Term Information

Effective Term	Autumn 2025			
General Information				
Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area	Sociology			
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org	Sociology - D0777			
College/Academic Group	Arts and Sciences			
Level/Career	Undergraduate			
Course Number/Catalog	4791			
Course Title	Understanding Modern Genocide			
Transcript Abbreviation	Modern Genocide			
Course Description	This course is geared toward addressing six major questions about this grave crime, including 1) What is genocide? 2) Why and how does genocide happen? 3) Why do people perpetrate genocide? 4) Why and how do people resist genocide? 5) How do citizens, communities, and countries rebuild after genocide? And 6) How can we prevent genocide?			

Semester Credit Hours/Units

Offering Information

Length Of Course	14 Week
Flexibly Scheduled Course	Never
Does any section of this course have a distance education component?	Νο
Grading Basis	Letter Grade
Repeatable	No
Course Components	Lecture
Grade Roster Component	Lecture
Credit Available by Exam	No
Admission Condition Course	No
Off Campus	Never
Campus of Offering	Columbus, Lima, Mansfield, Marion, Newark, Wooster

Fixed: 3

Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites	none			
Exclusions	none			
Electronically Enforced	No			
Cross-Listings				
Cross-Listings	none			
Subject/CIP Code				
Subject/CIP Code	45.1101			
Subsidy Level	Baccalaureate Course			
Intended Rank	Junior, Senior			

Requirement/Elective Designation

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

Course Details

Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes	 Evaluate prominent theories about why genocide happens, as well as theories regarding actors and actions during genocide. 			
	• Identify major 20th century genocides and analyze their impacts on citizens (and non-citizens) and communities			
	through engagement with survivor memoirs, testimonies, and artistic works.			
	 Understand how peoples and communities rebuild after genocide. 			
	 Connect with a relevant genocide advocacy organization and apply knowledge learned in class to create a service- learning project. 			
	 Develop analytical skills that help you process and respond to current events in pursuit of being an informed, active, and engaged global citizen. 			
Content Topic List	• What is genocide?			
	• Case studies of genocide			
	Genocide prevention			
	• Ideologies of citizenship			
	Genocide resistance			
	Moral decision-making during genocide			
	• Transitional justice			
	● Restorative justice			
Sought Concurrence	Collective memory No			
Sought Concurrence				
Attachments	Understanding Modern Genocide 3 credits (1).docx (Syllabus. Owner: Downey, Douglas B)			
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Comments

• Bernadette,

We removed a significant assignment, aligning this more closely with a 3-credit hour course. Doug (by Downey, Douglas B on 12/16/2024 04:34 PM)

• Hi Doug,

- I do not think that the reinstate note is necessary since this was never a 3 credit course. The Dept of Sociology

submitted it initially as a 4-credit course.

- I notice that in itself the workload of the course has not been adjusted for 3 credits. It is the same workload as for the 4 credit version. FYI that that may be an issue if later on the dept wants to submit this again for 4 credits. Indeed, the faculty reviewers will likely wonder why the 3 and 4-credit versions include the same amount of work. I will let you decide how you want to handle this. *(by Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal on 12/13/2024 05:48 PM)*

• Please see Subcommittee feedback email sent 9/16/24. (by Neff, Jennifer on 09/16/2024 01:38 PM)

Workflow Information

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step	
Submitted	Downey,Douglas B	05/06/2024 10:22 AM	Submitted for Approval	
Approved	Downey,Douglas B	05/06/2024 10:22 AM	Unit Approval	
Approved	Vankeerbergen,Bernadet te Chantal	05/06/2024 01:38 PM	College Approval	
Revision Requested	Neff,Jennifer	05/08/2024 03:06 PM	ASCCAO Approval	
Submitted	Downey,Douglas B	05/08/2024 04:56 PM	Submitted for Approval	
Approved	Downey,Douglas B	05/08/2024 04:56 PM	Unit Approval	
Approved	Vankeerbergen,Bernadet te Chantal	05/08/2024 04:57 PM	College Approval	
Revision Requested	Neff,Jennifer	09/16/2024 01:38 PM	ASCCAO Approval	
Submitted	Downey,Douglas B	12/13/2024 01:10 PM	Submitted for Approval	
Approved	Downey,Douglas B	12/13/2024 01:10 PM	Unit Approval	
Revision Requested	Vankeerbergen,Bernadet te Chantal	12/13/2024 05:48 PM	College Approval	
Submitted	Downey,Douglas B	12/16/2024 04:34 PM	Submitted for Approval	
Approved	Downey,Douglas B	12/16/2024 04:34 PM	Unit Approval	
Approved	Vankeerbergen,Bernadet te Chantal	12/18/2024 09:50 AM	College Approval	
Approved	Vankeerbergen,Bernadet te Chantal	12/18/2024 09:51 AM	ASCCAO Approval	
Pending Approval	Martin,Andrew William Hilty,Michael Vankeerbergen,Bernadet	12/18/2024 09:51 AM	ASC Approval	
	te Chantal Steele,Rachel Lea			

Understanding Modern Genocide

Sociology 4791; Term 202X

Class time and location

Instructor: Prof. Hollie Nyseth Nzitatira, she/her/hers, nzitatira.1@osu.edu Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday, TBD, or by appointment, 162 Townshend Hall

3-Credit Hours

Course Description

Genocide killed more people during the 20th century than all of the wars or homicide combined, and genocides have also impacted hundreds of millions of others who have been victimized by sexualized violence, displacement, and deliberate efforts to change a culture. This course is geared toward addressing six major questions about this grave crime, including 1) What is genocide? 2) Why and how does genocide happen? 3) Why do people perpetrate genocide? 4) Why and how do people resist genocide? 5) How do citizens, communities, and countries rebuild after genocide? And 6) How can we prevent genocide? We will address these questions via five major case studies, including the Holocaust, Cambodia, Guatemala, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Rwanda, though we will consider colonial genocide through these cases, and the second half of the class will emphasize responses to genocide. Importantly, while we study genocide, we will also study genocide awareness and activism, and everyone will participate in a capstone project tied to genocide awareness, activism, and prevention. Indeed, preventing such atrocities requires courage and action amongst policymakers, scholars, activists, and engaged global citizens, including each of you.

Course Objectives

This course will introduce you to genocide studies. We will also connect readings and class discussions to current events, as genocide unfortunately continues to occur today. Specifically, I have designed the course with the following goals in mind for each of you:

- Evaluate prominent theories about why genocide happens, as well as theories regarding actors and actions during genocide.
- Identify major 20th century genocides and analyze their impacts on citizens (and noncitizens) and communities through engagement with survivor memoirs, testimonies, and artistic works.
- Understand how peoples and communities rebuild after genocide.
- Connect with a relevant genocide advocacy organization and apply knowledge learned in class to create a capstone project.
- Develop analytical skills that help you process and respond to current events in pursuit of being an informed, active, and engaged global citizen.

Required Texts

All readings will be posted on Carmen and should be completed prior to the class under which they are listed. I chose not to use a textbook to keep costs low, but **please read**.

Course Requirements

In-Class Writing, Group Work, and Attendance (20% of grade; 40 points)

<u>*What*</u>: Participation points will stem from mini in-class writing assignments based on the readings or group work that you will complete in class.

<u>*Why*</u>: This will serve as an attendance taking mechanism, as well as provide some accountability for reading.

<u>Due</u>: I will randomly select when we will have in-class writing assignments based on the readings, survivor testimony reflections, and/or group work that will count for participation points. I will choose more days than points to ensure there is wiggle room, and you are welcome to speak with me if you cannot attend class.

Motivations and Positionality Statement (5% of grade; 10 points)

<u>*What*</u>: After we spend time in class reflecting on motivations for the capstone project, everyone will write one-page statement reflecting on their motivations and positionality as they undertake the project.

<u>*Why*</u>: When it comes to preventing atrocities, no single person or project can stop a genocide. However, we can all make some kind of difference in our communities that helps to further tolerance, peacebuilding, intergroup dialogue, commemorations, or other efforts that support genocide prevention. In order to better discern how you can make a difference, this exercise is designed to help you think through the specific relationships, opportunities, skills, or resources that you have that can be oriented toward the broader goal of the capstone project. It is also designed to help you think about the privilege and identities that you carry. Far too often people engage in service without fully considering their power, privilege, and motivations. As such, we will explicitly consider our own positions throughout the semester.

Due: The rubric is on Carmen, this is due on {DATE}.

Testimony Engagement Journal (30% of grade; 60 points)

What: Each of you will write a series of short responses—tied to specific prompts—regarding the testimonies, stories, and artistic works that you engage with throughout the semester.

<u>*Why:*</u> Throughout this course, you will engage with heavy material, and it is important to have an outlet to interact with and think about this material. Beyond this, however, a goal of this

course involves engaging with primary source materials from survivors, and this assignment provides you with a structured way to do so.

<u>Due</u>: The rubric with more information about the testimonies and the journal is on Carmen, and your journal is due (DUE DATE). Note I will not be reading all reflections but rather ensuring they are complete, as the goal is not to do this for a grade but rather for personal reflection.

Capstone Project (45% of grade; 90 points)

What: In small groups (3-4), we will be undertaking community engagement projects with organizations dedicated to preventing or responding to genocide or groups of local communities who have survived genocide (e.g., Rwandans in Ohio). For instance, you could work with a local survivor community to plan a genocide commemoration event. Or you could plan a genocide awareness event on campus in collaboration with a local nonprofit. Note that I have pre-selected several organizations that have set projects in mind (e.g., a museum that wants help with a testimony project), though others are more open to creating the project together. We will spend the first few weeks creating groups for the project and assigning you to an organization that you will collaborate with to undertake this project throughout the semester. You will be spending significant time on a weekly basis on this project.

<u>*Why:*</u> Active learning is one of the best methods for *actually* learning. So, what better way to learn than to undertake a relevant and timely project where you can learn deeply while simultaneously collaborating with a nonprofit or community organization on important work?

<u>Due</u>: You will have time to work on this in class, and you will also have a chance to tell me about other's input to the project, as well as your own. Note, however, that a good deal of the work will need to be done outside of class. The final project will be due on (DATE), and you will receive much more information regarding what you will be expected to turn in. Note you will also give brief group presentations during the last week of class to reflect on your projects with the class. Please note that your community partners will be invited to the presentation portions of class as well.

Late Assignments and Incompletes

- Assignments are due at the start of class.
- Please **talk with me** if you would like additional time (*before* the assignment is due).
- If you do not speak with me and turn an assignment in late, points may be deducted.
- Incompletes are rare, but if you are unable to finish this class, please speak with me!

Writing, Citation Style

- Use 12-point font (any font style is ok).
- Double-space everything.
- You can use any citation style.
- Plagiarism (which includes using other's words as your own without citation but also recycling assignments) is not acceptable.

Grading

In my perfect world, I would not need to assign grades, and we could just focus on learning. However, that is not allowed. I will thus emphasize feedback over grades though will also provide clear grading rubrics and instructions for each assignment. The total number of points possible in this course is 200.

Assignment	Points
In-Class Writing, Group Work, and Attendance	40
Motivations and Positionality Statement	10
Testimony Engagement Journal	60
Capstone Engagement Project	90
Total	200

А	93-100 %	B+	87-89 %	C+	77-79 %	D+	67-69 %
A-	90-92 %	В	83-86 %	С	73-76 %	D	60-66 %
		B-	80-82 %	C-	70-72 %	E	0-59%

Important Information (please see full statements at the end of the syllabus!)

- We will cover emotional content in this course. In light of this, please aim to disagree without becoming disagreeable, and **with respect and civility** for everyone in our course.
- Please tell me how I can **accommodate for any access needs and disabilities** if you feel they can be helpful to you; also contact the Office for Disability Services at 614-292-3307 or slds@osu.edu.
- The Office for Military and Veterans Services assists military members and veterans: contact milvets@osu.edu or 614-247-8387.
- The **Collegiate Recovery Community** assists people who are in or are seeking recovery from alcohol or drug addictions: contact recover@osu.edu or 614-292-4527.
- Title IX and OSU policy **prohibit sexual misconduct of any kind**, including harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Please see https://titleix.osu.edu/global-navigation/file-a-complaint/report/

Our Classroom

Our classroom—and any online or physical spaces we inhabit during our semester together—is anti-racist, anti-sexist, anti-homophobic, and anti-transphobic. As your instructor, I will not tolerate bigotry or discrimination of any kind, including but not limited to that tied race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, physical limitations or disability, class, age, religion, nationality, and/or culture.

Ohio State also requires that each syllabus includes the following statement: The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity in the student body. Our programs and curricula reflect our multicultural society and global economy and seek to provide opportunities for students to learn more about persons who are different from them. We are committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among each member of our community; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

Expectations of Me

- This syllabus may change, but we will always discuss changes as a class.
- I will reply to emails within three days (and usually sooner).
- If you read this syllabus, email me before class on {DATE}, and you'll get extra credit!
- Visit office hours, otherwise known as student hours. This is time that I have set aside for you! I'm happy to discuss the class, career options, current events, or anything else.
- Finally, please see the end of the syllabus for the new Ohio State policy on religious accommodations.

PART 1: SETTING THE STAGE

Week 1: Introductions, Informed Citizenship, and Why Care About Genocide

Tuesday: Introductions and Motivations

Introductions, Class Contract, and Reflecting on Motivations

Verdeja, Ernesto. 2022. "Threading the Needle: Ethical Dilemmas in Preventing Mass Atrocities." In *Wicked Problems: The Ethics of Action for Peace, Rights, and Justice.* Edited by Austin Choi-Frizpatrick, Douglas Irving-Erickson, and Ernesto Verdeja.

Thursday: Defining Genocide

Fein, Helen. 1990. "Introduction" In Genocide, A Sociological Perspective. Abebooks.

Straus, Scott. 2015. "The Concept and Logic of Genocide." In *Making and Unmaking Nations: The Origins and Dynamics of Genocide in Contemporary Africa*. Cornell University Press. Pages 17-33.

De Waal, Alex. 2016. "Writing Human Rights and Getting It Wrong." Boston Review.

Week 2: Historical Genocides, Near and Far

Tuesday: Colonial and Indigenous Genocides

Alvarez, Alex. 2014. *Native America and the Question of Genocide*. Rowman & Littlefield. Chapters 1 and 2.

Dunbar-Ortiz, Roxanne. 2014. "This Land." An Indigenous People's History of the United States. New York: BeaconPress. Pages 1-12.

Thursday: Armenia

Akcam, Taner. 2022. "Short History of the Armenian Genocide." *The Cambridge World History of Genocide*, Volume 3.

Derderian, Katharine. 2005. "Common Fate, Different Experience: Gender-Specific Aspects of the Armenian Genocide, 1915–1917." *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* 19(1):1-25. Skim.

PART 2: CASE STUDIES

Week 3: The Holocaust

Tuesday: Understanding the Holocaust

Bergen, Doris. 2016. *War & Genocide. A Concise History of the Holocaust*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield. Chapters 1 and 7.

Listen to this 7-minute interview with Timothy Snyder, author of *Black Earth*. <u>https://www.npr.org/2015/09/09/438943243/black-earth-explores-dangers-of-misunderstanding-the-holocaust</u>

Watch this testimony: https://www.ushmm.org/remember/holocaust-reflections-testimonies/one-survivor-remembers

Thursday: Resistance During the Holocaust

Einwohner, Rachel L. 2022. *Hope and Honor: Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust*. Oxford University Press. Chapter 1.

Choose to read either: "My Name is Selma" by Selma Van de Perre or "A Partisan's Memoir" by Faye Schulman

Community Project Time and Reflection

Week 4: Upstream Genocide Prevention

Tuesday: Risk Factors of Genocide

Nyseth Nzitatira, Hollie. "Predicting Genocide." Pages 45-74 in *Genocide: Key Themes*. Edited by Dirk Moses and Donald Bloxham. Oxford University Press.

Skim: <u>https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/human_rights/atrocity-crimes-initiative/van-schaack-atrocities-prevention-blueprint-white-paper-2021.pdf</u>

Thursday: Leadership Models

Valentino, Benjamin. 2004. "Chapter 1. Mass Killing and Genocide," In Final Solutions: *Mass Killing and Genocide in the 20th Century*. Cornell University Press. pp. 9-15.

Choose one from several TEDx talks posted on the Carmen page about citizenship, privilege, and activism.

Community Project Time and Reflection

Week 5: Cambodia

Tuesday: Overview

Hinton, Alexander Laban. 2005. *Why Did they Kill?: Cambodia in the Shadow of Genocide*. University of California Press. Chapter 1.

Read "First They Killed My Father" by Luong Ung and this critical analysis of survivor testimony: <u>https://daily.jstor.org/should-readers-trust-inaccuracy-in-memoirs-about-genocide/</u>

Spend time on the Cambodian Genocide Project Website. <u>https://gsp.yale.edu/case-studies/cambodian-genocide-program</u>

Thursday: Ideologies of Citizenship

Read this brief interview with Keith Chee: <u>https://contexts.org/articles/contextualizing-cambodia/</u>

Weitz, Eric. 2003. "Radical Communism: Cambodia Under the Khmer Rouge." In A Century of Genocide: Utopias of Race and Nation. Princeton University Press.

Listen to Monica Sok read *The Weaver* from *A Nail the Evening Hangs On*: https://www.coppercanyonpress.org/books/a-nail-the-evening-hangs-on-by-monica-sok/

Week 6: Guatemala

Tuesday: Overview of Indigeneity, Citizenship, and the Genocide

Choose one of the USC Shoah foundation testimonies on the Carmen website to listen to before class.

Read pages TBD from I, Rigoberta Menchu: An Indian Woman in Guatemala.

Thursday: Archival Work in Guatemala

Weld, Kirsten. 2014. *Paper Cadavers: The Archives of Dictatorship in Guatemala*. Duke University Press. Chapter 1.

Skim: Sanford, Victoria. 2008. "From Genocide to Feminicide: Impunity and Human Rights in Twenty-First Century Guatemala." *Journal of Human Rights* 7(2): 104-122.

Community Project Time and Reflection

Week 7: Bosnia-Herzegovina

Tuesday: Citizenship, Nationalism, and Identity during Genocide

Sekulic, Dusko, Garth Massey, and Randy Hodson. 1994. "Who Were the Yugoslavs? Failed Sources of a Common Identity in the Former Yugoslavia." *American Sociological Review*: 83-97.

Listen to testimony by Smajil Klempić: https://sfi.usc.edu/collections/bosnia-herzegovina#

Thursday: Gender-Based Violence During Genocide

Hansen, Lene. 2000. "Gender, Nation, Rape: Bosnia and the Construction of Security." *International Feminist Journal of Politics* 3(1): 55-75.

Community Project Time and Reflection

Week 8: Rwanda

Tuesday: Overview

Mironoko, Charles. 2004. "Igitero: Means and Motive in the Rwandan Genocide." *Journal of Genocide Research* 6(1): 47-60.

Listen to Immaculee Ilibagiza: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcWRfxttOlk

Thursday: International Response

Barnett, Michael N. 1997. "The UN Security Council, Indifference, and Genocide in Rwanda." *Cultural Anthropology* 12(4): 551-578.

For more: See Shake Hands with the Devil by Romeo Dallaire.

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PART 3: RESPONDING TO AND PREVENTING GENOCIDE

Week 9: Moral Decision-Making During Genocide

Tuesday: Participation in Violence

Williams, Timothy. 2020. "The Complexity of Evil: Introducing the Model." *The Complexity of Evil: Perpetration and Genocide*. Chapter 1.

Fujii, Lee Ann. 2008. "The Power of Local Ties: Popular Participation in the Rwandan Genocide." *Security Studies* 17(3):568-597.

Thursday: Rescue Efforts and Resistance

Nechama Tec. 2008. Defiance: The Bielski Partisans. Oxford University Press. Pages TBD.

Read one of the rescue testimonies on the Aegis Trust website regarding Rwanda: https://www.aegistrust.org/what-we-do/activities/genocide-archive-rwanda/

Community Project Time and Reflection

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Week 10: Mid-Stream Genocide Prevention and the Aftermath

Tuesday: Intervention in Genocide

Waller, James. 2016. Chapter 5: "Midstream Prevention Strategies." In *Confronting Evil: Engaging Our Responsibility to Prevent Genocide*. Oxford University Press.

Spend time on the USHMM Toolkit (Click "Tools for Atrocity Prevention) here: https://www.ushmm.org/genocide-prevention/simon-skjodt-center/work/lessons-learned

Thursday: Victimology of Genocide

McEvoy, Kieran, and Kirsten McConnachie. 2012. "Victimology in Transitional Justice: Victimhood, Innocence and Hierarchy." *European Journal of Criminology* 9(5):527-538.

Community Project Time and Reflection

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Week 11: Depicting Genocide

Tuesday: Representing Violence

Bringedal Houge, Anette. 2022. "Violent Re-Presentations: Reflections on the Ethics of Re-Presentation in Violence Research." *Qualitative Research*. Early view 1-17. (Skim)

Read this review regarding dark tourism: https://wheretheroadforks.com/dark-tourism-ethics-and-criticisms/

Thursday: Working with Testimony

How to Use Testimony: <u>https://www.ushmm.org/m/pdfs/USHMM-Guidelines-Teaching-with-</u> <u>Survivor-Testimony.pdf</u>

Skim re: secondary trauma: https://psychcentral.com/health/secondary-trauma#causes

Week 12: Transitional Justice Courts

Tuesday: Transitional Justice

Mamdani, Mahmood. 2010. "Responsibility to Protect or Right to Punish." Journal of International Statebuilding 4(1):53-67.

Hinton, Alexander. 2018. *The Justice Facade: Trials of Transition in Cambodia*. Oxford University Press. Chapter 1.

Engage with Nuremberg Prosecutor Ferencz (in a new interactive website where you can ask him questions): https://iwitness.usc.edu/dit/benferencz

Thursday: Restorative Justice

Minow, Martha. 1999. *Between Vengeance and Forgiveness: Facing History after Genocide and Mass Violence*. Beacon Press. Pages TBD.

Daly, Erin. 2008. "Truth Skepticism: An Inquiry into the Value of Truth in Times of Transition." *International Journal of Transitional Justice* 2: 23-41.

Watch this brief video of Desmond Tutu: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=YY-ee1hhghQ</u>

Week 13: Localized Justice and Collective Memory

Tuesday: Localizing Restorative Justice

Shaw, Rosalind, Lars Waldorf, and Pierre Hazan, eds. 2010. *Localizing Transitional Justice: Interventions and Priorities after Mass Violence*. Stanford University Press. Choose one chapter to skim from the eBook linked on Carmen. Murithi, Tim. 2022. "The Ethics of Transitional Justice." *Wicked Problems: The Ethics of Action for Peace, Rights, and Justice*. Edited by Austin Choi-Frizpatrick, Douglas Irving-Erickson, and Ernesto Verdeja.

Community Project Time and Reflection

Thursday: Collective Memory

Jacobs, Janet. 2017. "The Memorial at Srebrenica: Gender and the Social Meanings of Collective Memory in Bosnia-Herzegovina." *Memory Studies* 10(4):423–39.

Fox, Nicole. 2021. "Trauma and the Stratification of Collective Memory." *After Genocide: Memory and Reconciliation in Rwanda*. University of Wisconsin Press. Pages 71-93. (Skim)

Week 14: Current Genocides and Wrapping Up

Tuesday: Rohingya and Uyghur Genocide

Azeem, Ibrahim. 2018. *The Rohingyas: Inside Myanmar's Genocide* London: Hurst & Co. Pages TBD.

Group presentations reflecting on capstone projects.

Thursday: Wrapping Up—Group presentations of capstone projects

Academic Misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct <u>http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/</u>.

Religious Accommodations

Ohio State has had a longstanding practice of making reasonable academic accommodations for students' religious beliefs and practices in accordance with applicable law. In 2023, Ohio State updated its practice to align with new state legislation. Under this new provision, students must be in early communication with their instructors regarding any known accommodation requests for religious beliefs and practices, providing notice of specific dates for which they request alternative accommodations within 14 days after the first instructional day of the course. Instructors in turn shall not question the sincerity of a student's religious or spiritual belief system in reviewing such requests and shall keep requests for accommodations confidential.

With sufficient notice, instructors will provide students with reasonable alternative accommodations with regard to examinations and other academic requirements with respect to students' sincerely held religious beliefs and practices by allowing up to three absences each semester for the student to attend or participate in religious activities. Examples of religious accommodations can include, but are not limited to, rescheduling an exam, altering the time of a student's presentation, allowing make-up assignments to substitute for missed class work, or flexibility in due dates or research responsibilities. If concerns arise about a requested accommodation, instructors are to consult their tenure initiating unit head for assistance.

A student's request for time off shall be provided if the student's sincerely held religious belief or practice severely affects the student's ability to take an exam or meet an academic requirement and the student has notified their instructor, in writing during the first 14 days after the course begins, of the date of each absence. Although students are required to provide notice within the first 14 days after a course begins, instructors are strongly encouraged to work with the student to provide a reasonable accommodation if a request is made outside the notice period. A student may not be penalized for an absence approved under this policy.

If students have questions or disputes related to academic accommodations, they should contact their course instructor, and then their department or college office. For questions or to report discrimination or harassment based on religion, individuals should contact the **Office of Institutional Equity.**

Policy: Religious Holidays, Holy Days and Observances

Student Life and Disability Services

The university strives to maintain a healthy and accessible environment to support student learning in and out of the classroom. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based on your disability (including mental health, chronic, or temporary medical conditions), please let me know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, I may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion.

If you are isolating while waiting for a COVID-19 test result, please let me know immediately. Those testing positive for COVID-19 should refer to the <u>Safe and Healthy Buckeyes site</u> for resources. Beyond five days of the required COVID-19 isolation period, I may rely on Student Life Disability Services to establish further reasonable accommodations. You can connect with them at <u>slds@osu.edu</u>; 614-292-3307; or <u>slds.osu.edu</u>.

Mental Health

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. The Ohio State University offers services to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. If you or someone you know are suffering from any of the aforementioned conditions, you can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via the Office of Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) by visiting ccs.osu.edu or calling 614-292-5766. CCS is located on the 4th Floor of the Younkin Success Center and 10th Floor of Lincoln Tower. You can reach an on call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766 and 24 hour emergency help is also available 24/7 by dialing 988 to reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.