

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY
COURSE SYLLABUS

DEPARTMENT: Educational Studies, Leadership and Counseling
COURSE: YAA 290

CREDIT HOURS: 3.0

- I. **TITLE:** Current Trends and Issues in Youth and Human Services
- II. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** A study of current health, educational, social, economic, technological and environmental issues and trends in relation to community service organizations. An emphasis is on the response of service organizations to issues and on student assessment, opinion and involvement. (NTS I)
- III. **PURPOSE:** To develop an awareness and understanding of current trends and issues, the manner in which they are being addressed and how they might be addressed in the future (NTS VIII).
- IV. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:** The behaviors indicated below are understood to be reflective of, but not limited to those behaviors advocated by the Kentucky Education Reform Act guidelines: Following each objective, and enclosed in parentheses, are numbers which reference the Kentucky New Teacher Standards: Participants in the course will:
 - A. Assess personal values, knowledge and beliefs in regard to various issues, including cultural diversity (NTS V).
 - B. Collect information on issues, organizational programs, and levels of effectiveness.
 - C. Develop communication skills in writing, presentations, and cultural communication (NTS IV).
 - D. Participate in a service learning experience (NTS I).
- V. **CONTENT OUTLINE:**
 - A. Cultural diversity
 - B. Issues and trends assessment
 - C. Organizational programs and strategies
 - D. AH and service learning history and purpose
 - E. Communication skills
- VI. **INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:** The instructor of this class serves more as a facilitator for the reporting and sharing of information which students research through data gathering and assimilation:
 - A. Cultural diversity workshop
 - B. Guided resource/data gathering
 - C. One paper/group presentation in class
 - D. Participation in fifteen (15) hours of service in 1 or 2 pre-approved nonprofit organizations

(NTS V, NTS VI)

E. Class discussion and participation

VII. FIELD AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCE: Fifteen (15) hours of service in 1 or 2 nonprofit organizations (NTS I, NTS V, NTS VI)

VIII. RESOURCES:

A. *There Are No Children Here* - Alex Kotlowitz

B. *Leadership and Program Development in Nonprofit Organizations* – Roger Weis & Vernon Gant

C. Community service/service learning packet – Roger Weis

IX. GRADING PROCEDURES:

A. One (1) written paper: A critical analysis of There Are No Children Here, along with an "expert" opinion on an issue directly or indirectly related to the book. APA Format (NTS VIII)

- 100 points

B. Class and Service Participation

1. Class participation, 3 reports, and service learning journal

- 50 points

2. Cultural Diversity Report

- 25 points

3. 1 Quiz

- 25 points

200 total points

Grading Summary:

180 - 200 A

160 - 179 B

140 - 159 C

120 - 139 D

0 - 119 E

X. ATTENDANCE POLICY: This course adheres to the policy published in the MSU Undergraduate Bulletin.

XI. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY: Cheating, plagiarism (submitting another person's materials as one's own), or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an examination, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, or term papers, or the presentation of unacknowledged materials as if it were the student's own work. Disciplinary action may be taken beyond the academic discipline administered by the faculty member who teaches the course in which the cheating took place.

XII. TEXT REFERENCES:

A. Primary text: *There Are No Children Here* - Alex Kotlowitz

B. *Leadership and Program Development in Nonprofit Organizations* – Roger Weis &

Vernon Gant
C. Community service/service learning packet – Roger Weis

XIII. PREREQUISITES: NA