Course Description and Purpose

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 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 tell the story of that culture’s collective experience and perspective.
- Competent global interactants recognize that their perspectives most likely differ from those of others and that they possess the knowledge and skills to adapt to intercultural interactions in the interests of preserving their own cultural heritage 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.

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

Course Objectives
General Course Outcomes

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

- Describe how culture influences communication.
- Explain cultural differences in communication.
- Determine when cultural issues are influencing communication.
- Explain the role of communication in intercultural adaptation.
- Understand the communication patterns of different cultural groups living in the U.S.

These outcomes will be measured in relation to the three exams.

Global Learning Course Outcomes

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

- Analyze the interrelatedness of local, global, international, and intercultural issues, trends, and systems.
- Assemble a multi-perspective analysis of an issue.
- Demonstrate a willingness to address local, global, international, and intercultural issues by acting within the context of your own lives.

These outcomes will be measured by the score received on a 3-point rubric (20 Good/10 Average/0 Poor) used to evaluate your essay answers.

To become a globally aware individual who can see issues from various perspectives, you will be asked to read numerous non-fiction essays that portray an issue that may or may not be resolved if a different communication technique and perspective is employed. You will analyze these essays and formulate an analysis of the communication issue at hand and render a potential solution. Additionally, you will be asked to place yourself in the role of an individual from the essay and evaluate how you would respond (verbally & nonverbally) and why.

In essay nine, you will need to select an activity to participate in and evaluate your experience. Choices include but are not limited to:

- Attend a religious service outside your faith.
- Arrange a meeting with an international student from the Global First Year Program.
- Arrange a meeting with a student from FIU’s LGBTQ community.
- Attend a multicultural event from the Miami and Beaches webpage.

Course Awards
Quality Matters
This certification mark recognizes that this course met Quality Matters review standards.

Important Information

Policies

Please review the FIU's Policies and Netiquette webpage. The policies webpage contains essential information regarding guidelines relevant to all courses at FIU, as well as additional information about acceptable netiquette for online courses.

As a member of the FIU community you are expected to be knowledgeable about the behavioral expectations set forth in the FIU Student Code of Conduct.

Accessibility and Accommodation

The Disability Resource Center collaborates with students, faculty, staff, and community members to create diverse learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive and sustainable. The DRC provides FIU students with disabilities the necessary support to successfully complete their education and participate in activities available to all students. If you have a diagnosed disability and plan to utilize academic accommodations, please contact the Center at (305) 348-3532 or visit us at the Graham Center GC 190.

For additional assistance please contact FIU's Disability Resource Center.

Web Accessibility Statements for Partners and Vendors

- Canvas
- Microsoft
- Adobe
- Google
- ProctorU
- HonorLock
- OpenStax
- Turnitin
- NBC Learn
- Adobe Connect
- Respondus LockDown Browser
- Zoom
Please visit our ADA Compliance webpage for additional information about accessibility involving the tools used in this course.

### Technical Requirements and Skills

One of the greatest barriers to taking an online course is a lack of basic computer literacy. By computer literacy we mean being able to manage and organize computer files efficiently, and learning to use your computer's operating system and software quickly and easily. Keep in mind that this is not a computer literacy course; but students enrolled in online courses are expected to have moderate proficiency using a computer. Please go to the "What's Required" webpage to find out more information on this subject.

### Expectations of This Course

This is an online course, which means most (if not all) of the course work will be conducted online. Expectations for performance in an online course are the same for a traditional course. In fact, online courses require a degree of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technology skills which can make these courses more demanding for some students.

Online courses are not independent study courses. You will be expected to interact online with the professor and your fellow students; to do assignments; and to meet deadlines.

In order to be successful in this fully online course, you will be expected to:

- Purchase the textbook within the first week of class.
- Follow instructions and ask questions when you are uncertain of the course material.
- Create a calendar consisting of the assignments and their respective due dates.
- Access the course daily to check for messages from your instructor.

The Instructor will:

- Respond to emails within 24 hours.
- Grade assignments within 5 days

### Acceptance of Late Assignments

The departmental and course policies governing the acceptance of late assignments were adopted for the purpose of ensuring each student in the course is treated fairly and held to the same objective standards. The department, in adopting the late assignment policy, concluded that it was reasonable for students enrolled in an online class to be responsible for the following:

- to understand and to respect an assignment's posted due date;
- to read and to abide by the course policies posted within syllabus; and
As such, requests for extensions related to the mismanaging of one's time, unfamiliarity with course policies contained within the syllabus, and/or not following an assignment's posted submission instructions are not compelling reasons for an instructor to grant an extension and will, therefore, be denied.

- All documentation related to medical emergencies must be dated, signed by a licensed medical professional, and contain the licensed medical professional's contact number. It is expected that such documentation will be submitted no later than one week after the assignment's due date. Supporting medical documentation is always kept confidential.

Once again, the departmental policies and procedures were adopted for the purpose of ensuring that all students in a class are treated fairly and are evaluated using the same objective standards. Your understanding and cooperation are both greatly appreciated.

**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", 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 coursework. If a student misses a significant portion of the coursework, 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 Official 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.

## Academic Misconduct Statement

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 should 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.

Academic Misconduct includes: **Cheating** – The unauthorized use of books, notes, aids, electronic sources; or assistance from another person with respect to examinations, course assignments, field service reports, class recitations; or the unauthorized possession of examination papers or course materials, whether originally authorized or not. **Plagiarism** – The use and appropriation of another’s work without any indication of the source and the representation of such work as the student’s own. Any student who fails to give credit for ideas, expressions or materials taken from another source, including internet sources, is responsible for plagiarism.

Learn more about the academic integrity policies and procedures as well as student resources that can help you prepare for a successful semester.

## 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 GL 120 (305-348-2441) on the main campus and at ACI 160 (305-919-5927) on the Biscayne Bay campus.

## Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

If you are looking for help for yourself or a fellow classmate, Panthers Care encourages you to express any concerns you may come across as it relates to any personal behavior concerns or worries you have, for the classmate’s well-being or yours; you are encouraged to share your concerns with **FIU’s Panthers Care website**.
Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) offers free and confidential help for anxiety, depression, stress, and other concerns that life brings. Professional counselors are available for same-day appointments. Don’t wait to call (305) 348-2277 to set up a time to talk or visit the online self-help portal.

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 the 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.

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Textbook and Course Materials

To access your eBook, please click on the MyLab Mastering tab in the left column on the Canvas homepage of this course.
To purchase access to the ebook and exams follow these instructions. There are ONLY two locations where access can be purchased—1) the FIU bookstore or 2) direct access from the publisher. A valid credit-card or PayPal account is required to purchase direct access from the publisher. The publisher cannot process financial aid.

- **Direct Access from the Publisher**

Click on the MyLab Mastering tab located in the left side column from the Canvas homepage. You do NOT need a course ID. Simply follow the instructions to purchase direct access from the publisher.

- **FIU Bookstore**

If you have purchased an access code from the FIU bookstore, click on the MyLab Mastering tab located in the left side column from the Canvas homepage and follow the instructions to enter the pre-purchased access code. You do NOT need a course ID.

For more information (or to watch a video explanation), please see the How to Register for Pearson video linked on the homepage of Canvas.

### Course Detail

#### Course Communication

Communication in this course will take place via the Canvas Inbox. Check out the Canvas Conversations Tutorial or Canvas Guide to learn how to communicate with your instructor and peers using Announcements, Discussions, and the Inbox.

#### Course Content

In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and online assessments, it is very important that you take the "practice quiz" from each computer you will be using to take your graded quizzes and exams. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum hardware requirements.

All assessments will auto-submit when (1) the timer runs out or (2) the closing date/time is reached, whichever happens first. For example, if a quiz has a closing time of 5:00 pm but the student begins the exam at 4:55 pm, the student will only have 5 minutes to complete the quiz.

Assessments in this course are not compatible with mobile devices and should not be taken through a mobile phone or a tablet. If you need further assistance please contact FIU Online Support Services.

Please read the weekly calendar carefully. **You are fully responsible for completing the assignments by the assigned dates.** This requires that you read ahead as some assignments may...
take you more time and research than others. This course will consist of the following assignments:

- **Practice Quiz:** The practice quiz is to test your computer. It does not contain questions related to the class. It is available to make sure your computer is set up to take online material. You receive no class points for this quiz. You can find the practice quiz in Canvas. It is advised that you take this quiz before you attempt opening an exam to avoid any technical issues.

In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and online assessments, it is very important that you take the "Practice Quiz" from each computer you will be using to take your graded quizzes and exams. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum hardware requirements.

- **Weekly Essays:** Upon completing the assigned reading you will submit the weekly essay located in Canvas. You will be asked essay questions that define concepts/theory. Weekly essays open at 5 am on the assigned day (Wednesday) listed on the syllabus and are due by 11:55 pm on the assigned day (Tuesday) on the syllabus. You have one week to answer the assigned essay question. You can open and close the assignment as often as you wish during the week-long availability period to work on your essays. Make sure to save your answers. Once you submit the assignment, you no longer have access to it. Essays are graded as 20, 10 or 0.

- **Exams:** There will be 3 exams throughout the semester. Each will be a combination of multiple choice and true/false. There will be 50 questions on each exam. Each exam will be timed and no two exams will be alike. Exams are to be completed by 11:55 PM on the specified dates. You will have 120 minutes to complete the exam. You have one chance to take the exam, so make sure you are prepared. Closing the exam does not stop your time.

**Grading**

There are no make-up exams or assignments, there is no grading curve, and there is no extra credit for the course. The available points are as follows;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirements</th>
<th>Number of Items</th>
<th>Points for Each</th>
<th>Total Points Available</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Essays</td>
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<td>Exams</td>
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<td>Course Requirements</td>
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<td>500</td>
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<td>93.4</td>
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<td>467</td>
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<td>89.4</td>
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Course Calendar

Weekly Schedule
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<tr>
<th>Module Availability Date(s)</th>
<th>Modules</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module 1</td>
<td>Intro &amp; Cultural Differences (no textbook reading)</td>
<td>Review course materials (i.e., syllabus, FAQ, MyComLab, etc.)</td>
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<td>• Familiarize yourself with World Explorer: The Globe</td>
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<td>• <strong>Identify Various Cultural Differences throughout the Globe</strong></td>
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<td>• Read: A related essay—My Name Is... (MyCommLab)</td>
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<td>• Watch: A 60 minute video—Glimpse of the World (Canvas)</td>
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<td>• Watch: A 30 minute video—World of Difference (Canvas)</td>
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<td>• View: Specific information from the World Explorer: The Globe (Canvas)</td>
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<td><strong>Practice Quiz (Canvas)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Complete: Weekly Essay 1 (Canvas) - Due Tuesday, 9/3 at 11:55 PM (EST)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 2</td>
<td>What is Communication &amp; Culture?</td>
<td>Understand General Concepts, Theory, &amp; Methodology: An Introduction To Intercultural Communication throughout the Globe</td>
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<td>• Read Textbook Chapter: What is Communication &amp; Culture (MyCommLab)</td>
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<td>• Read: The Global Village (MyCommLab)</td>
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<td>• Watch: Tibet Video (Canvas)</td>
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<td>• Play: Study Game on Communication and Culture (Canvas)</td>
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<td><strong>Complete: Weekly Essay 2 (Canvas) - Due Tuesday, 9/11 at 11:55 PM (EST)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 3</td>
<td>Intercultural Competence</td>
<td>Unveil the ideals of Intercultural Competence throughout the Globe</td>
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Module Availability Date(s) | Modules | Assignments
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| from Wednesday 9/18 at 5 AM (EST) - Tuesday 9/24 at 11:55 PM (EST) | | • Read Textbook Chapter: Intercultural Communication
• Competence (MyCommLab)
• **Read: The Deaf Culture Essay** (MyCommLab)
• Read: Samoa Essay (MyCommLab)
• Play: Study Game on Intercultural Competence (Canvas)
• Complete: Weekly Essay 3 (Canvas) - Due Tuesday, 9/24 at 11:55 PM (EST)

Module 4
Module available from Wednesday 9/25 at 5 AM (EST) - Tuesday 10/1 at 11:55 PM (EST)

Exam 1
Chapters: What is Communication & Culture, Intercultural Competence
Supplemental Readings and Videos: My Name Is..., Deaf Culture, Samoa, Glimpse of the World, and World of Differences.
The exam is available from 5:00 am until 11:55 pm. The available dates are located on the column to the left. You will have a total of 120 minutes to complete the entire exam. There are 50 questions. Each Question is worth 2 points.

For technical difficulties with MyCommLab please go to the Student Technical Support website.

Module 5
Module available from Wednesday
Cultural Biases & Intercultural Contact

Distinguish Several Cultural Biases and how Cultures Maintain Contact
• Read Textbook Chapter: Cultural Biases & Intercultural Contact (MyCommLab)
• Read: Australia Essay (MyCommLab)
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Module Availability Date(s)</th>
<th>Modules</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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</table>
| 10/2 at 5 AM (EST) - Tuesday 10/8 at 11:55 PM (EST) | Verbal Communication | - Play: Study game on Cultural Biases and Intercultural Contact (Canvas)  
- Complete: Weekly Essay 4 (Canvas) - Due on Tuesday, 10/8 at 11:55 PM (EST) |
| 10/9 at 5 AM (EST) - Tuesday 10/15 at 11:55 PM (EST) | Verbal Communication | Note: Spring Break  
- Read Textbook Chapter: Verbal Communication (MyCommLab)  
- Read: Navajo Code Talkers Essay (MyCommLab)  
- Read: Tawk of New Yawk is Fading into History Essay (MyCommLab)  
- Watch: American Tongues Video (Canvas)  
- Play: Study Game on Verbal Communication (Canvas)  
- Complete: Weekly Essay 5 (Canvas) - Due on Tuesday, 10/15 at 11:55 PM (EST) |
| 10/16 at 5 AM (EST) - Tuesday 10/22 at 11:55 PM (EST) | Non-Verbal Communication | Think About Intercultural Communication Through the Lens of Nonverbal Communication  
- Read Textbook Chapter: Nonverbal Communication (MyCommLab)  
- Read: Gestures from Around the World Essay (MyCommLab)  
- Watch: A related video - World of Gestures (Canvas)  
- Watch: A related video - Cultural Perception about time (Canvas) |
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<tr>
<th>Module Availability Date(s)</th>
<th>Modules</th>
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<td>- Play: Study Game on Nonverbal Communication (Canvas)</td>
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<td>- <strong>Complete: Weekly Essay 6 (Canvas)</strong> - Due on Tuesday, 10/22 at 11:55 PM (EST)</td>
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<td>- Exam 2 - Due Tuesday, 10/17 at 11:55 PM (EST)</td>
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<td>Chapters: Cultural Biases &amp; Intercultural Contact, Verbal Communication, and Non-verbal Communication</td>
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<td>Supplemental Readings and Videos: Australia, American Tongues, and World of Gestures</td>
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<td>The exam is available from 5:00 am until 11:55 pm. The available dates are located on the column to the left. You will have a total of 120 minutes to complete the entire exam. There are 50 questions. Each Question is worth 2 points</td>
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<td>For technical difficulties with MyCommLab please go to the Student Technical Support website</td>
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<td>Module 8</td>
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<td>Intercultural Perspectives on Interpersonal Relationships</td>
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<td>Module available from</td>
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<td>Breaking down Persuasion &amp; Theory in the Realm of Intercultural Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 10/23 at 5 AM (EST) - Tuesday 10/29 at 11:55 PM (EST)</td>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>- Read Textbook Chapter: Persuasion &amp; Theory (MyCommLab)</td>
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<td>- Read: Tales from Thailand Essay (MyCommLab)</td>
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<td>- Play: Study Game on Persuasion &amp; Theory (Canvas)</td>
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<th>Module Availability Date(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>11:55 PM (EST)</td>
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<td>• Complete: Weekly Essay 7 (Canvas) - Due on Tuesday, 11/5 at 11:55 PM (EST)</td>
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### Module 10
Module available from Wednesday 11/6 at 5 AM (EST) - Tuesday 11/12 at 11:55 PM (EST)
- **Around the Globe**
  - Read Textbook Chapter: Interpersonal Relationships (MyCommLab)
  - Read: South America Essay (MyCommLab)
  - Read: Rwanda Essay (MyCommLab)
  - Play: Study Game on Interpersonal Relationships (Canvas)
  - Complete: Weekly Essay 8 (Canvas) - Due on Tuesday, 11/12 at 11:55 PM (EST)

### Module 11
Module available from Wednesday 11/13 at 5 AM (EST) - Tuesday 11/19 at 11:55 PM (EST)
- **Approaches to Specific Contexts & Future Outlooks within Intercultural Communication**
  - Read Textbook Chapter: Specific Contexts & Future Outlooks (MyCommLab)
  - **Co-curricular activity of your choice**
  - Play: Study Game on Specific Contexts & Future Outlooks (Canvas)
  - Complete: Weekly Essay 9 (Canvas) - Due on Tuesday, 11/19 at 11:55 PM (EST)

### Module 12
Module available from Wednesday
- **Think about Intercultural Communication Through the Lens of Tribes around the Globe**
  - Read: The Shower Essay (MyCommLab)
  - Watch: A related video – The Tribes of New Guinea (Canvas)
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<tr>
<th>Module Availability Date(s)</th>
<th>Modules</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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| 11/20 at 5 AM (EST) - Tuesday |         | • Watch: A related video – The Lost Boys of Sudan (Canvas)  
• Complete: Weekly Essay 10 (Canvas) - Due on Tuesday, 12/3 at 11:55 PM (EST) |

### Module 13

Module available from Wednesday  
12/4 at 5 AM (EST)  
12/10 at 11:55 PM (EST)  

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**Exam 3**

Persuasion & Theory, Interpersonal Relationships, and Specific Contexts & Future Outlooks.

Supplemental Readings and Videos: Tales from Thailand, Rwanda, South America, The Shower, Lost Boys of Sudan, and Tribes of New Guinea.

The exam is available from 5:00 am until 11:55 pm. The available dates are located on the column to the left.

You will have a total of 120 minutes to complete the entire exam. There are 50 questions. Each Question is worth 2 points.

For technical difficulties with MyCommLab please go to the Student Technical Support website.