UNIV399C: Experiential Learning Seminar
Fall 2013

THEME: “ENSURING A WORLD FIT FOR CHILDREN?
RETHINKING OUR CIVIC RESPONSIBILITIES”

- What prospects do children born today face and what is required to ensure a world fit for children?
- What is the civic responsibility of citizens, government and society to address these challenges and improve the opportunities for all children?
- How can the international community strengthen its commitment to children’s welfare, well-being, and life opportunities around the world?

FOCUS & FORMAT: This new experiential seminar series will explore the status of children (i.e., standards of living) and the key challenges (i.e., education, health, homelessness, poverty, war and conflict) they face around the world in the 21st Century. The seminar will highlight promising strategies for improving children’s well-
being in the United States, Europe, the Middle East and the developing world. The seminar will draw directly on the perspectives of leading nonprofit and civil society leaders through formal presentations and documentary films to identify possible policies and practices that will ensure a world fit for children.

**VENUE & TIME**: Beyond the Classroom Seminar Room, 1102 South Campus Commons, Building 1, University of Maryland, College Park. The Series meets on Monday evenings from 7:00-9:00 pm, Fall Semester 2013, and begins September 9th.

**ACADEMIC CREDIT OPTION**: Students may register for “UNIV 399C: Experiential Learning: Ensuring a World Fit for Children? Rethinking Our Civic Responsibilities” for variable credit (1-3 credits) and grade options (REG/P-F/AUD basis) for this seminar series.

**CIVIC LEARNING & COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS ON CHILDREN’S ISSUES**: During the semester, the Beyond the Classroom Program will offer civic experiences for students to participate in civic learning events and community service opportunities outside the classroom focused on improving the lives and status of children. Those students who register for the full 3-credit option are required to participate in two civic learning events and two community service activities with leading nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations, and to provide a one-paragraph reflection about each of their experiences on the course blog. The schedule of civic learning and community service events will be announced at the beginning of the semester.

**FACULTY**: Dr. James V. Riker, Director, Beyond the Classroom Living and Learning Program, University of Maryland, Phone: 301-314-6622; E-mail: jriker@umd.edu Web: [www.BeyondTheClassroom.umd.edu](http://www.BeyondTheClassroom.umd.edu)

*Children in an urban neighborhood in Jakarta, Indonesia.*