



Fall 2016 INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION COM 3461 Section U11

A Global Learning Designated Course¹

Tuesdays 5 p.m. to 7:40 p.m. PC 439

Florida International University
Department of Communication
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Send an email for return call
Office Hours: By appointment only
Office: N/A

University Deadline to Drop Date: Oct. 31

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class is about the unique relationship between communication and culture. More specifically, it is about what happens when people from different cultures come together to share ideas and information. Verbal and nonverbal communication patterns of different cultures will be compared to appreciate the differences and similarities.

Communication varies from culture to culture, and what constitutes as communication depends on the norms, attitudes, values, beliefs, and social practices of a given culture. All cultures – past and present – enlist language to communicate their visions, hopes, and dreams and to respond and react to events in their daily lives and societies. While the appreciation of the various modes of communication present in diverse cultures is its own reward, multi-cultural awareness also facilitates the unprecedented cross-national interaction and creative collaboration recently made possible through rapid technological innovations such as the internet, smartphones, and computers. The motivation for such a course flows from the following conditions:

- Cultures cannot endure without communication. Societies will continue to grow, prosper and adapt to an ever-changing world dynamic but at what cost? As the world becomes more interconnected, attitudes, values, beliefs, norms, and social practices of any given culture are at risk of being marginalized or even lost.
- Individuals are not born with cultural DNA, but rather acquire an understanding of their cultural heritage through the shared communication of their community. Every culture has its own unique form communicating through its language, norms, values beliefs, etc., which tells the story of that culture's collective experience and perspective.
- Competent global interactants recognize that their perspectives most likely differ from those of

¹ This is a Global Learning designated course that counts toward your Global Learning graduation requirement.

others and that they possess the knowledge and skills to adapt to intercultural interactions in the interests of preserving their own cultural heritages and those of others as expressed through cultural norms, values, beliefs, and social practices across the globe. While this class will touch upon communication in a variety of cultures, its intention is to treat aspects of communicating as cultures interact.

OBJECTIVES & STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course exposes students to the means by which cultures employ verbal and nonverbal communication. Cultural identity resides in the norms, attitudes, values, beliefs, and social practices that individuals have acquired over the course of their lives through communication (verbal and nonverbal).

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Compare how culture influences communication in different regions.
- Explain cultural differences in communication.
- Determine when cultural issues are influencing communication.

Core Curriculum (Arts Category) Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Explain how universal themes of Communication are central to cultural traditions and social practices.
- Explain how language functions as a mode of intercultural communication that evolves and changes as individuals, societies, and cultures themselves evolve and change.
- Explain how one's culture functions as a mode of communication that evolves and changes as individuals, societies, and cultures themselves evolve and change.

Global Learning Course Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will:

- Have become aware of the interrelatedness of local, global, international and intercultural issues, trends, and systems as they pertain to intercultural communication. (Global Awareness)
- Have acquired the ability to develop a multi-perspective analysis of local, global, international, and intercultural communication issues. (Global Perspective)
- Be prepared to engage in local, global, international, and intercultural problem solving involving intercultural communication. (Global Engagement).

Global Learning Graduation Honors

FIU's Excellence in Global Learning Graduation Medallion is awarded to students who complete at least four global learning courses, participate in a variety of global co-curricular activities, and complete a capstone consisting of one of the following: a substantial original research project and

presentation on a global topic; extensive foreign language study; long-term study abroad; or, a globally-focused internship. The Peace Corps Prep certification is conferred upon students who complete at least four global learning courses, extensive language study, and a global problem-solving project. For more information, visit goglobal.fiu.edu.

ACTIVE LEARNING STRATEGIES

Faculty from Communication Arts Department will immerse students with intercultural learning, controversial/ethical discussion topics, and various supplemental materials to help illuminate the issues surrounding intercultural communication.

Following an introduction to the broad issues under consideration, the first third of the course will necessarily devote considerable time toward developing a shared vocabulary and basic level of knowledge in Intercultural Communication that will facilitate the class discussion that will ensue the remainder of the semester.

Supplies needed for this course: Binder, binder paper, camera, access to a computer, internet access, and printer access.



REQUIRED TEXT

Brown, J. & Schirmer, B. (2013). Intercultural Communication, Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.
ISBN: 9781323021990

Course ID: comments7344

The book is required. You need to read the relevant chapters before class each week and demonstrate your understanding of the material in class discussions. You are also required to apply the information in the book to the papers you write in the class and the presentations you will give. Finally, exams in the class will test your knowledge of the material. Hence, your success in the class depends on your knowledge and understanding of the book. The Pearson access code you will purchase will give you access to the book as well as other material on the Pearson my lab and mastering website. Please note that your exams will also be through Pearson.

You need to purchase access to your instructor's MyComLab section, where your course material and special FIU edited eBooks are located. You can purchase an access code from the FIU Bookstore OR direct access from the publisher, Pearson. The access code for this class will have a sticker (of some sort) on it. If the bookstore gives you a code without a sticker please inform them that they have given you an incorrect code and have them double check the ISBN number that is on the syllabus for your access code.

MyComLab Instructions:

To enroll in a typical course, a student needs to have a:

- Student access code, a valid credit card, or a PayPal account– Students get an access code with a new book purchase or by buying the code separately in a student access kit/card at the campus bookstore. Students can also buy access to a course online with a credit card or PayPal account while they are

enrolling.

- The student access code is nontransferable and can be used only once.

To purchase course access online

- Go to the MyLab and Mastering website and click Student in the Register area. Enter the Course ID provided by your instructor and click Continue. After verifying your course information, enter your username and password, and click Sign In. If you don't have a Pearson account, click Create an account. Complete the Create an Account page. Helpful hints display to guide you. Read and accept the license agreement. Click Create Account. Select the button for the access level you want. Select whether you want to pay with a credit card or use PayPal and enter payment information. Click Review to review your order details. If you need to change anything, click the Change link. Click Make Payment to submit your order. Click Go to Your Course to access your online course.

Register and Enroll in a New Subject

- Go to the MyLab and Mastering website and click Student in the Register area. Enter the course ID you received from your instructor for your new course, and click Continue. Follow the instructions to either: Use a student access code, purchase access online, or request temporary access. To use a student access code: Go to the MyLab and Mastering website and click Student in the Register area. Enter the course ID provided by your instructor and click Continue. After verifying your course information, enter your username and password, and click Sign In. If you don't have a Pearson account, click Create an account. Complete the Create an Account page. Helpful hints display to guide you. Read and accept the license agreement. Click Create Account. Click Access Code and enter your six-word access code in the boxes. Click Finish to complete your registration. Click Go to Your Course to access your online course.

For more help with registration, go to the Get Started for Students area of the MyLab and Mastering website. For instructions on registration, watch the Register for your course videos.

COURSE POLICIES

This syllabus is a contract of understanding between professor and student. If the assignments and grading system are not acceptable, then the student needs to negotiate a change by midnight Sunday on the second week of class or accept the rules as written.

Attendance and Participation:

Attendance is mandatory. Students are permitted one unexcused absence during the semester. An excused absence is defined as one that can be documented in writing and is due to a medical problem with the student or immediate family, death in the student's immediate family, or an officially recognized university sponsored event. Missing more than 2 hours and 45 minutes of class time may result in your failing the course. Arriving more than 20 minutes late or leaving class early may constitute an absence.

Make-up Work:

Students with one excused absence must meet with the professor to arrange for a make-up assignment. Students with an unexcused absence are not allowed to submit make-up work and are given a zero for assignments or activities due that day in class.

Tardiness:

Students must arrive to class on time. Tardiness is not acceptable and will result in a reduction of your grade. Two "lates" are the equivalent of 1 absence and you are permitted 1 absence. If you arrive late on the day of an activity, you may not be permitted to participate in the activity that day. If you are tardy, notify the professor after class so the absence can be changed to tardy.

Blackboard Messages and Course Announcements

The professor posts assignment deadline reminders in course announcements and posts for success in Blackboard course messages. Students should sign into Blackboard every other day to check for messages posted in both places.

In-class Activities and Discussions:

This class will regularly involve in-class discussion and interaction between students. Our classroom must be a place where everyone can safely voice ideas and opinions. Students are expected to show each other respect. Differences of opinions, beliefs, and ideas will be discussed in a nonjudgmental, respectful, and open manner. Profanity is unacceptable. Total points: 200

Papers:

Writing assignments are due by the time deadline on the Turnitin.com dropbox and the syllabus schedule. All assignments must be your original work written for this course only. All writing assignments must be double-spaced, using a 12 point font (Times Roman, Helvetica, or similar). You must meet the length requirement not including the header. You must submit the papers to the correct Blackboard dropboxes so the plagiarism detection program, Turnitin.com, can analyze the papers. You will be able to see the originality report for the paper 10 minutes after submission. It is suggested that you review the originality report for problems with plagiarism.

Reflection Paper Assignment

"The Case for Containment," Kwame Anthony Appiah, *New York Times*, Jan. 1, 2006. Apply two vocabulary words from Dr. Anderson's lecture to your one complete page of analysis of this article. The page header does not count as part of the paper length. Submit your paper assignment through the Turnitin.com located in the week 3 Module Folder. Total points: 60

Curricular Intercultural Experience Fieldwork Proposal or Prospectus

Your written proposal is a description of the research you propose to conduct for your field project. The prospectus should include at least a one or two paragraph description of your project. In this description, you will tell the professor the cultural group you have chosen to study and why this particular group interests you. Next, you will tell how you plan to access this group and what event you will participate in and observe. Finally, you will write a few research questions to answer through the course of your research.

Your prospectus will be graded based on flawless grammar, punctuation, and spelling. You must create a formal cover sheet: title page, your name, the date, and course title must appear on the cover sheet. (5

points) You must also describe the culture and your interest in studying communication in that particular culture. (10 points) You must also write how access will be gained and what you will observe. (5 points) You are required to write four concise research questions to guide your investigation. (20 points) Total points: 40

Co-curricular Intercultural Experience Fieldwork Final Report

You are required to type a 2 to 3 pages fieldwork report. The objective is to develop global engagement, so you will partake in an intercultural communication experience outside of class. This experience can take any form you wish but here are some suggestions: attending a cultural festival, religious service, a dinner party for a holiday you have never celebrated before. Simply attending, however, is not enough. You must partake in the situation by speaking with people and experiencing new customs. You will then write a 2 to 3 page fieldwork report of how the experience has made you a more competent intercultural communicator. Make sure to relate theories and concepts from class into your report and reasons why you came to the assumptions you have made.

Format for the Report:

Title
Research Objectives
Background
Description
Interpretation
Evaluation (Reflections)

Your final report will be graded on your flawless grammar, punctuation, and spelling. Your report headings, length and topic requirement. (69 points) You will be graded on whether you related theories and concepts from the course textbook in the interpretation and evaluation sections. (20 points) You must state reasons why you came to the conclusion you made and how the experience has made you a more competent intercultural communicator. (1 point) Total points: 100

Important for the Fieldwork Final Report: You are required to take 3 photos of yourself at the event/location of the field visit. If you fail to do so, the report will not be graded and you will receive a zero on the assignment. Attach the photos as an Appendix at the end of your report.

World Explorer Paper

You will write a 2-page double-spaced paper demonstrating your understanding of how cultural beliefs, values, norms, and practices influence communication of one of the countries or areas outside of the U.S. you choose. Total points: 100

Plagiarizing:

Plagiarism is academic misconduct. If you are caught plagiarizing on any assignment in this course, you could face consequences possible failure of the course, expulsion from FIU, or academic probation. This incident could follow you on your academic record. Refer to the section on plagiarism in the FIU Student Handbook.

Readings:

Read the assigned chapters before coming to class and be prepared to join in the class discussion and activities.

Extra Credit:

There will be additional paper assignments offered to students who desire 20 extra credit points. These assignments will be announced in Blackboard and through course messages.

Electronic devices:

Cell phones, laptops, personal digital assistants, and beepers must be turned off while in class. Electronic devices can only be used for taking notes during the professor's lectures

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Policy for Assigning an incomplete "I" Grade

An incomplete grade is a temporary symbol given for work not completed because of serious interruption not caused by the student's own negligence. An incomplete must be made up as quickly as possible, but no later than, two consecutive semesters after the initial taking of the course or it will automatically default to an "F" or the grade that the student earned in the course. There is no extension of the two semester deadline. The student must not register again for the course to make up the incomplete. Students who have incomplete grades on their records must remove the incomplete by the end of the fourth week of the term in which they plan to graduate. Failure to do so will result in a cancellation of graduation.

Incompletes are awarded only if the student has completed most of the course work. If a student misses a significant portion of the course work, he/she should drop the course. If the drop period has ended, the student may petition for a withdrawal. This requires the student to un-enroll in all of their courses for that semester.

Incompletes are not to be used because a student took on too many credits and they cannot complete everything that is now required of them.

In such cases where the course instructor determines that it appropriate to award a student a grade of "I" (incomplete) the following steps must be followed.

Using an Onondaga University form the course instructor will report the following:

- The grade earned by the student to date.
- The missing work and the percentage of the final grade it represents (this requires the details of the specific missing assignment).
- The date the instructor expects the missing work to be submitted or in the case of an examination made up.
- The justification for awarding the grade of "I".
- Have the student sign the form.
- Submit this form to the Department Chair and Dean and maintain a copy for instructor records and provide a copy for the student.

- Upon satisfying the requirements for a grade the instructor will sign off on the form and attach it to the change of grade form she or he will submit.

University Learning Center

The FIU University Learning Center is available on both campuses to support you. They provide personalized attention tailored to your needs in a user-friendly environment that includes online support. You can get help writing a paper, reading more efficiently and increasing textbook comprehension, or even creating an individualized learning plan. The center is located in PC 247 (305-348-2180) on the main campus and at ACI 160 (305-919-5927) on the Biscayne Bay campus. Find their website at: <http://undergrad.fiu.edu/cas/learning-center/>

Disability Clause

Students with disabilities, as defined by law, have the right to receive needed accommodations if their disabilities make it difficult to perform academic tasks in the usual way or in the allotted time frame. In order to receive accommodation, however, students with must register with Disability Resource Center: University Park Campus, GC 190
Voice: (305) 348-3532
TTY: (305) 348-3852
Fax: (305) 348-3850
Email: drcupgl@fiu.edu

Religious Holidays

The University's policy on religious holy days as stated in the University Catalog and Student Handbook will be followed in this class. Any student may request to be excused from an online class to observe a religious holy day of his or her faith.

Academic Misconduct

Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectful exchange of ideas, and community service. All students must respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly to demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook. The Code of Academic Integrity was adopted by the Student Government Association on November 28, 2001 and reflects the values articulated in the Student Code of Standards. Please review this link:

<http://undergrad.fiu.edu/academic-integrity/misconducts.html>

Grading

COURSE REQUIREMENTS	WEIGHTS
Reflection Paper	60 Points
Co-curricular Intercultural Experience Proposal & Report	140 Points
5 Weekly Assignments	40 points each, 200 points total
In-class Activities	200 points total
3 Exams	100 points each, 300 points total
World Explorer Paper	100 Points
Total	1,000 Points
Extra Credit	20 points

Course Grading Policy:

A	940-1000	C+	765-799
A-	900-939	C	700-764
B+	870-899	D	600-699
B	840-869	F	<600
B-	800-839		

FIU Grading Policy

Letter Grade **Quality Scale**

A	4.00
A-	3.70
B+	3.30
B	3.00
B-	2.70
C+	2.30

C	2.00
D	1.00
F	0.00

COURSE CALENDAR (subject to change)

Readings/Course Plan: Week By Week Assignments	
Aug. 23 rd	Course Introduction & Syllabus Review Lesson: What is communication & culture? Lesson: What is cultural relativism? In-Class Activity: Culture Shock
Aug. 30 th	Lesson: Intercultural Competence In-class Activity: TBA Before this class: watch videos in Blackboard: <i>Glimpse of the World, World of Differences</i> Browse <i>The Globe</i> Read the course ebook pages 1-22
Sept. 6 th	Lesson: Intercultural Competence (continued from last week) In-class Activity: TBA Before this class: watch videos in Blackboard: <i>The Tibet Video</i> Read the course ebook pages 23-50 and play the study game on intercultural competence in Blackboard Submit the Reflection Paper assignment into the Blackboard Turnitin dropbox by 11:55 p.m.
Sept. 13 th	Lesson: What are Human Rights? In-class Activity: What are human rights?

Before class, watch the following videos in Blackboard: *What is a human right? What is a human rights body? The story of human rights, Human Rights*

Assignment #1, 2, and 3 are due in Blackboard by 11:55 p.m.

Sept. 20th

Exam #1 No face to face class meeting: instead take exam 1 in Mycomlab at your home or a place with a strong internet connection. The exam is available from 5 a.m. until 11:55 p.m. You will have 120 minutes to take the exam in one sitting. You must not sign out once you begin the exam.

Sept. 27th

Lesson: Characteristics of Cultural Patterns, Cultural Biases & Intercultural Contact
In-class Activity: A Second Chance to Talk to Talk To Yourself

Before this class, read the course ebook pages 1-30; Play: Study game on Cultural Biases & Intercultural Contact in Blackboard
Assignment #4 is due by 11:55 p.m. on Sept. 27

Oct. 4th

Lesson: Thinking About Intercultural Communication Through the Lens of Verbal Communication
In-class Activity: TBA

Before this class, read the course ebook pages 81-107 and watch video in Blackboard: *American Tongues*

Cross-cultural Intercultural Experience Fieldwork Proposal or Prospectus due by 11:55 p.m.
Oct. 4th

Oct. 11th

Lesson: Thinking About Intercultural Communication Through the Lens of Non-verbal Communication

Before this class, read the course ebook pages 108-133 and watch videos in Blackboard: *A World of Gestures and Cultural Perception About Time*

In-class Activity: The Party

Oct. 18th

Exam #2 No face to face class meeting: instead take exam in Mycomlab at your home or a place with a strong internet connection. The exam is available from 5 a.m. until 11:55 p.m. You will have 120 minutes to take the exam in one sitting. You must not sign out once you begin the exam.

Oct. 25th

Lesson: Persuasion and Theory
In-class Activity: Noah's Ark

Before this class: read the course ebook pages 134-161 and watch the videos in Blackboard: *Glimpse of the World and World of Differences*; Play the student game on Persuasion and Theory; Play the game Specific Contexts & Future Outlooks in Blackboard

Last day to drop the course: Last day to drop with DR grade: Monday, Oct. 31st

Nov. 1st

Lesson: Contexts for Intercultural Communication
In-class Activity: TBA

Before this class, read the course ebook pages 190-224 and watch the video in Blackboard: Business Communication

Nov. 8th

Social Movements, Communication & Social Change Lesson

Nov. 15th

Submit your Co-curricular Intercultural Experience Fieldwork Paper assignment into the Blackboard Turnitin dropbox by 11:55 p.m.

Nov. 22nd

Lesson: Future Outlook
In-class Activity: TBA

Before this class: watch videos in Blackboard: The Business, The Lost Boys of Sudan, and Tribes of New Guinea
Complete Assignment #5 in Blackboard by 11:55 p.m. Nov. 22

Nov. 29th

Semester and Exam #3 Review

World Explorer Paper is due in the Turnitin dropbox by 11:55 p.m.

Dec. 6th

Exam #3 No face to face meeting: instead take exam in Mycomlab at your home or a place with a strong internet connection. The exam is available from 5 a.m. until 11:55 p.m. You will have 120 minutes to take the exam in Mycomlab. You must not sign out once you begin the exam.

Do not copy