IDH 2930
THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF NONPROFITS [1]
(Uncommon Reads)
Spring 2025 Syllabus

Class Meeting Times: Tuesday, Period 6 (12:50 – 1:40 pm) at HVR1 114

Instructor: **Muthusami Kumaran, Ph.D.**
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Instructor Office Hours: Fridays 1:00 – 3:30 pm or by appt.
ALL communications within Canvas

Course Description: This course explores the nature, roles, operations, and impacts of Non-Governmental Organizations on societies across the globe. The course will provide students with a foundation in understanding NGOs and International NGOs within the geographical, social, political and economic realities under which they operate. The course is based on assigned readings and class discussions from the required "uncommon" textbook.

Course Goals: The goals of this course are to:
1. Provide students with knowledge on the historical growth of NGO sectors across the world, their typology, and major roles in societies within which they operate.
2. Promote students' understanding on responsibilities and key organizational management functions of NGOs.
3. Increase the student's awareness on the impacts of NGO sectors on various segments of society and the environment.

Course Objectives: After completing this course students will be able to:
- Recognize the historical growth of NGO sectors around the globe.
- Understand the variety and size of NGOs in various regions and countries.
- Explain the mission, clients, roles and responsibilities of NGOs and INGOs.
- Interpret various impacts of NGOs and INGOs on societies and environment.
- Discuss the current trends in of NGOs in societies.

The Uncommon Read Book: Students are required to buy the following book:

Casey, J. (2016). *The Nonprofit World: Civil Society and the Rise of the Nonprofit Sector*. Boulder, CO: Kumarian Press. (ISBN: 978-1-56549-530-2).

In addition, one required reading is posted as pdf document on the course Canvas.

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[1] The Instructor reserves the right to change any aspect of this syllabus and to make appropriate updates. Changes to the syllabus, if any, will be communicated to students in advance.

COURSE CALENDAR

Dates	Topics	Reading & Assignment Due Dates
Week 1: *January 14*		
	Introduction and course overview Introduction to the Wonderful World of Nonprofit Organizations	Handout: Syllabus
Week 2: *January 21*		
	The Nonprofit Sector of the USA	Handout: IRS 557 IRCs table
Week 3: *January 28*		
	The Nonprofit World	Casey, Ch.1
Week 4: *February 4*		
	Rise of the Nonprofit Sector	Casey, Ch.2
Week 5: *February 11*		
	The Evolution of the Nonprofit Sector	Casey, Ch.3
Week 6: *February 18*		
	Class presentation of the profile of chosen nonprofit	**Profile of a nonprofit DUE Class presentations I**
Week 7: *February 25*		
	Class presentation of the profile of chosen nonprofit	**Class presentations II**
Week 8: *March 4*		
Online	The world of Nonprofits (view videos on your own)	Video links on Canvas (under 'Announcements')
Week 9: *March 11*		
Online	Life in the Developing World (view videos on your own)	Video links on Canvas (under 'Announcements')
March 17 – 21: Spring Break – Enjoy a safe & relaxing Spring Break!		
Week 10: *March 25*		
	Comparing National Nonprofit Sectors	Casey, Ch.4
Week 11: *April 1*		
	The Globalization of Ideas	Casey, Ch.5
Week 12: *April 8*		
	The Global NGO Landscape The Internationalization of the Nonprofit Sector	Casey, Ch.6
Week 13: *April 15*		
Online	International Nonprofits at Work INGOs at Work (view videos on your own)	Casey, Ch.7 Video links on Canvas (under 'Announcements')

Dates	Topics	Reading & Assignment Due Dates
Week 14: *April 22*		
	Stewarding International Nonprofits, Emerging Trends & Course debrief!	Casey, Chs. 8 & 9 **NGO & INGO comparative case study report DUE**

GRADES

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	Points
A	950+
A-	900-949
B+	870-899
B	830-869
B-	800-829
C+	770-799
C	700-729
C-	720-749
D+	670-699
D	630-669
D-	600-629
E	<600

Course Assignments: Grades will be based on the following:

Leading Discussions	250 points
Active Participation in Discussions	300 points
Profile of a Nonprofit	200 points
NGO & INGO Comparative Report	150 points
Class Attendance	100 points
TOTAL	**1000 points**

1. **Discussions on assigned readings led by a student (250 points):** Each class session will have a discussion on assigned chapter from the text. These discussions will be led by assigned students who will give an overview of the topic(s) covered in the readings (about 10 minutes) and initiate a discussion by asking a series of appropriate questions. Leading and facilitating vibrant discussion is worth 250 points.

2. **Active class participation during discussions on readings (300 points):** Students are expected to complete assigned readings in a timely manner and actively participate during class discussions on key information from readings. Active participation during class discussions is worth 300 points (25 points per session).

3. **Profile of a Nonprofit - report & class presentation (200 points)**: Base on personal interests in nonprofit causes, each student will choose any functioning nonprofit organization in the USA and write a one page profile of the organization based on online research. Instructions, rubric, and examples of this assignment are posted on Canvas and will be discussed in class. Each student will also make a brief (about 7 minutes) presentation on the chosen organization in class on Weeks 6 & 7.

4. **NGO & INGO comparative case study report (150 points)**: Students will be required to choose any one NGO (nonprofit) operating in an assigned continent, learn about its mission, clients, operations, and impacts. Then students will choose an INGO (international nonprofit) with similar/same mission and compare the two organizations. Based on the information collected, students will develop a written comparative case study report (no less than 4 typed pages, double spaced). Detail instructions, rubric and samples for completing this assignment will be provided. This assignment is due in the last class session on Week 14.

5. **Attendance (100 points):** Students are required to sign the attendance sheet every class. Each student will receive ONE unexcused absence during the semester. There will be penalty of 20 points for each additional unexcused absense during class sessions.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

Electronic Devices
Make sure that all electronic devices (smart phones, ipods, pagers, gaming devices, etc.) are turned off during class and that outside reading materials are put away. If your electronic device or behavior becomes disruptive, you will be asked to leave the class room. *Open laptop computers are allowed in the class ONLY for notes taking and other course related purpose. Any student who is seen texting or with an open laptop computer for purposes unrelated to the course will be asked to leave the class room.*

In-Class Recording
Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. See the details at:
http://www.syllabus.ufl.edu/media/syllabusufledu/syllabi_policy_7_28_2021.pdf

Respect
Treat your fellow classmates and the instructor with respect. During lecture and discussion, side conversations, inappropriate remarks, and other rude activities will not be tolerated.

Communications
 If you have a routine question (such as grade, absence, etc.), contact the instructor via email within the Canvas platform, or meet with the instructor during office hours**.** ALL communications with the instructor need to be sent via Canvas (and NOT via @ufl.edu).

Excused Absences: Excused absences will include: sick days (documented by a medical practitioner), family emergency, or authorized UF travel. Students must submit authorized absences paperwork to the instructor in order to be excused.

COURSE POLICIES

The course adheres to University of Florida's Syllabus Policy which can be accessed at:
http://www.syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy.

Assignments and other Course Work Policy
Students are required to complete all readings, lectures, and assignments provided in the syllabus and course calendars. All written assignments and the course project must be submitted through Canvas on appropriate assignment pages, and are due by 5:00 pm on the dates indicated on the course calendar. There is a six-hour grace period (until 11:00 pm on the due dates) for assignment submissions. All assignment pages will close on the dot at 11:01 pm and students will not be able to submit assignments after that time. **Late assignment submissions, through any other means, will not be accepted.**

- The grace period of six hours (5:00 – 11 pm) is intended to accommodate for any technical difficulties while trying to submit your assignment. If you wait until close to 11:00 pm before attempting to submit your assignment for the first time and experience technical difficulties, you will not be granted additional time as a result. You should attempt to submit by the scheduled due time/date (5:00 pm) and use the grace period to resolve technical issues that may arise, if any. **Do not wait until 11:00 pm to submit assignments as the assignment pages will close sharp at 11:01 pm and assignments will not be accepted after that time, resulting in a zero (0) grade.**
- Extension for assignment submission will be granted ONLY for University of Florida's approved medical and other reasons, and students are required to submit a written request along with necessary documents (such as a doctor's note) to the instructor for approval at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled due date. That is, approval must be obtained via email by 5:00 p.m. the day before an assignment is due. Requirements for assignments and other course work are consistent with university policies that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/ .
- In the event of an unforeseen emergency (accident, sudden illness, etc.), contact the instructor as soon as possible to request extension to submit assignment. Be proactive and forthcoming. Failure to communicate with the instructor may result in a zero (0) grade.
- Once again, assignments not submitted by their due dates and times will not be accepted resulting in zero (0) grade for such assignments.

Grades and Grade Points
For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/.

Attendance and Make-Up Work
Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/ .

Online Course Evaluation Process
Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals.

Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at: https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at: https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

Academic Honesty
As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity." You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit 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."

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code, and read The Student Honor and Conduct Codes in *The Orange Book* at: https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/

Software Use
All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Services for Students with Disabilities
The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Disability Resource Center: 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, https://disability.ufl.edu/

Campus Helping Resources
Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well- being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

•University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu Counseling Services Groups and Workshops Outreach and Consultation Self-Help Library Wellness Coaching
•U Matter We Care, www.umatter.ufl.edu/
•Career Connections Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, https://career.ufl.edu/.
•Student Success Initiative, http://studentsuccess.ufl.edu.
Student Complaints:
 https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student- conduct-code/.