

### **Movie List**

Dim Sum  
Crash  
Joy Luck Club  
Boys don't cry  
American Me  
The Namesake  
My Name is Khan  
Latin Kings  
Carlito's Way  
American History X



## **Guidelines for Cultural Interview (8-10) pages**

**Interview Questions – Your interview questions should include the following:**

- ✓ Demographic information
- ✓ Introductory questions about achievements and hardships your respondent has encountered over his or her life span.

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- ✓ Questions based on the cultural Genogram on Pg 87 in your text. (Yes, please touch on all questions)

### **Interview Paper – Your paper should include the following elements:**

- ✓ **Introduction** - You are to describe who you interviewed – age, race, religion, etc., and explain how you recruited your respondent.
- ✓ **Interview-**
  - a. Interview: You are to describe the questions that you used for your interview.
  - b. Procedure: You are to describe how and where you interviewed your respondent. How long did it take you to interview your respondent? Were they willing to answer all of your questions? Were they resistant to answer some of the questions?
- ✓ **Discussion** - please describe the following information.
  - a. Summarize the main findings from this project.
  - b. Discuss how your findings are associated with information and material in your text, assigned readings, and class discussions.
  - c. Explain how this project was or was not valuable for you.
- ✓ **Reference page**
- ✓ **Appendix** - include the interview

| Schedule |                         |  |
|----------|-------------------------|--|
| Session  | Readings                | What's due   |
| 1        | Introduction            | Color of Fear  |
| 2        | Ch 1                    |  |
| 3        | Ch 2                    |  |
| 4        | Ch 3                    | Assigned Activities for Ch(s) 1-3                              |
| 5        | Ch 4                    | <b>Multicultural Movie Review Papers and Presentation Due!</b> |
| 6        | Ch 5                    |  |
| 7        | Ch 6                    |  |
| 8        | Ch 7                    | Assigned Activities for Ch(s) 4-7<br>Work Day                  |
| 9        | Ch 8                    | <b>MULTICULTURAL OBSERVATION PAPER AND PRESENTATION DUE!</b>   |
| 10       | Ch 9                    |  |
| 11       | Ch 10                   |  |
| 12       | Ch 11                   | Assigned Activities for Ch(s)8-12                              |
| 13       | Ch 12                   | <b>Cultural Interview Paper and Presentations Due</b>          |
| 14       | Ch 13                   | Work Day   |
| 15       | Ch 14                   |  |
| 16       | Supplemental reading on | Assigned Activities for Ch(s)                                  |

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|    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
|    | Muslim Americans                          | 13-Muslim  |
| 17 | Supplemental reading on the Marginalized  |  |
| 18 | Supplemental reading on GLBTQ individuals |  |
| 19 |   | <b>GRADUATE STUDENT PRESENTATIONS AND PAPERS DUE!</b>                          |
| 20 |   | <b>Assigned activities for Marginalized and GLBTQ Multicultural Feast/ FOK</b> |
| 21 |   |  |