

Honors (Un)Common Read

IDH 2930: Gang Leader for a Day

Tuesdays 3:00pm – 3:50pm in HVR1 114

Instructors: Dr. TehQuin Forbes and Jasmyne Nelson

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Office Hours: By appointment

Learning Objectives

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

- Understand ethnography as a qualitative research method
- Identify the pros and cons of conducting an ethnography
- Analyze the role gangs play in low-income urban cities and reflect on the benefits or harms of these roles through debates and discussion
- Consider how social problems impact urban communities

Required Readings:

Sudhir Venkatesh. 2008. *Gang leader for a day*. Penguin Publishing Group.

ISBN: 978-0143114932

Additional readings on canvas

Course Assignments

Participation and Attendance	40%
Debate	15%
Archie Bunker Activity	10%
Journal Reflections	15%
Final project	20%

Assignment Descriptions

Journal: You will be required to submit three journal reflections throughout the semester. More information will be given throughout the semester.

Debate: You will be required to participate in a debate surrounding topics and themes from the book. You will receive more information throughout the semester

Archie Bunker Activity: You will participate in an interactive activity that simulates an understanding of what it feels like to be in positions in society. For example, what does it feel like to be oppressed or discriminated against, or what does it feel like to be in a position of power? More details will be given later in the semester.

Final project: At the end of the semester, you will be required to present a final project. More details on the project requirements will be given throughout the semester.

Grading Scale

A 100-90

B 89-80

C 79-70

D 69-60

F 59-0

A minimum grade of B is required to earn Academic points towards your Honors Completion Requirements. Once you have earned your final grade in this course, please upload the course information and final grade from your Unofficial Transcript into your Honors Canvas Cohort: Honors Completion module to earn Honors Completion credit.

Course Policies

- **Attendance policy:** The attendance policy is consistent with UF policy; see: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>. Attendance and participation are part of your grade; thus, it is recommended you show up to class every week.
- **Recording of classes:** UF policy states that students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the only purposes for which these recording may be used are: (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are

prohibited, and students may not publish or distribute recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

- **Late work:** In the absence of a University-recognized excuse, late work is not accepted for this class. This course is heavily reliant on participation and discussion which cannot be made up in one's absence. Please speak to the instructor as soon as possible if you anticipate missing a class.
- **Course evaluations:** Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality instruction in this course by completing course evals online via GatorEvals at the end of the semester. Students are encouraged to share feedback throughout the semester.

Honors Pledge

Students are bound by the Honors Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." You are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel.

Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should meet with the Disability Resources Center. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter that must be presented to the instructor. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Honors Program, 201 Walker Hall, 352-392-1519

Quick questions for an Honors advisor? Email advisor@honors.ufl.edu

Need an Honors advising appointment? Schedule via Microsoft Bookings:

<https://bit.ly/ufhonorsadvising>

Course Schedule

Date	Reading/Topic	Assignment
January 9 th	Introductions and Course Overview Podcast: <i>You're Wrong About</i> , "Gangs" (2022)	
January 16 th	Chapter 1: How does it feel to be Black and poor? Chicago in the 1980s	
January 23 rd	Chapter 2: First Days on Federal Street Ethnography reading	
January 30 th	Chapter 3: Someone to Watch over me	1 st reflection due
February 6 th	Chapter 4: Gang Leader for a Day	
February 13 th	Chapter 5: Ms. Bailey's Neighborhood	
February 20 th	Archie Bunker	2nd reflection due Archie Bunker
February 27 th	Chapter 6: The Hustler and the Hustled	
March 5 th	Chapter 7: Black and Blue	
March 12 th	Spring Break – NO CLASS	

March 19 th	Chapter 8: The Stay-Together Gang	
March 26 th	Sociological Forum	3 rd reflection due
April 2 nd	Debate Workshop – NO CLASS	
April 9 th	Debate	Debate activity
April 16 th	Presentations	Final project
April 23 rd	Presentations	Final project