TIFFIN UNIVERSITY / ONLINE

DEC200 Explore
(3 credit hours)
Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course focuses on developing students' sense of identity and career readiness within a group context. Students will research a social issue and examine it through the lens of the NACE core competencies, such as critical thinking, oral communication, teamwork, and equity and inclusion. Students will identify and build their personal and professional goals and analyze career competency gaps. Experiential learning projects will allow students to develop and implement a total job deconstruction that bridges competency gaps and allows them to apply classroom learning to real-world issues.

Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify how group dynamics affect one's ability to impact a social issue within the community relevant to the student's career interests.

2. Examine and analyze the perspectives of diverse stakeholders related to the social issue through the lens of NACE career competencies like critical thinking and teamwork.

3. Develop a total job deconstruction that reflects on competency gaps and outlines steps to develop skills that intersect with community needs.

4. Evaluate sources and analyze a social issue utilizing NACE career competencies.

5. Create and implement an experiential learning project that develops career competencies and applies them to address the identified social issue.

Required Textbook(s) and Resources

Your course has no required textbook. All resources are included in each week.

Be sure to also review the weekly **Explore** sections for additional library or web resources. For access to databases, research help, and writing tips, visit the Tiffin University Library.

Time Commitment

Effective time management is possibly the single most critical element to your academic success. To do well in this online class you should plan your time wisely to maximize your

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learning through the completion of readings, discussions, and assignments. Because of our accelerated, seven-week term, TU online courses are designed with the expectation that you dedicate a little over **six (6)** hours per credit hour to course activities and preparation **each week**. For example, for successful completion of a three-credit, seven-week online course you should reserve roughly **twenty (20) hours per week**.

To help plan your time and keep on track toward successful course completion, note the distinctive rhythm of assignment due dates:

1. All times assume Eastern Time (GMT-4).

2. Weeks begin at 12:00 a.m. ET on Monday and end at 11:55 p.m. ET on Sunday.

3. Unless otherwise noted, initial assignments or discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Wednesdays.**

4. Additional assignments or follow-up discussion posts are due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Saturdays, and**

5. Major assignments and reflections are typically due by **11:55 p.m. ET** on **Sundays.**

Learning Activities

In this course, you will engage in a variety of learning activities designed to deepen your understanding of group dynamics, diverse team leadership, and stakeholder engagement. You'll participate in interactive simulations, such as the "Ameritech Solutions' Product Launch Challenge" and the "Global Virtual Team Project," which will immerse you in realistic scenarios that challenge you to apply course concepts to solve complex problems. These activities will allow you to step into different roles, analyze team dynamics, and develop strategies for effective collaboration and conflict resolution.

Furthermore, you will conduct research and create presentations on topics such as the impact of mental health on team performance, cross-cultural communication strategies, and inclusive leadership practices. Through the "Total Job Deconstruction Project," you'll apply the knowledge and skills gained throughout the course to comprehensively analyze a specific job role, providing you with a framework for career exploration and development. Reflective exercises will guide you in connecting course concepts to your personal experiences, enhancing your self-awareness and ability to contribute effectively in team settings.

Key Assessment (Taskstream Submission)

This TU course features a "Key Assessment" that provides you the opportunity to demonstrate your program's core competencies. It also shows how the course fits within the broader curriculum. In Activity 6.2, you will develop a comprehensive stakeholder engagement plan for Ameritech Solutions' new market expansion project. Based on your stakeholder analysis from Activity 6.1, you will design strategies to effectively communicate with and involve key stakeholders, addressing their concerns and aligning their interests with the project's goals. You will consider various communication methods and engagement activities suitable for different stakeholder groups. The activity culminates in writing a detailed report that outlines your

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engagement plan, explaining how it addresses the needs and concerns of each stakeholder, and reflects on the importance of stakeholder management in the success of Ameritech's market expansion.

Grading

The chart below identifies the individual contributions from each type of activity, per week.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Total
Forums Activity 1.1 (n/a) Activity 1.2 (60)	**Forums** Activity 2.1 (60)	**Forums** Activity 3.1 (60)	**Forums** Activity 4.1 (60)	**Forums** Activity 5.1 (60)	**Forums** Activity 6.1 (60)	**Forums** Activity 7.1 (60)	**420**
Assignments Activity 1.3 (80)	**Assignments** Activity 2.2 (80)	**Assignments** Activity 3.2 (80)	**Assignments** Activity 4.2 (80)	**Assignments** Activity 5.2 (80)	**Assignments** Activity 6.2 (100)	**Assignments** Activity 7.2 (80)	**580**
140	**140**	**140**	**140**	**140**	**160**	**140**	**1000**

Grading Scale

A: 90-100% | B: 80-89% | C: 70-79% | D: 60-69% | F: <60%

Course Schedule and Weekly Checklist

Start Here

☐ MON: Activity 1.1: Getting to Know You! - Introductory Post

Week 1 – Understanding Group Dynamics

☐ WED: Activity 1.1: Getting to Know You! - Secondary Post
☐ WED: Activity 1.2: Role-Based Scenario Analysis
☐ SAT: Activity 1.2: Role-Based Scenario Analysis
☐ SUN: Activity 1.3: AI-Assisted Job Research

Week 2 - Virtual Team Collaboration

☐ WED: Activity 2.1: Virtual Team Simulation
☐ SAT: Activity 2.1: Virtual Team Simulation
☐ SUN: Activity 2.2: Communication Tools Analysis

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Week 3 - Teams and Mental Health Awareness

- ☐ WED: Activity 3.1: Team Problem-Solving Exercise with Mental Health Focus
- ☐ SAT: Activity 3.1: Team Problem-Solving Exercise with Mental Health Focus
- ☐ SUN: Activity 3.2: Mental Health Awareness in Teams

Week 4 - Conflict Resolution in a Small-Town Cultural Context

- ☐ WED: Activity 4.1: Cross-Cultural Conflict Resolution Simulation
- ☐ SAT: Activity 4.1: Cross-Cultural Conflict Resolution Simulation
- ☐ SUN: Activity 4.2: Cultural Adaption Strategy Development

Week 5 - Leading Diverse Teams

- ☐ WED: Activity 5.1: Diverse Team Leadership Simulation
- ☐ SAT: Activity 5.1: Diverse Team Leadership Simulation
- ☐ SUN: Activity 5.2: Inclusivity Strategy Development

Week 6 - Stakeholder Analysis and Engagement

- ☐ WED: Activity 6.1: Stakeholder Analysis Project
- ☐ SAT: Activity 6.1: Stakeholder Analysis Project
- ☐ SUN: Activity 6.2: Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Week 7 - Course Reflection and Total Job Deconstruction

- ☐ WED: Activity 7.1: Course Concepts Reflection
- ☐ SAT: Activity 7.2: Total Job Deconstruction Project

Tips for Success

Online learning requires self-discipline and self-direction. As seekers of the truth, we should be willing to challenge one another's academic work in a spirit of respectful comradery. Your course is a place for you to grow as you benefit from the expertise, experience, and diverse perspectives of your instructor and peers. Constructive feedback will challenge you to stretch your own thinking, thereby expanding your knowledge and understanding.

To get the most out of your learning experience, you should actively engage (participate) in **ALL** course activities. Course elements are arranged chronologically. To complete a week, simply work your way "down the page" through all of the course materials and activities.

For More Information:

Be sure to review the Support, Policies, and Procedures addendum