UN 1001: PERSPECTIVES ON INQUIRY
Course Objective

The objective of Perspectives on Inquiry is to facilitate the students in developing critical thinking, research and analytical skills. To do so, Perspectives proposes an unsolved problem to be examined from various points of view. By analyzing Civil Unrest and Other Unsolved Dilemmas around the World - the topic discussed in this section of Perspectives - it is hoped that the students will benefit from this approach, by enhancing solid study habits, and developing a genuine taste for inquiry, which will assist them throughout their academic careers.

Course Description

Civil Unrest and Other Unsolved Dilemmas around the World will focus on two phases. In the first one the class will examine a variety of unsolved problems that afflict societies around the world. The students will be exposed to opposite views on each dilemma and will formulate their own through research and discussion. The first phase will last approximately ten weeks and will use as basic text Taking Sides: World Politics. During the second phase the students will perform their presentations in class and will also be studying another text: Deliver Us from Evil.

Texts


Instructor

Name: Mrs. Cinzia Cross
Office: Walker 341
Office hours: M-W-F, 10:00-11:00 or by appointment
Office telephone number: 487-3260
e-mail: clcross@mtu.edu
Grades

Grades are calculated as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Presentations</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formal writings</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informal writings</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Work Description

Attendance: Attendance is based on the physical presence in the classroom during the assigned hours:

I will circulate a sign-up sheet at the beginning of class. **Be there on time to sign it.** Once the sign-up sheet is collected and you didn't sign it, you will be marked absent for that class meeting. There are two unexcused absences allowed during the semester for which there will be no grade reduction. For unexcused absences the following scale will apply:

- A 0-2 unexcused absences
- B 3 " "
- C 4 " "
- D 5 " "
- F 6 and more

There will be no possibility to make up evaluated class activities (for example, multiple choice quizzes) for the students who are absent without an excuse that day. An absence is considered excused when justification is presented by the parties responsible for it. For illness, for example, it may be a note from the doctor or from the Dean of Students; for sports activities it may be a note from the coach, etc.
**Oral Presentations:** The students will present two oral assignments which will include visual aids. The first one will be the oral exposition of the final essay, the second one will be the oral exposition of one of the students' writings based on *Deliver Us from Evil*.

**Formal writings:** The formal writings include one short essay [6-8 typed pages (12 font, double spaced)], chosen from a list of issues that will be provided by the instructor and the compilation of Analysis Reports for the issues chosen in the *Taking Sides* text.

**Informal Writings:** The informal writings include all the multiple-choice quizzes, and the short writings generated from the *Deliver Us from Evil* analysis.

In order to receive a grade C in this course the students must have completed all the course work assignments. A grade B is given when the students perform *beyond* all assignments completed. A grade A is given when the students perform *well beyond* all assignments completed.

Late assignments will not be accepted, except for circumstances approved by the instructor:

**Plagiarism**

See the information in your folder.
Special Notes

If you face circumstances that could affect your performance in this class, please see me ASAP so that we can make appropriate arrangements. MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disability Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need reasonable accommodation of equal access to education or services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Associate Dean of Students at 487-2212. For all other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action office at 487-3310.

The syllabus and course schedule may be revised during the semester in response to the needs of the students and the course. You will be notified of such changes should they occur.

Please do not hesitate to ask questions. I am committed to your success in this class and at Michigan Tech.