

U990-465: Human Relations in Education

Course Format: Online

Course Author/s: Kent Koppelman, Ph.D.

Course credits: 3

Pre/Corequisites: None; Appropriate for third-year or higher college or graduate student.

Course Description: Human differences and interactions, with special attention to diverse cultural, ethnic, and other minority group identifications. You will examine myths and misperceptions that foster prejudicial attitudes, and the effect of prejudice on expectations for people perceived as different. You will study how membership in various social groups affects identity and opportunity, and about cultural pluralism and the role of education and other institutions in promoting it.

Required Course Materials

- Koppelman, Kent. *Values in the Key of Life: Making Harmony in the Human Community*. Baywood Publishing, 2000.
- Koppelman, Kent. *Perspectives on Human Differences: Selected Readings on Diversity in America*. Pearson, 2010.

Course Learning Objectives

- Understand the forces affecting interpersonal and intergroup relations, particularly those that affect our increasingly diverse nation and professional lives in education, law, nursing, social work, higher education, and other human service occupations.
- Become more knowledgeable about human relations in those helping professions named above to achieve a sense of trust and unity among diverse groups in our society.
- Learn how culture shapes attitudes and relationships.
- Examine their own values that have been shaped by family, education, and society and that affect how one feels about oneself and about people whose cultures and backgrounds are different from one's own. These values typically affect the development of prejudice and may cause one to discriminate, intentionally or unintentionally, when making decisions or carrying out actions related to people from other groups.

Course Overview

MODULE #	MODULE TOPIC	EVALUATED ACTIVITIES
1	Defining Terms and Ourselves: Language and Values	Written Assignments 1
2	Communication, Conflict, and Conflict Resolution	Written Assignments 2
3	Understanding Prejudice and Its Causes	Written Assignments 3
4	Nativism: The Paradox of Xenophobia in a Nation of Immigrants	Written Assignments 4
5	Religious Diversity: The Effort to Achieve Religious Freedom	Written Assignments 5
6	Multicultural America: The Logic of Advocating Pluralism in a Diverse Society	Written Assignments 6
7	Racism: The Legacy Lives On	Written Assignments 7
8	Sexism: Where the Personal Becomes Political	Written Assignments 8

9	Heterosexism: Transforming Homosexuality from Deviant to Different	Written Assignments 9
10	Classism: Myths and Misperceptions about Poverty	Written Assignments 10
11	Ableism: Disability Does Not Mean Inability	Written Assignments 11
12	Pluralism in School and Society: Creating Unity in a Diverse America	Written Assignments 12
		Final Exam or Final Paper

Evaluation Methods

Your final grade will be based on your performance on the following:

- 1) Written Assignments (70%).
- 2) Final Exam or Final Paper (30%)

Written Assignment (70%)

There are 12 required assignments, each with 7 to 8 short-answer, terminology, and activity questions based on the course materials and on students' own experience and opinions (7 required questions for a maximum grade of B, and 1 additional question necessary for an A grade on the assignment).

Final Exam or Final Paper (30%)

You will have two options for the culminating activity for this course: either an eight- to ten-page paper on implementing diversity content or an open-book final exam. You only need to complete one culminating activity option. You will be able to submit either culminating activity option only AFTER you have submitted the Unit 12 work.

- **Option 1: Implementing Diversity Content Paper**
The paper should be eight to ten pages in length and follow the conventions for a college paper (i.e., double-spaced, one-inch margins, etc.).
- **Option 2: Open Book Final Exam**
The first part of this exam will ask you to respond to nine out of fourteen questions with short (one or two paragraphs) responses. The second part of the exam requires you to analyze and identify the statements related to (a) rationalizations for prejudice or (b) the perceptions about ethnic diversity. Finally, in the third part of this exam you are asked to respond to two essay questions with a multipage essay for each one.

Exam Method: Online without proctoring

This course requires all students to complete exams online. Students receive one attempt on the final exam.

Grading Scale

The following grading scale is used to evaluate all course requirements and determine your final grade:

A = 93–100	B = 83–87.9	C = 70–77.9	D = 60–69.9
AB = 88–92.9	BC = 78–82.9		F = Below 60

Pass/Fail Option

Students who enroll in an Independent Learning (IL) course under the pass/fail option will receive a final grade of S in place of a final grade equivalent to an A, AB, B, BC, or C and a final grade of U in place of a final grade equivalent to a D or F.