

The University of Western Ontario
Management and Organizational Studies

MOS 3385a - 001
ESSENTIALS OF HUMAN RESOURCES FOR NON-HR STUDENTS
Fall 2008

COURSE OUTLINE

FACULTY:

Instructor: Linda Eligh
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Telephone: 661-2111 Ext. 81098
Office Location: SSC 2248

Classroom: SSC 3014
Class Time: Wednesday, 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
(or by appointment)

I encourage you to drop by during office hours or to make an appointment. The best way to reach me is by e-mail since I am generally only on campus two days per week. If you leave a voice mail, be sure to tell me the best time to call you back.

OBJECTIVES

Using an interdisciplinary perspective, this course provides an *overview* of the theory and practice of human resource management practices in the organization. Human resources management (HRM) is examined from the perspectives of various stakeholders, including supervisors and managers, employees, the organization itself, human resource practitioners and HR departments.

The course is designed to provide students with a brief, focused introduction to human resources management in Canada by presenting theoretical content together with relevant strategic application in various types of organizations. Course content should enlighten students about how managers and others envision, develop and implement solid people practices that lead to organizational effectiveness and the creation of “a great place to work” in a global environment. The course critically examines current theories and practices of managing human resources in Canadian organizations, whether in the private, public or non-profit sector, large or small, unionized or non-unionized. Topics include: human resources planning, use of technology in managing people, analyzing work and designing jobs, recruitment and selection, performance management, training and development, compensation and reward systems, health and safety, workplace and equity legislation, labour relations, and managing people globally. Finally, the importance of leadership, ethics, diversity, compliance with legislation, and effective change management are emphasized throughout the course.

TEXTBOOK

Human Resources Management in Canada, Canadian Tenth Edition, 2008. Pearson Prentice Hall. [ISBN 10: 0-13-227087-0] It is strongly recommended that you purchase the textbook as it will be used extensively. The article *Evolution and Revolution as Organizations Grow* by Larry E. Greiner, Harvard Business Review May-June 1998 will be placed on 2 hour Reserve at Weldon. You may also be directed to online information and provided with other readings in class.

EVALUATION

Class Participation	20 %	Mid Term Exam	25 %
Term Assignment	30 %	Final Exam	25 %

PARTICIPATION (20%)

Your mark in this area is based on attendance, your level of contribution to class discussion, and effective participation in group exercises (and assigned activities) **as per the attached Standards for Participation**. Class exercises are designed to provide a different perspective on course content and to help you learn and retain information. Effective attendance and participation should help you to understand application of course theory in practice, as well as assist with the term assignment. A course timetable included in this outline *will allow you to schedule travel arrangements around class times*. For more information about extension of deadlines or rescheduling of exams *for legitimate medical or compassionate reasons*, see the Policy Regarding Illness which follows later in this course outline. In addition, consult the attached General Information sheet of instructions for students registered in Social Science which is attached to this course outline.

EXAMS (50%)

There are two non-cumulative exams in this course including a midyear examination worth 25% and a final examination worth 25%. Exam format will consist of multiple choice questions. Exams are scheduled for two hours and are closed book examinations. Students are responsible for material covered in the lectures as well as the assigned chapters in the text and any additional supplementary readings. The mid term will be scheduled during class time and the final exam will be scheduled during the exam period. Exams will not be returned to students but may be reviewed in the instructor's office by appointment.

You are responsible for ensuring that you have successfully completed all course prerequisites, and that you have not taken an anti-requisite course. Lack of prerequisites may not be used as a basis of appeal. If you are found to be ineligible for a course, you may be removed from it at any time and you will receive no adjustment to your fees. This decision cannot be appealed. If you find that you do not have the course requisites, it is in your best interest to drop the course well before the end of the Add/Drop period. Your prompt attention to this matter will not only help protect your academic record, but will ensure that spaces become available for students who require the course in question for graduation.

TERM ASSIGNMENT: (30%)

You have a choice with respect your Term Assignment. You may choose either Option A or Option B, described below. Regardless of your choice, you must indicate your intentions with a short abstract handed in at beginning of class, November 5, 2008.

Option A: Critique of the Literature

This Term Assignment requires that you write a Critique of the Literature of 2000 – 2500 words. The subject of your critique will be a recently published business book that is highly relevant to or written about a topic in Human Resources covered in this course, and that is interesting to you. Required format and other specific instructions for the assignment are addressed in the Guidelines for Critique of the Literature to be handed out in class. It is your responsibility to ensure that you receive a copy of such Guidelines. You are also required to submit a *short* abstract of your intentions for this assignment at beginning of class on **November 5, 2008**. Your Abstract should include the title, author, publisher, year of publication, why you chose the book, and a *short* description of the book you have selected.

Late Penalties: Failure to submit the required Abstract on time will result in a penalty of 3% on your final grade for the term assignment. Penalty for late submission of your critique is 5% for first day and 2% for each day thereafter including weekends. **Abstract due in class: November 5, 2008; Critique due in class and submitted to Turnitin.com: Nov. 19, 2008.**

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Option B: Organizational Analysis

This Term Assignment requires that you research, analyze and describe an organization of your choice in comparison with human resources and organizational development theory and practices covered in this course, including the Greiner Article. Your comparative analysis will identify the organization's current characteristics, stage of development and/or developmental transitions, and will also contain your recommendations for implementation of various human resources practices which would assist the organization to achieve and/or sustain organizational effectiveness.

Your Report should be 2000 - 2500 words in length. Specific details and suggestions for the assignment are addressed in the Organizational Analysis Guidelines to be handed out in class. It is your responsibility to ensure that you receive a copy of such Guidelines. You are also required to submit an abstract of your intentions for this assignment at beginning of class on **November 5, 2008**. Expectations for content and format of the short abstract are also contained in the Organizational Analysis Guidelines described above.

Late Penalties: Failure to submit an Abstract describing your intentions and approach to the assignment on time will result in a penalty of 3% on your final grade for the term assignment. Penalty for late submission of your Organizational Analysis Report is 5% on the first day and 2% for each day thereafter including weekends. **Abstract due in class: November 5, 2008; Organizational Analysis Report due in class and submitted to Turnitin.com: November 19, 2008.**

Policy Regarding Illness

Students are entitled to a rescheduling of exams or an extension of deadlines for legitimate medical or compassionate reasons. However, it is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor prior to the due date, to arrange a timely makeup, and, if requested, to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. In the case of a final examination or assignment in the course, the student must arrange for a Special Examination or Incomplete through their Dean's office, for which the student will be required to provide acceptable documentation.

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, you should contact your instructor and the Faculty Academic Counseling Office as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. In general, retroactive requests for grade revisions on medical or compassionate grounds will not be considered.

Finally, consult the General Information sheet of instructions provided by the Faculty of Social Science attached to this course outline.

Policy Regarding Plagiarism, Cheating & Academic Misconduct*

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere.

Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer's words or ideas, or the resubmission of your own written words or ideas for a variety of assignments or to different instructors. Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where

appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes and citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

If you are concerned that something you are doing is inappropriate, consult your instructor. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" will not be accepted as an excuse. The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University. The University of Western Ontario uses software for plagiarism checking. Students in this course (MOS 3385a/b) will be required to submit their written work in hard copy to the instructor, as well as submitting the assignment in electronic form directly to the plagiarism checking software.

Procedures for Appealing Academic Evaluations

In the first instance, all appeals of a grade must be made to the course instructor (informal consultation). If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal must be sent to the Director, Bachelor of Management and Organizational Studies Program. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, he/she may then appeal to the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean, may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office.

*For additional information, see the current Western Academic Calendar "Scholastic Offences".

3385a COURSE TOPIC TIMETABLE

Schedule for coverage of text content is approximate. Lectures may include additional course content as deemed appropriate by the instructor

PART 1: Human Resources Management in Perspective

“First Class” Sept. 10th	Introduction, Course Overview and Expectations and The Strategic Role in Human Resources Management	Course Outline Chapter 1
Week 1 Sept. 17th	The Changing Legal Emphasis: From Compliance to Valuing Diversity and Human Resources Management and Technology	Chapters 2 & 3

PART 2: Meeting Human Resources Requirements

Week 2 Sept. 24th	Designing and Analyzing Jobs and Journal Article: <i>Evolution and Revolution as Organizations Grow</i> by Larry E. Greiner, Harvard Business Review May-June 1998 (On Reserve at Weldon)	Chapter 4 and Greiner Article
Week 3 Oct. 1st	Greiner Article (continued) and Human Resources Planning	Greiner Article and Chapter 5
Week 4 Oct. 8th	Recruitment and Guest Speaker	Chapter 6
Week 5 Oct. 15th	Selection	Chapter 7
Week 6 Oct. 22nd	Mid Term Exam (Chapters 2 – 7, and pp. 451 – 461 from Chapter 17 and specified additional readings)	Mid Term Exam

PART 3: Developing Effective Human Resources

Week 7 Oct. 29th	Orientation and Training and Career Development	Chapter 8 & 9
Week 8 Nov. 5th	Performance Appraisal: The Key to Effective Performance Management and Part of Establishing Strategic Pay Plans Abstract of Assignment due at beginning of class.	Chapters 10 & 11

PART 4: Total Rewards

Week 9 Nov. 12th	Establishing Strategic Pay Plans and Employee Benefits and Services	Chapters 11 & 13
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PART 5: BUILDING EFFECTIVE EMPLOYEE-EMPLOYER RELATIONSHIPS

Week 10 Nov. 19th	Occupational Health and Safety Term Assignment due beginning of class	Chapter 14
Week 11 Nov. 26th	Fair Treatment: The Foundation of Effective Employee Relations	Chapter 15
Week 12 Dec. 3rd	Labour Relations and Managing Human Resources in a Global Business	Chapter 16 & 17
EXAMS	FINAL EXAM – Generally covers Chapters 8 - 11, 13 – 16 and pp. 461-471 of Chapter 17, as well as additional readings and/or lecture content as provided by the instructor. Specific study guidelines will be issued near the exam period. Exam period extends from December 6 - 17, 2008. Exact date of exam to be determined.	

STANDARDS FOR CLASS PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to attend all classes and to participate actively in their own learning. *Active learning means taking responsibility for your own learning, as well as helping others to learn more about course material.* Active learning in this course can include, but is not limited to, contributing to class discussion, presentations or debates, application exercises, posing interesting questions, and/or bringing relevant media articles or other exhibits to the attention of your instructor. Your instructor will assess both the quantity and quality of student participation in each class, based on attendance and the following criteria for evaluation:

Note: Playing games on a laptop or other electronic device, processing e-mail or surfing the internet for recreational purposes during class is considered to be a distraction to other students and to the instructor. Such activity when detected may reduce your participation mark.

A – EXCELLENT contribution

- Attends all classes
- Contributes consistently to class discussions and supports contribution of colleagues
- Contributions indicate preparation and critical thinking
- Frequently shares insights and/or facilitates understanding of difficult concepts
- Occasionally builds arguments for a position
- Provides leadership in creating positive environment

B – GOOD Contribution

- Attends class regularly and contributes consistently to class discussions
- Contributions indicate preparation and careful thought
- Often willing to explain difficult points or concepts
- Occasionally builds arguments for a position
- Supports positive classroom environment

C – FAIR Contribution

- Attends class occasionally or often and/or contributes to class discussion occasionally
- Provides minimal evidence of preparation and thought
- Rarely builds arguments for a position

D - POOR Contribution

- Attends class infrequently and/or rarely if ever contributes to class discussion
- Provides little or no evidence of preparation or thought
- Distracts other students from class activity

Participation is recorded both during and following the conclusion of each class. If you have a medical or other condition that prevents you from attending class regularly (or participating actively as described above), advise the instructor early in the semester. You will be required to provide confirmation of your situation from the Academic Counselor. See the Policy Regarding Illness regarding personal situations described in the Course Outline, as well as the General Information instructions for students registered in Social Science (regarding term tests, final examinations, late assignments, short absences, extended absences, documentation of various personal situations and academic concerns) also attached to the Course Outline.

GENERAL INFORMATION

If, on medical or compassionate grounds, you are unable to meet your academic responsibilities, i.e., unable to write term tests or final examinations or complete course work by the due date, you should follow the instructions listed below. You should understand that academic accommodation will not be granted automatically on request. You must demonstrate that there are compelling medical or compassionate grounds that can be documented before academic accommodation will be considered. Read the instructions carefully. In all cases, action must be taken at the earliest possible opportunity, preferably prior to the scheduled examination, test or assignment.

1. Check the course outline to see if the instructor has a policy for missed tests, examinations, late assignments or attendance. The course outline should include the preferred method of contact (e-mail, phone, etc.).
2. Inform the instructor prior to the date of the scheduled time of the test or examination or due date of the assignment. If you are unable to contact the instructor, leave a message for him/her at the department office.
3. Bring your request for accommodation to the Social Science Academic Counselling Office, Room 2105, Social Science Centre, telephone 519 661-2011 or fax 519 661-3384. Be prepared to submit documentation of your difficulties.
4. If you decide to write a test or an examination you should be prepared to accept the mark you earn. Rewriting tests or examinations or having the value of the test or examination reweighted on a retroactive basis is not permitted.

TERM TESTS and MID-TERM EXAMS

1. If you are unable to write a term test, inform your instructor (preferably prior to the scheduled date of the test). If the instructor is not available, leave a message for him/her at the department office.
2. Be prepared, if requested by the instructor, to provide supporting documentation. Submit your documentation to the Social Science Academic Counselling Office.
3. Make arrangements with your professor to reschedule the test.
4. The Academic Counselling Office will contact your instructor to confirm your documentation.

FINAL EXAMINATIONS

1. You require the permission of the Dean, the instructor, and the Chair of the department in question to write a special final examination.
2. If you are unable to write a final examination, contact the Social Science Academic Counselling Office in the first instance to request permission to write a special final examination and to obtain the necessary form. You must also contact your instructor at this time. If your instructor is not available, leave a message for him/her at the department office.
3. Be prepared to provide the Social Science Academic Counselling Office and your instructor with supporting documentation.
4. You must ensure that the Special Examination form has been signed by the instructor and Department Chair and that the form is returned to the Social Science Academic Counselling Office for approval without delay.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

1. Advise the instructor if you are having problems completing the assignment on time (prior to the due date of the assignment).
2. Submit documentation to the Social Science Academic Counselling Office.
3. If you are granted an extension, establish a due date.
4. Extensions beyond the end of classes must have the consent of the instructor, the Department Chair and Dean. A Recommendation of Incomplete form must be filled out indicating the work to be completed and the date by which it is due. This form must be signed by the student, the instructor, the Department Chair, and the Dean's representative in the Academic Counselling Office.

SHORT ABSENCES

If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outlines for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate.

EXTENDED ABSENCES

If you are absent more than approximately two weeks or if you get too far behind to catch up, you should consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses. This must be done by the appropriate deadlines. (Refer to the Registrar's website for official dates.) The Social Science Academic Counsellors can help you to consider the alternatives. At your request, they can also keep your instructors informed of your difficulties.

DOCUMENTATION

- **Personal Illness:** If you consulted Student Health Services regarding your illness or personal problem, you should complete a Records Release Form at the time of your visit allowing them to notify Social Science Academic Counselling Office. Once your documentation has been assessed, the academic counsellor will inform your instructor that academic accommodation is warranted.
- If you were seen by an off-campus doctor, obtain a certificate from his/her office at the time of your visit. The doctor must provide verification of the severity of the illness for the period in question. Notes stating "For Medical Reasons" are not considered sufficient.
- **In Case of Serious Illness of a Family Member:** Obtain a medical certificate from the family member's physician.
- **In Case of a Death:** Obtain a copy of the newspaper notice, death certificate or documentation provided by the funeral director.
- **For Other Extenuating Circumstances:** If you are not sure what documentation to provide, ask an Academic Counsellor.

Note: Forged notes and certificates will be dealt with severely. To submit a forged document is a scholastic offense and you will be subject to academic sanctions.

ACADEMIC CONCERNS

- You need to know if your instructor has a policy on late penalties, missed tests, etc. This information may be included on the course outline. If not, ask your instructor.
- You should also be aware of attendance requirements in courses such as Business and English. You can be debarred from writing the final examination if your attendance is not satisfactory.
- If you are in academic difficulty, check the minimum requirements for progression in your program. If in doubt, see your Academic Counsellor.
- If you are registered in Social Science courses but registered in another faculty (e.g., Arts or Science), you should immediately consult the Academic Counselling Office in your home faculty for instructions.