

Advice to Future Students: Intercultural Communication with Pablo Martin

Each semester I ask my students to complete an anonymous survey at the end of the course. Here are their responses to the question, "What advice would you give to future students?"

1. Don't wait until the week before the journals are due to complete them, because you will not get as much out of them. They really are helpful if you do them in time with the course.
2. Share in class. It is a long class and it is not going to go by any faster if no one shares. Plus, relating the subjects back to your culture and the culture of your classmates will help you to understand them.
3. Take advantage of the many extra credit opportunities. You never know if you might need it.
4. Do some extra credit, there is a lot offered.
5. By doing the journals and reading activities correctly you can really help boost your grade. Make sure you bring a note card for the final, it can really help.
6. Keep up with the reading. If you can't, skim the chapter and involve yourself in conversation. Communicating your perception of the text expands the classroom experience a lot.
7. Keep up with the reading activities and journals
8. My best advice for future students is to try not to look at this class as a lecture-test type class. To really benefit you gotta get yourself out there, put yourself in the class discussions.
9. It is a coms class, but I feel you get more of an advantage when you aren't taking notes.
10. Keep up on the reading journals and activities because the class is much easier and beneficial if you do! Also get out there and try new activities that can create room for good discussions and extra credit.
11. Do the reading journals at a good pace, and don't eat before InClass activity #2.
12. It's a fun class (for the most part) and because of the reading journals and activities, whatever you learn in the class sticks with you. Plus, Prof. Martin always has fun unexpected in class activities and potlucks are a bonus.
13. Be thoughtful and mindful. The course material and terminology is a lot easier to retain when you direct your thought process toward life experiences, whether they be your own or shared by others. Also, proofread your assignment. Pablo caught more of my typos and structural errors than my last English professor. He is surprisingly detailed when it comes to grading and actually reads and responds to your work, so make sure it is something worth sharing.
14. Read!
15. Complete all reading journals. Read every chapter and review the chapters prior to exam time. Try to ask questions in class and stay engaged. Make friends with your peers.
16. Have fun with participation in class.
17. Stay on top of the reading and reading journals, have an open mind, participate.
18. Do the reading and the reading journals. Ask Pablo if you have any questions about the material.
19. Try to stay ahead. Read the chapters prior to class. Do not wait until the last minute to study. Although homework is not mandatory, finish ahead of time as if it is to help you stay current.