

UNIVERSITY of  
NORTHERN COLORADO

**Honors 100**  
**Honors Connection Seminar I: Identity and Perspective**  
**Tuesday/Thursday**  
**Sample**

**Course Information**

**Catalog entry:**

HON 100: Honors Connections Seminar I: A variable content seminar for Honors students only, emphasizing the connections between areas of knowledge such as the Sciences, Arts, Philosophy, History, Literature and Sociology.

This seminar will focus on ideas of perspective, place and person and is built on an engaged, hands-on learning model. Therefore, attendance is required at the following events not scheduled during regular class time:

- (1) **Greeley "Place as Text"** –
- (2) **Honors VIP Night** –
- (3) **Engaged Scholarship Symposium** –
- (4) **Colloquium Series:** Must attend 1 of the 4 speakers (in addition to any colloquiums you are required to attend for other courses) – EVENT FLYER WILL LIST TIMES/DATES

***Attendance at these events is critical to this course.*** If you have extenuating circumstances that prevent your attendance, please discuss options for alternative course work with the instructor.

**Course Learning Objectives**

By the end of the semester, students taking this course will be able to meet the following course learning outcomes:

- **Identity** - Reflect on and identify one's beliefs, interests, and values in order to analyze them along several dimensions of identity (e.g. ethnicity, social class, gender, sexual orientation). Be able to explain how identity is influenced by culture, and how multiple cultures and sub-cultures impact each individual. Identify and differentiate questions, problems and arguments that evolve from cultural identities and differences in cultural value systems.
- **Creative and Critical Thinking:** Is able to think and speak analytically with a unique sense of self in order to synthesize and demonstrate learning from multiple mediums.
- **Inquiry Analysis and Integrative learning:** Connects and extends knowledge from one's own academic focus to the world beyond UNC
- **Written and Oral Communication:** Can communicate one's thoughts on paper and in speech effectively with a scholarly voice by using evidentiary support and critical reasoning.
- **Intercultural Competence and Global Learning:** Is cognizant of and engages with a diverse range of cultures, religions and beliefs.
- **Community/Civic Engagement and Problem-solving:** Can define the various meanings of civic engagement and can articulate own participation in community activities, and is discovering how this connects to own identity and formulation of core values. Understands the value of working with a team and is beginning to draw out the opinions of others when problem-solving.

### Required Course Materials

You are required to acquire to the following books for this class:

- Banaji, M. & Greenwald, A. (2013). *Blind Spot: Hidden biases of good people*. New York: Delacorte Press.
- Chinni, D., & Gimpel, J. (2010). *Our patchwork nation: The surprising truth about the "real" America*. New York, N.Y: Gotham Books.
- Lott, M. (2010). *Multiculturalism and Diversity: A Social Psychological Perspective*. Malden, Massachusetts: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Urrea, L. (2004) *The Devil's Highway*. New York: Little Brown & Company.

Additional required readings to be placed on course reserve and/or through Blackboard, include the following, and more may be added during the semester:

- Anzaldúa, G. (2012). The homeland, Aztlan. In *Borderlands/La Frontera*, 4th ed. (pp.23-35) San Francisco, CA: Aunt Lute Books.
- Berreby, D. (2005). Birds of a feather. In *Us and them: Understanding your tribal mind*. (pp. 64-92). New York, NY: Little Brown and Co.
- Borrego, S & Manning, K. (2007) Chapter 1 (pp. 1-30). In *Where I am From*. Washington D.C.: NASPA.
- Fisher, A. (2001). *What is critical thinking and how to improve it?* In *Critical thinking: An introduction*. Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press

### Course Assignments & Evaluation for Grading

Evaluation of student progress in the course will be made in the following areas:

| <u>Assignment</u>   | <u>Points</u> |
|---|---------------|
| Journal Reflections on learning                                   |               |
| Journal reflections (8 x 5 points each)                           | 40            |
| Turned in every two weeks.  |               |
| Must include reflection on at least one Colloquium Series speaker |               |
| Assignments   |               |
| Where I am from poem/prose  | 35            |
| Identity Critical Analysis  | 75            |
| City as Text Photo Journalism project                             | 100           |
| Midterm essay   | 100           |
| The Blind Spot Project – IAT Analysis                             | 100           |
| Devil's Highway Assignment  | 100           |
| Final Documentary Project and background research                 | 250           |
| Participation   |               |
| City as Text Participation  | 50            |
| Honors VIP Night & Colloquium Participation                       | 50            |
| In class participation and attendance                             | 100           |
| TOTAL   | 1000          |

Instructions for all Assignments will be posted to Blackboard and all assignments, unless otherwise noted, will be considered turned in when they are uploaded to Blackboard. Emailed and hard copies will not be accepted.

### Course Grading

This course is offered for a letter grade only and cannot be taken on a pass/fail basis. At the end of the semester, grades will be assigned based on total points earned (no + or – assigned):

| Letter Grade | Total % of Points<br>Earned |
|--------------|-----------------------------|
| A            | 90 - 100                    |
| B            | 80 - 89                     |
| C            | 70 - 79                     |
| D            | 60 - 69                     |
| F            | 59 or below                 |

Information on UNC's grading policies is available in the UNC Catalog under *Policies and Procedures for All Students* and online at <http://www.unco.edu/regrec/records/grades/grading.html>.

### **Required Electronic Accounts**

UNC Bearmail - Students are required to utilize their UNC Bearmail accounts and check email regularly to ensure they receive postings from course instructors. UNC Bearmail accounts are the official source for email communication in this course.

Blackboard – Course readings, assignment guidelines, class updates, the syllabus and additional handouts will be posted to Blackboard. Please check your Blackboard account regularly. You will be required to submit all written assignments through Blackboard's Assignment module. Written assignments MUST be turned in through Blackboard and will not be accepted in class (unless otherwise noted in the assignment guidelines on Blackboard).

### **Other Course Information**

**Changes to the Course Syllabus:** The instructor reserves the right to modify the syllabus to best accommodate student learning and make schedule adjustments for speakers and events. Such changes, while not anticipated, will be announced in class and posted to Blackboard.

**Extra Credit:** Optional community and campus events, speaker presentations, and activities will be noted throughout the semester. Students attending such events may submit a 2 page double spaced reflection for extra credit and earn 10 extra credit points for each reflection, up to a total of 50 extra credit points for reflections on 5 separate venues. The extra credit points will be added to the points available through course assignments and participation as noted on the syllabus, meaning students have the opportunity to earn up to 1050 total points in this course.

**Disability Support Services/Accommodations:** Students who may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the UNC Disability Support Services Center at (970) 351-2289 as soon as possible to ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

**Honor Code:** All members of the University of Northern Colorado community are entrusted with the responsibility to uphold and promote five fundamental values: *Honesty, Trust, Respect, Fairness, and Responsibility*. These core elements foster an atmosphere, inside and outside of the classroom, which serves as a foundation and guides the UNC community's academic, professional, and personal growth. Endorsement of these core elements by students, faculty, staff, administration, and trustees strengthens the integrity and value of our academic climate.

**Academic Integrity:** In order to encourage and foster academic excellence, the University expects students to conduct themselves in accordance with certain generally accepted norms of scholarship and professional behaviors. Because of this expectation, the University does not tolerate any form of academic misconduct. Academic misconduct includes but is not limited to plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, and knowingly or recklessly encouraging or making possible any act of plagiarism, cheating, or fabrication. Academic misconduct is an unacceptable activity in scholarship and is in conflict with academic and professional ethics and morals. Consequently, students who are judged to have engaged in some form of academic misconduct may be subject to (1) a zero or an —F on the work in question, (2) an —F in the course, (3) other academic penalties as outlined in the professor’s course requirements and expectations, (4) disciplinary action as specified in the Sanctions for Misconduct section below, or (5) any combination thereof. See [http://www.unco.edu/dos/assets/pdf/StudentCodeofConduct.pdf#nameddest=SC\\_integrity](http://www.unco.edu/dos/assets/pdf/StudentCodeofConduct.pdf#nameddest=SC_integrity) for more information on the University’s Academic Integrity policy.

**Policies and Procedures for All Students/Students Rights and Responsibilities:** *The Policies and Procedures for All Students*, as contained in the UNC Catalog, and *Students Rights and Responsibilities*, a document available from the Dean of Students office, will be followed for this course. Students should ensure their familiarity with both the UNC Catalog and the *Students Rights and Responsibilities* document.

**Respectful Classroom Environment:** An atmosphere of cultural responsiveness is the only acceptable atmosphere in this class. Any student engaging in disruptive or rude behavior will be warned and/or asked to leave and will not receive class participation points for that day. This course encourages active listening and active discussions. Please be prepared for class by having read any required readings for the day with notes on what you have read so that you are prepared for the course discussion.

▪ **Classroom Etiquette**

- No use of Cell phones or other devices for communication with others outside of class (unless explicitly asked to do so for a class assignment). You will be excused from class if you are texting during class and will receive a “0” for attendance/participation that day.
- If using a laptop is helpful for you to use for note taking purposes in class, please do so. However, it is assumed that you will use this tool for class purposes alone.
- Do not read other materials while in class (this includes newspapers, magazines, etc.)
- Side conversations are disruptive and not tolerated.
- You are welcome to bring food and drink to class.

**Policy on Late Assignments:** It is assumed that students will submit assignments on time. Extenuating situations should be discussed with the instructor in advance. Assignments submitted late without prior approval may not be accepted for credit. Late assignments, if accepted, will automatically be reduced one letter grade prior to evaluation.

**Class Participation**

Class participation requires regular attendance in class, active participation in discussions which requires both listening and speaking, working as a group on group projects, turning in assignments on time, and taking an active interest in the course by asking appropriate questions and participating in all activities.