

## HDFS 3153.001: The Impact of Culture on Individuals and Families

### Instructor Contact

**Name:** Payton Birlew, M.S., CFLE

**Pronouns:** she/her/hers

**Office Location:** Matthews Hall 322-DA

**Office Hours:** Mondays 8:30-10:30 AM, Wednesdays 12:30-2:30 PM, and Fridays 9:00 AM-12:00 PM  
(Also available by appointment)

**Email:** Payton.Birlew@unt.edu

**Communication Expectations:** You may email me, message me via Canvas, or post a question to the “Course Questions” discussion board. Students can expect to hear back from the instructor within 24 hours (*excluding weekends*) of sending an email/message/discussion post.

**Course Meets:** Mondays | 2:00-4:50 PM

**Class Meeting Place:** WH 216 (Wooten Hall)

### Course Description

The study of diverse cultural and societal dynamics that influence individuals and families. The focus will be on dimensions of culture, ethnicity, economic status, religion, gender, and lifestyle that affect individual development and family functioning. This course will provide an opportunity for students to learn and celebrate diversity of individuals and families by enhancing their knowledge, promoting interaction, and facilitating discussions regarding cultural and social issues that affect the population. 3 hours.

### Course Structure

This course will be 100% face-to-face instruction. Students are responsible for attending class consistently on Mondays from 2:00-4:50 PM, keeping up with assigned readings and course assignments, and participating in in-class discussions and activities. **You must consistently attend class to be successful in this course; if you are unable to attend and participate in class on our scheduled day and time, you should not take this course.**

### Course Prerequisites

This course has no prerequisites.

## Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and sensitivity toward families and individuals of various cultures.
2. Analyze the ways in which the intersectionality of race, culture, social class, sex, and gender shapes and affects the lives of families and individuals.
3. Demonstrate understanding of how individual biases and practices as a human development and family science professional shape and affect the individual family clients.
4. Articulate the role of systems of privilege and oppression on individuals and families.

## Required Materials

Sloan, L. M., Joyner, M. C., Stakeman, C. J., & Schmitz, C. L. (2018). *Critical multiculturalism and intersectionality in a complex world* (2nd ed.). Oxford University Press.

Supplemental readings added to Canvas

APA Style Blog (free)

## How to Succeed in this Course – Course Policies

### Our Learning Environment

#### *Culture of Respect*

At the foundation of this course are the College of Education's values of equity, lifelong learning, wellness, and social connectedness. As the instructor, I am committed to fostering an inclusive learning environment. I value the diverse perspectives students bring to our campus. Please work with me to create a classroom culture of open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion.

Given our course topic and emphasis on dialogue, you will likely be confronted with new ideas that may challenge your existing views. It is normal to feel discomfort while learning new things. Often, discomfort can be indicative of growth that can aid you in your future careers in a multicultural society.

Although dialogue is central to learning in this course, personal attacks are unacceptable. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation so we will work as a class to collaborate in ways that encourage inclusivity. Together, we can ensure a safe and welcoming classroom for all. If you ever feel like this is not the case, please meet with me. We are all learning together. For more details: [Code of Student Conduct](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>)

#### *Disability Accommodations*

Anyone who feels they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Office of Disability Access (ODA). I rely on the ODA for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. If you have not previously contacted the ODA, I encourage you to do so. I am also available to support you in that process. ODA website has instructions to register: [studentaffairs.unt.edu](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu)

### *Children in the Classroom*

I recognize that childcare can fall through, leaving parents and caretakers in a bind. Children are welcome in the classroom in these instances. Consider sitting near the door and bringing activities as not to disrupt other students' learning. Please contact me if you have any questions.

### *Observance of Religious Holidays*

If you plan to observe a religious holy day(s) that coincide with a class day, please contact me as soon as possible.

### *Food Pantry*

If you need access to food, UNT hosts a food pantry at Crumley Hall (Diamond Eagle Student Resource Center). Students may visit the pantry once per week. Hours and contact information can be found online at the Division of Student Affairs website: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/food-pantry/hours>

### *Course Technology Policy*

Access to the Internet can be a valuable aid to the classroom learning environment. You are encouraged to use a laptop, smart phone, or other device to take notes and participate in iClicker activities. Keep in mind, however, that these technologies can be distracting – not only for you, but to others in the class. Please avoid the temptation of social media, texting, or other off-topic diversions. ***If you choose to use your laptop in class and are using it for non-course purposes that detract from the integrity of the learning environment (social media; watching movies, etc.), you will not be permitted to use your computer for the remainder of the semester. Staying focused will help you succeed!***

While technology can aid in note taking and participation, the use of technology to take pictures, video, or audio recording of this course is prohibited. Doing so will be considered a violation of the student code of conduct. I may ask you to leave class and make a referral to the Dean of Students.

*From the University:* Class recordings are the intellectual property of the university or instructor and are reserved for use only by students in this class and only for educational purposes. Students may not post or otherwise share the recordings outside the class, or outside the Canvas Learning Management System, in any form. Failing to follow this restriction is a violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct and could lead to disciplinary action.

### *iClicker Participation*

To be successful in this course, you will need to have access to the following technology:

- iClicker Student account
- Computer, smartphone, or tablet
- Reliable internet access

The iClicker Student app (formerly iClicker Reef) is a mobile and web app you will use to participate in polling, quizzing, attendance, and assignment activities. You can access the iClicker Student app on mobile devices, tablets, or laptops.

You can create an account by downloading the iClicker student mobile app via the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) or by visiting the [iClicker student web app](#). **Do not create a duplicate account if you already have an iClicker account.** To create an account with iClicker, select University of North Texas as your

institution, and enter your EUID (your Canvas login ID) in the Student ID space. Use your university-provided email address to register your account.

You will be provided with a join code link during our first class session. Log in to your iClicker account, click on our course, and JOIN when we are in session. Connecting via Wi-Fi while in UNT classrooms is highly recommended.

### Technical Assistance

**UIT Help Desk:** UIT Student Help Desk site (<https://aits.unt.edu/support>)

**Email:** [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu)

**Phone:** 940-565-2324

**In Person:** Sage Hall, Room 330

**See Help Desk site for information about hours for Walk-ins and phone/chat support.**

For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help (<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328>)

### Attendance Policy

This is a large class, and tardiness and absences will occur (because life). However, since we only meet once a week, every class meeting is essential to your success. To encourage your attendance, in-class participation points are built into your final grade. Our dialogue-based activities require you to be actively engaged in discussions and group work.

In-class participation points cannot be made up; however, a rare absence will not significantly impact your final grade. You do not need to notify me if you are missing class unless you would like for it be an 'excused absence.' See below for late work policy and refer to UNT's [Student Attendance and Authorized Absences Policy \(PDF\)](#). Excused absences can include:

- Religious holy day or observance (with prior approval)
- Illness (personal or dependent)
- Funeral or loss of a loved one
- Military or active-duty service
- Other extenuating circumstances

If you are experiencing extenuating circumstances that impact your ability to participate in this class, please contact me. I can help you navigate the policies and resources in place at UNT to support you.

### Class Participation

Students are expected to fully participate in the course. Appropriate participation consists of keeping up with readings, engaging in class discussions and activities (including iClicker), and always exhibiting respectful behavior.

### Three-Hour Class Sessions

This course meets once a week for just under three hours. All my instructional choices are designed to promote engagement and learning with this consideration of time in mind. I will always offer at least one break (~10-15 minutes). If you need to move around otherwise, please do so. Consider bringing water, snacks, or caffeine as needed.

### Communications Policy

- **Check for announcements often**
- Contact your instructor (by email at [payton.birlew@unt.edu](mailto:payton.birlew@unt.edu) or via message on Canvas) for questions about the course that cannot be answered by reading the syllabus or Canvas (i.e., requirements, assignments, exams, or grades).
- During the week I aim to respond to questions within 24 hours. On the weekends, expect to wait 48 hours for a response. During busy times, my inbox becomes rather full, so if you contact me and do not receive a response within two business days, please send a follow up email. A gentle nudge is always appreciated.
- Office hours offer you an opportunity to ask for clarification or find support with understanding class material. Come visit me! I encourage you to connect with me for support. Your success is my goal.
- Email me a picture of something that you feel is representative of your cultural identity for 5 bonus points added to your course points total.

### Late Work Policy

Late work is not acceptable. You must keep up with your work and turn it in on time. If you need to submit an assignment late and want to avoid a point deduction, you **MUST** communicate with the instructor *BEFORE the assignment is due* to request an extension. The instructor reserves the right to reject your request for an extension on assignments. **There will be a point penalty for any work that is submitted late and has not been granted an extension prior to the due date:**

#### Late Work Point Penalties:

Immediately after due time – 24 hours late: 20% point deduction

24 hours – 48 hours late: 40% point deduction

48 hours – 72 hours late: 60% point deduction

72 hours – 96 hours late: 80% point deduction

More than 96 hours late: assignment will not be accepted; automatic zero.

### Examination Policy

DO NOT under any circumstances copy test items, even if you want to ask me about them later (just write down the question number) -- this is an honor code violation and can result in course- and university-level consequences.

You will take two content quizzes on Canvas during this course. Each quiz is worth 50 points. Quizzes may include a variety of question types including all or some of the following: multiple choice, true/false, matching, fill-in-the-blanks, and short answer/essay. Legitimate reasons for missing a quiz include medical, judicial, or serious personal events that truly do not allow you to take the quiz. If you miss a quiz, you will be asked to provide documentation to support the reason for your absence. The makeup quiz may be different from the original quiz given in class and may include different question types. Quizzes will open one week prior to their due date and will close after the due date has passed. Both quizzes should be completed independently.

### Assignment Policy

During the first week of class, you will be given a blank notebook that you will use to write and submit your Reflective Journals throughout the semester. You will be given the opportunity to personalize your

journal during your first in-class meeting with your PLC; you may add any additional personalization or decoration to the outside or inside covers of your journal as long as the instructor is able to clearly identify the first and last name of the student that the journal belongs to. You may use a pencil or pen to hand write your journal entries. Please do not use marker, highlighter, or colored pencil as your primary writing tool (though you may use these materials for emphasis in your journal entries). Do not type your journal entries and then print/attach them to your journal. Students who have accommodations with the ODA allowing them to use a computer or other device/software for handwritten assignments may type their journal entries and submit them on Canvas.

All assignments other than Reflective Journals will be submitted to Canvas unless completed in class. Assignments should be submitted prior to the due date to avoid any technical issues that may arise. Employment, time management, and computer problems are examples of excuses that are not valid. Follow instructions on Canvas and/or call the student IT help line if a technical problem arises. A windstorm and lack of electric power is an example of a verifiable excuse for lack of computer access.

**All written assignments other than Reflective Journals should be professional in appearance and in APA formatting.** Your work is expected to be written at the level of a professional in the field and well-edited. Written work should be spelling, grammar, and typographical error-free. Points will be deducted for any assignment not meeting these expectations. Be sure to follow the formatting guidelines provided for each assignment in this course.

**Assignments must be submitted in Word (.doc/.docx) or PDF (.pdf) format, unless specifically otherwise noted in assignment instructions.** Do not submit assignments in Pages (.pages) format. Do not submit assignments by providing a Google Doc or other link. Assignments submitted in an incorrect file format will be considered late until the proper file type is submitted.

### Course Policy about Artificial Intelligence

Recent advances in artificial intelligence have provided a number of tools that can be used (or misused) for many purposes. However, most of the writing we do in this class requires **personal reflection** – no matter how sophisticated a computer is, **it can't read your mind** to recount your experiences as a developing human, examine your future plans for professional practice, or elaborate on your own convictions on important issues.

- 1. AI-Assisted Original Work:** AI (e.g., ChatGPT) may be helpful for initial research on a topic, understanding elements of the genre in which you will be writing, and grammar/language guidance. However, it is unacceptable to submit an assignment entirely completed with or by AI. **Any work submitted must reflect your own understanding and knowledge. You should not use AI-generated content as your own without appropriate understanding and processing of the information.** This includes AI-created essays, solutions to problems, or any other assignments that are not the result of your own intellectual efforts.
- 2. AI and Plagiarism:** Your credibility as a writer and student relies on both generating your own ideas in your own words and giving attribution (credit) to sources. AI is increasingly available and will undoubtedly be part of your career. Therefore, understanding its uses without depending on it is an essential skill. That distinction, and strong writing itself, relies on critical thinking and employing strategies to develop ideas and assess arguments. That's what this course is about. So, while some

assignments may invite the use of online tools, the core expectation for our class is that the work you submit is your own original writing. **Using the work of someone else including AI and without citing it is a form of cheating/plagiarism.** Just as copying information from websites or other resources without giving proper credit is plagiarism, using AI-generated content without due acknowledgement or understanding is also plagiarism. **You should not represent AI-generated content as your own original work.**

Cases involving academic dishonesty, including misuse of AI, may be handled by the instructor or may be referred to the administration. **Consequences may include but are not limited to:** receiving a zero for an assignment where AI has been misused, receiving an alternate assignment that must be handwritten in person, completion of a training on appropriate and inappropriate uses of AI before any more assignments may be attempted, additional monitoring of student work, or automatic failure of the course (please see course Academic Integrity policy [p. 8-9] for additional details).

### Syllabus Change Policy

All dates/assignments are subject to change at discretion of instructor. Changes will be announced in class and on Canvas.

### Course Requirements

1. Peer Learning Circles (no points – weaved throughout assignments): Throughout the semester, students will complete some in-class activities and ongoing assignments in Peer Learning Circles (PLC). The PLC's will be created randomly (~5-6 peers) at the start of the semester. The purpose of these learning circles is to develop deepened understanding of course content through dialogue with a consistent group of peers. Groups will be asked to meet periodically via Canvas and class sessions.
2. In-Class Participation (200 points total; 20% of final grade): Students should read the assigned materials prior to attending class. Participation points vary (~10-15 points per course meeting). In-class participation can be earned through short formative quizzes, iClicker responses, individual and group assignments, or other in-class activities. In-class participation points cannot be made up without an excused absence (see attendance policy).
3. Quizzes (2 quizzes x 50 pts each = 100 points total; 10% of final grade): There will be two content quizzes to be completed via Canvas. Quiz 1 will cover content from weeks 1-6 and Quiz 2 will cover weeks 7-13. Quizzes will open at the conclusion of class the week before they are due and will close at the beginning of class on their due date.  
**Quiz 1 is due on Monday 9/29 at 2:00 PM**  
**Quiz 2 is due on Monday 11/17 at 2:00 PM**
4. Reflective Journaling (6 journals x 50 pts each = 300 points total; 30% of final grade): The purpose of reflective journaling is to demonstrate engagement with course materials, and to engage in critical self-reflection about your own learning within the course and assignments. Journals will be written by hand in the notebooks provided to students on the first day of class and must be physically turned in by the start of class on their respective due dates to earn full points for on-time submission. Journals submitted during or at the conclusion of class will be considered late and

points will be deducted in accordance with the late work policy in the course syllabus. Students who have an approved accommodation through the ODA related to handwritten work may submit their journals via Canvas (2 pgs., double-spaced). There will be 7 journal prompts throughout the semester; I will drop your lowest score for a total of 6 journal entries. All journal entries are private between the student and instructor. While these entries should be polished and readable to the instructor, they can be written informally. All journal prompts and grading rubrics are available on Canvas.

**Journal 1 is due on Monday 8/25 at 2:00 PM**

**Journal 2 is due on Monday 9/8 at 2:00 PM**

**Journal 3 is due on Monday 9/15 at 2:00 PM**

**Journal 4 is due on Monday 10/6 at 2:00 PM**

**Journal 5 is due on Monday 10/13 at 2:00 PM**

**Journal 6 is due on Monday 10/27 at 2:00 PM**

**Journal 7 is due on Monday 11/3 at 2:00 PM**

5. Building Bridges Experience (150 points total; 15% of final grade): The goal of this assignment is for students to deepen their understanding of an identity group that is different than their own. Students will (1) attend a public event for the selected community; (2) summarize a recent empirical research article about the selected community, and (3) present a synthesis of your experience to your PLC. This assignment will be completed in three parts over the duration of the semester:

**Discussion Board: Community Selection (25 points)**

- initial post is due 9/22 at 2 PM; peer replies are due 9/29 at 2 PM

**Discussion Board: Empirical Article (50 points)**

- initial post is due 11/10 at 2 PM; peer replies are due 11/17 at 2 PM

**Presentation in Peer Learning Circles (75 points)**

- presentation materials are due on Canvas 12/1 at 2 PM; presentations to PLC are in class on 12/1

6. Family Socialization Interview Paper (100 points total; 10% of final grade): Students will write a 3-page APA style paper describing an interview with a family elder (broadly defined). The goal of this paper is to deepen your understanding of how your familial socialization has shaped your cultural understanding and worldview.

**Family Socialization Interview Paper is due on Monday 10/20 at 2:00 PM**

7. Personal Development Synthesis Paper (150 points total; 15% of final grade): In this final paper, students will evaluate their learning and development over the semester. Students will reflect on any changes in their pre-post survey, identify three areas of personal growth by integrating course learning experiences, and apply learning to their future career in HDFS or education.

**Pre-semester survey (10 points) is due on Monday 8/25 at 2:00 PM**

**Post-semester survey (10 points) is due on Monday 12/1 at 2:00 PM**

**Personal Development Synthesis Final Paper (130 points) is due on Monday 12/8 at 2:00 PM**

### Summary of Course Requirements:

<b>In-Class Participation</b>	200 points/20%
<b>Quizzes</b>	100 points/10%
<b>Reflective Journaling</b>	300 points/30%
<b>Building Bridges Project</b>	150 points/15%
<b>Family Socialization Interview Paper</b>	100 points/10%
<b>Personal Development Synthesis Paper</b>	150 points/15%
<b><u>Total Possible Points:</u></b>	<b>1000 points</b>



## Grading

The following grading scale will be used:

A =	900 - 1000 points
B =	800 - 899 points
C =	700 - 799 points
D =	600 - 699 points
F =	Below 599 points

## Course Evaluation

Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT) is the student evaluation system for UNT and allows students the ability to confidentially provide constructive feedback to their instructor and department to improve the quality of student experiences in the course. **SPOT Evaluations will be open from November 11<sup>th</sup> – December 4<sup>th</sup>.**

## Important UNT Policies

### Academic Integrity Policy

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

**Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam. Subsequent academic integrity violations will result in harsher penalties, up to and including automatic failure of the course.** Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Dean of Students/Office of Academic Integrity, who may impose further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: a. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; c. the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; d. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or e. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage.

The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: a. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and b. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

### ADA Policy

The University of North Texas makes reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. To request accommodations, you must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) by completing an application for services and providing documentation to verify your eligibility each

semester. Once your eligibility is confirmed, you may request your letter of accommodation. ODA will then email your faculty a letter of reasonable accommodation, initiating a private discussion about your specific needs in the course.

You can request accommodations at any time, but it's important to provide ODA notice to your faculty as early as possible in the semester to avoid delays in implementation. Keep in mind that you must obtain a new letter of accommodation for each semester and meet with each faculty member before accommodations can be implemented in each class. You are strongly encouraged to meet with faculty regarding your accommodations during office hours or by appointment. Faculty have the authority to ask you to discuss your letter during their designated office hours to protect your privacy. For more information and to access resources that can support your needs, refer to the Office of Disability Access website (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>).

### Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT is committed to the safety and security of the campus community and recognizes the value of maintaining university operations. However, in the event university operations are disrupted due to an emergency or other hazardous conditions threatening the safety, health, or welfare of the campus community, UNT may be required to cancel classes, suspend operations, or close campus in its entirety.

UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

### Retention of Student Records

Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student's records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University's policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.

### Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT's Code of Student Conduct (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct>) to learn more.

### Access to Information - Eagle Connect

Students' access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: [my.unt.edu](https://my.unt.edu). All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student's Eagle Connect account. For more

information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail Eagle Connect (<https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect>).

### Student Evaluation Administration Dates

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 14, 15, and 16 [November 11 – December 4, 2025] of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" ([no-reply@iasystem.org](mailto:no-reply@iasystem.org)) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey, they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (<http://spot.unt.edu/>) or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto:spot@unt.edu).

### Survivor Advocacy

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. Federal laws (Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act) and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, and therefore prohibit sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. UNT's Survivor Advocates can assist a student who has been impacted by violence by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change where appropriate, and connecting students to other resources available both on and off campus. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto:SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu) or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648. Additionally, alleged sexual misconduct can be non-confidentially reported to the Title IX Coordinator at [oeo@unt.edu](mailto:oeo@unt.edu) or at (940) 565 2759.

### Use of Student Work

A student owns the copyright for all work (e.g. software, photographs, reports, presentations, and email postings) he or she creates within a class and the University is not entitled to use any student work without the student's permission unless all of the following criteria are met:

- The work is used only once.
- The work is not used in its entirety.
- Use of the work does not affect any potential profits from the work.
- The student is not identified.
- The work is identified as student work.

If the use of the work does not meet all of the above criteria, then the University office or department using the work must obtain the student's written permission.

## Academic Support & Student Services

### Student Support Services

#### *Mental Health*

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- [Student Health and Wellness Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center>)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- [UNT Care Team](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>)
- [UNT Psychiatric Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry>)
- [Individual Counseling](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling>)

#### *Chosen Names*

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- [UNT Records](#)
- [UNT ID Card](#)
- [UNT Email Address](#)
- [Legal Name](#)

*\*UNT eulDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.*

#### *Additional Student Support Services*

- [Registrar](https://registrar.unt.edu/registration) (<https://registrar.unt.edu/registration>)
- [Financial Aid](https://financialaid.unt.edu/) (<https://financialaid.unt.edu/>)
- [Student Legal Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services>)
- [Career Center](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center>)
- [Counseling and Testing Services](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services) (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- [UNT Food Pantry](https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry) (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry>)

### Academic Support Services

- [Academic Resource Center](https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources) (<https://clear.unt.edu/canvas/student-resources>)
- [Academic Success Center](https://success.unt.edu/asc) (<https://success.unt.edu/asc>)
- [UNT Libraries](https://library.unt.edu/) (<https://library.unt.edu/>)
- [Writing Lab](http://writingcenter.unt.edu/) (<http://writingcenter.unt.edu/>)

HDFS 3153 - Course Calendar – Fall 2025				
Week	Date of Class	Lecture Topic(s)	Reading(s)	Assignment(s) Due (all due on Mondays at 2 PM)
<b>1</b> (8/18-8/24)	8/18	Introduction & Course Overview – How to Succeed in HDFS 3153	Syllabus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Syllabus Quiz (in class)</li> <li>Student Information Form (in class)</li> </ul>
<b>2</b> (8/25-8/31)	8/25	Critical Multiculturalism, Cultural Humility	Chapter 1 (pp. 1-8) Canvas readings	<b>Journal 1</b> Pre-semester survey
<b>3</b> (9/1-9/7)	<del>9/1</del>	<b>NO CLASS 9/1 – LABOR DAY</b>		
<b>4</b> (9/8-9/14)	9/8	Social Identity, Power, Oppression	Chapter 1 (pg. 9-22) Chapter 2 (pg. 23-26) Canvas readings	<b>Journal 2</b>
<b>5</b> (9/15-9/21)	9/15	Race, Ethnicity, Nationality (pt. 1)	Chapter 3	<b>Journal 3</b>
<b>6</b> (9/22-9/28)	9/22	Race, Ethnicity, Nationality (pt. 2)	Chapter 2 Canvas readings	Discussion Board – Community Selection (initial post)
<b>7</b> (9/29-10/5)	9/29	Class and SES	Canvas readings	Discussion Board – Community Selection (peer replies) Quiz 1
<b>8</b> (10/6-10/12)	10/6	Gender, Sex, Sexual Orientation	Chapter 4	<b>Journal 4</b>
<b>9</b> (10/13-10/19)	10/13	Age	Canvas readings	<b>Journal 5</b>
<b>10</b> (10/20-10/26)	10/20	Immigration and Xenophobia	Canvas readings	Family Socialization Interview Paper
<b>11</b> (10/27-11/2)	10/27	Disability	Chapter 5 Canvas readings	<b>Journal 6</b>
<b>12</b> (11/3-11/9)	11/3	Religious Discrimination	Canvas readings	<b>Journal 7</b>
<b>13</b> (11/10-11/16)	11/10	Intersectionality & Working for Change	Chapter 6	Discussion Board- Empirical Article (initial post)
<b>14</b> (11/17-11/23)	11/17	Application to Research and Careers	Chapter 7	Quiz 2 Discussion Board – Empirical Article (peer replies)
<b>15</b> (11/24-11/30)	<del>11/24</del>	<b>NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING BREAK</b>		
<b>16</b> (12/1-12/7)	12/1	Building Bridges Presentation in PLC Groups and Course Conclusion		Building Bridges Presentation Post-semester survey
<b>17</b> (12/8-12/12)	<b>12/8</b>	<b>No Final Exam</b>		Personal Development Synthesis Final Paper

*Course calendar is subject to change based on the instructor's discretion. Any changes will be announced in class and posted on Canvas.*

## KEY SEMESTER DATES:

Last day to drop a course to no longer appear on the official transcript	Aug 29
Drop with a Grade of W begins	Aug 30
Last day to change to pass/no pass grade option	Sept 26
Last day for a student to drop a course or all courses with a grade of W	Nov 7
First day to request a grade of Incomplete	Nov 8
Reading Day – No Classes	Dec 5

## Syllabus Addendum

The following are important tips/guidelines/requirements that will ensure your success in this class:

1. DO read the syllabus and the assignment guidelines carefully. I do my best to lay everything out for you all in those documents. If you read and follow them carefully, you will successfully complete all the major requirements for the course. Everything you ever needed to know about the class (i.e., course schedule, my office hours, my office location) is provided in the syllabus. All the information you need regarding how to submit your papers is provided to you in each of the assignment documents.
2. If you ever have any questions about anything in the assignment guidelines or other course documents, ASK! I want to help you do well in this class and providing clarification to you all is one way for me to do that.
3. **DO check your UNT email and Canvas. I will send class emails to your UNT account and post announcements to Canvas so you either need to access that email account regularly or forward your email to another account that you use. You will miss extremely important information if you do not check the emails I send.**
4. At the end of the semester, do NOT ask me to change your grade. That would be unethical and unfair to every student that has earned his/her given grade.
5. Submit your papers in a WORD OR PDF DOCUMENT (make sure it is a .doc, .docx, or .pdf format so that I can actually open it). If I cannot open your paper, I cannot grade it. **I cannot open .pages or other Mac-specific file types.**
6. I will return your papers and feedback to you through the assignment dropbox. When I do this, DO look at them. I will provide feedback on why you received that specific grade. Make sure to look at that feedback before asking me what you did wrong. If I deducted points, I will tell you why. Use that feedback to make improvements on future papers so that you do not get points counted off again for a similar mistake.