

**SCHOOL FOR NEW LEARNING
DE PAUL UNIVERSITY
HC 102 HOLIDAY ECONOMICS
DECEMBER 2009**

GENERAL INFORMATION

FACULTY: JO ANN GESIAKOWSKA
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LOCATION: SOUTH CAMPUS

DECEMBER: MONDAY/WEDNESDAYS
NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 14

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Did you know that retailers make almost 70% of all their sales during the Christmas season? Have you noticed how big a decorating holiday Halloween has become? While the United States has primarily counted on the above two holidays for revenue, other ethnic and cultural groups and religions also have major celebrations and spending customs.

In this course, students will learn about other global holidays. Many of the holidays are linked to religious celebrations. These include, but are not limited to Kwanza, Hanukkah, Hajj, the Islamic New Year and various Asian holidays. We will learn about many different ethnic and cultural groups' holidays. We will also discover their customs, traditions and spending patterns for those holidays.

The instructor, JoAnn Gesiakowska, is a life-long learner. She transitioned from business to high school teaching. JoAnn has been an adjunct faculty member at the School of New Learning for over twenty-five years. She also worked in financial positions for the Prudential Insurance Company and First Chicago, Bank One and now Chase. JoAnn has a Masters in History from DePaul University and a MBA in Finance and Marketing from the Kellogg School at Northwestern University. She has also completed all her course work for a Masters in Education specializing in curriculum development,

COMPETENCIES

- FX:** Can define and evaluate the effects of a religious or cultural holiday on a given country's economy as well as the global economy.
- H5:** Can analyze issues and problems from a global perspective.
- L7:** Can learn collaboratively and examine the skills and know the values that contribute to such learning.

LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Students will engage in discussion, internet research, field research, videos and readings in the learning process. Handouts will be provided as no textbook will be required.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance and participation is essential. In the event of an absence, it is imperative that you (1) let me know ahead of time if at all possible, And (2) contact a classmate ahead of time to be your "tutor" for the missed session.

NOTE: Students who miss more that 1 of our 5 week classes will have a difficult time meeting the requirements for a passing grade.

OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of this class the student will:

- 1. Understand economic trends**
- 2. Evaluate how culture and religion can affect economic results**
- 3. Compare holidays among various groups around the world**
- 4. Conduct primary research**
- 5. Assess the impact of Christian values on the development of the American culture**
- 6. Appreciate the values and traditions in other countries/cultures holidays**

EVALUATION

1. Oral report on another country's holiday	20%
2. Oral/Written report on economics of that country's holidays	35%
3. Two in class essays on economic/	30%
4. Class participation	15%

PLAGIARISM

The DePaul Student Handbook defines plagiarism as follows: "Plagiarism includes but is not limited to the following: (a) the direct copying of any source, such as written or verbal material, computer files, audio disks, video programs, or musical scores, whether published or unpublished, in whole or in part, without proper acknowledgement that it is someone else's. (b) Copying of any source in whole or part with only minor changes in wording or syntax even with acknowledgement. (c) Submitting as one's own work a report, examination paper, computer file, lab report, or other assignment that has been prepared by someone else. This includes research papers purchased from any other person or agency. (d) the paraphrasing of another's work or ideas without proper acknowledgement." Plagiarism will result in a failure of the assignment or possibly the course. If you are unsure of how to cite a source, ASK.

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSEMENT

A= designates work of high quality; reflects thorough and comprehensive understanding of the issues at hand; reflects a clearly identifiable thesis and argument that demonstrates cogent and creative development and support of ideas.

B= designates work of good quality; reflects clearly organized and comprehensive understanding of issues at hand; presents substantive thesis and argument with evident development and support of ideas.

C= designates work which minimally meets requirements set forward in the assignment; reflects some organization and development of ideas but develops argument in a superficial or simplistic manner; may contain grammatical errors.

D= designates work of poor quality which does not meet the minimum requirements set forth in the assignment; demonstrates poor organization of ideas and/or inattention to development of ideas, grammar and spelling; treatment of material is superficial and simplistic. May indicate that student has not done the reading assignments thoroughly.

Oral reports have the same criteria with the extra attention given to class presentation skills. Only a small portion of the assignment grade will be based on presentation skills.

Unfinished work or work requiring revision will be given an IN(incomplete)grade. In order to qualify for an IN, students must have regularly attended class, and must have completed two-thirds of the assignments.

Work not submitted by the due date must be submitted within 2 weeks after the end of the quarter.

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY INCOMPLETE POLICY

Undergraduate students have two quarters to complete and incomplete. At the end of the second quarter(excluding summer), following the term in which the incomplete grade was assigned, remaining incompletes will automatically convert to “F” grades. Ordinarily no incomplete grade may be completed after the grace period has expired. Instructors may not change incomplete grades after the end of the grace period, unless with the approval of the college based Exceptions Committee. This policy applies to undergraduate, graduate and professional programs.

NOTE: In the case of a student who has applied for graduation and who has been approved for an Incomplete in his or her final term, the incomplete must be resolved within the four week grace period before final degree certification.

The SNL student who wishes to receive the grade of IN must formally request in writing that the instructor issue this grade. This request must be made before the end of the quarter in which the student is enrolled in the course.

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

DePaul University is a learning community that fosters the pursuit of knowledge and the transmission of ideas within a context that emphasizes a sense of responsibility for oneself; for others and for society at large. Violations of academic integrity, in any of their forms, are, therefore, detrimental to the values of DePaul, to the student’s own development as responsible members of society, and to the pursuit of knowledge and the transmission of ideas. Violations include but are not limited to the following categories: cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, falsification or sabotage of research data; destruction or misuse of the university’s academic resources; alteration or falsification of academic records; and academic misconduct. Conduct that is punishable under the Academic Integrity Policy could result in additional disciplinary actions by other University officials and possible criminal or civil prosecution. Please refer to your Student Handbook or visit <http://studentaffairs.depaul.edu/homehandbook.html> for further details.

CLASS SCHEDULE

CLASS 1 November 30	Overview of Holiday Economic Selection of Holiday and Culture/Country Lecture of basic economic indicators Selection of partners for L7 students Internet research
CLASS 2 December 2	Handouts/In class essay Internet research on Holiday/Country Discussion on primary research Development of primary research questions
CLASS 3 DECEMBER 7	GUEST SPEAKER ON THE ECONOMY Film on Holiday traditions Class discussions on film Oral Presentations on Holiday Customs
CLASS 4 DECEMBER 9	Internet research on Economic indicators/ your country/culture Oral Presentations on Holiday Customs/ culture Second in class essay-culture differences
CLASS 5 DECEMBER 14	Oral presentations on Economic impacts Of Holidays Holiday celebration of all cultures/customs