

COMMUNICATION STUDIES 180: Intercultural Communication

Miramar College, Spring 2016

Syllabus Part A

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Blackboard (Bb) URL: <https://sdccd.blackboard.com/webapps/login/>

Course Resources Page: <http://www.martiniproductions.com/coms180.html>

Office Hours:

Monday & Wednesday: 4:30-6:00 (M: on campus 12:45-6:15, W: on campus 12:45-9:45)

Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00-9:30 + 2:15-2:45 (T&R: on campus from (8:15-4:00)

Other Important Contacts: School of Liberal Arts Administrative Assistant, Joyce Allen—619-388-7873

Required Text: *Understanding Intercultural Communication* (2nd Edition) by Stella Ting-Toomey & Leeva C. Chung.

ISBN 978-0199739790. A copy of this text is available on reserve in the library for 3-hour, in-library use. You can also buy and download an electronic copy online at www.coursesmart.com.

Additional Resources: The Interactive Student Study Guide is a free supplemental resource to your textbook with a variety of resources to help you to form good study habits and prepare you for tests and exams:

<http://global.oup.com/us/companion.websites/9780199739790/student/>.

Other required materials:

1. A print-out (or electronic file) of Parts A and B of the syllabus
2. A print-out (or electronic file) of the Course Schedule for your section (i.e. COMS 103-81323)
3. A print-out (or electronic file) of the Course Packet
4. Have a working email account that is current in WebAdvisor and thus Blackboard as well. (All students can request an email account through the college.) This is *vital*.
5. A way to access Blackboard, our course management system (any private or public computer with an Internet connection will suffice—you can find these at any public library).

A Description of the Course

This course is a study of communication between members of differing cultures. Emphasis is placed on culture and communication, including social psychological variables, verbal and nonverbal language systems, cross-cultural communication breakdowns and conflict resolution. Students apply the principles of intercultural communication to contemporary cross-cultural and global communication issues. This course is designed for students majoring in communication studies, international business, business, education, social sciences, nursing, mass communications, and all fields of study that require cross-cultural contact and/or awareness of cultural distinctions.

Student Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Explain how culture impacts our perception of how we see the world
2. Analyze how individualized cultural identities influence communication strategies
3. Identify the role pop culture plays in the evolution of culture around the world
4. Describe the role culture plays in conflict management strategies
5. Develop skills to research, observe, and analyze how the understanding of intercultural competence helps build society

Important Dates for the Spring Semester

Classes begin (16 weeks): January 25

Last day to receive, process and pay for add codes: February 5

Deadline to drop classes with no "W" recorded: February 5

Lincoln Day Holiday: February 12

Washington Day Holiday: February 15

Last day to file a petition for Pass/No Pass grade option: February 29

Spring Break: March 28-April 2

Cesar Chavez Day Holiday: April 1

Withdrawal deadline—no drops accepted after this date: April 8

End of Spring 2014 Semester: May 21

For other helpful information, visit: <https://studentweb.sdccd.edu/index.cfm?action=keyresources#guide>

Assignment List

Please see the Course Packet for detailed information.

Assignments (in chronological order)	Due	Score	Points
1. Syllabi Quiz			20
2. Daily Ice Breaker (2x20 pts each)			40
3. Reading Journal (10 points per chapter, 12 chapters)			120
4. Activities (activities accomplished both in and out of class)			100
5. Skill Builder #1			125
6. Midterm Exam			50
7. Skill Builder #2			100
8. Final Exam (cumulative with a focus on post-midterm material)			100
9. Class Participation (4 points per hour/meeting based on your active, engaged presence in class, including participation in reading discussions).			120
10. Extra Credit (25 points maximum)			25

Assignments (in chronological order)	Due	Score	Points
Total Points Possible (excluding extra credit)			800

This is not an assignment, but it's important! If you are not registered to vote, please register online today. Consider choosing the vote-by-mail option.

Schedule

To help you stay on top of the assignments and succeed in this class, I recommend you use a calendar *and* schedule your work according to weeks rather than days. All readings, assignments, and tasks are due the hour and week they are listed—unless the course meets once a week, then all assignments are due in Hour 1. Hour 1 refers to the first meeting of the week (i.e. Tuesday) and Hour 2 refers to the second (i.e. Thursday).

Week/Date	Assignments Due	Reading and Other Tasks to Do for Class
Week 1		
H1: 1/26 H2: 1/28	H1: NA H2: Syllabi Quiz	H1: NA H2: Read syllabi (Parts A and B) H2: Be prepared to sign up for the Daily Ice Breaker
Week 2		
H1: 2/2 H2: 2/4	H1: Ch. 1 Reading Journal (R.J.) Due	H1: Read Ch. 1: Why Study Intercultural Communication? H2: NA
Week 3		
H1: 2/9 H2: 2/11	H1: Be prepared to discuss R.J., Ch. 2 H2: NA	H1: Read Ch. 2: What Is Intercultural Communication? H2: NA
Week 4		
H1: 2/16 H2: 2/18	H1: Be prepared to discuss R.J., Ch. 3 H2: NA	H1: Read Ch. 3: What Are The Essential Cultural Value Patterns? H2: NA
Week 5		
H1: 2/23 H2: 2/25	H1: Bring a draft for Skill Builder #1 Writing Workshop H2: Skill Builder #1 Due	H1: Complete a draft of Skill Builder #1 H2: NA
Week 6		
H1: 3/1 H2: 3/3	H1: Ch. 2-4 R.J.s Due H2: NA	H1: Read Ch. 4: What Are The Keys To Understanding Cultural And Ethnic Identities? H2: NA
Week 7		
H1: 3/8 H2: 3/10	H1: Be prepared to discuss R.J., Ch. 5	H1: Read Ch. 5: What Is Culture Shock? H2: NA
Week 8		
H1: 3/15 H2: 3/17	H1: Be prepared to discuss R.J., Ch. 6 H2: NA	H1: Read Ch. 6: What Is The Connection Between Verbal Communication And Culture? H2: NA
Week 9		
H1: 3/22 H2: 3/24	H1: Be prepared to discuss R.J., Ch. 7 H2: NA	H1: Read Ch. 7: What Are The Different Ways To Communicate Nonverbally Across Cultures? H2: NA
Week NA		
3/28-4/1	H1: <i>In-class activity–ICC Game</i> H2: Ch. 5-7 R.J.s Due H2: Midterm Exam	H1: NA H2: NA

Week/Date	Assignments Due	Reading and Other Tasks to Do for Class
Week 10		
H1: 4/5 H2: 4/7	H1: Be prepared to discuss R.J., Ch. 8 H2: NA	H1: Read Ch. 8: What Causes Us To Hold Biases Against Outgroups? H2: NA
Week 11		
H1: 4/12 H2: 4/14	H1: Be prepared to discuss R.J., Ch. 9 H2: NA	H1: Read Ch. 9: How Can We Manage Intercultural Conflict Flexibly? H2: NA
Week 12		
H1: 4/19 H2: 4/21	H1: Be prepared to discuss R.J., Ch. 10 H2: Skill Builder #2 Due	H1: Read Ch. 10: What Are The Challenges In Developing An Intercultural-Intimate Relationship? H2: NA
Week 13		
H1: 4/26 H2: 4/28	Thanksgiving Break—No Class	Thanksgiving Break—No Class
Week 14		
H1: 5/3 H2: 5/5	H1: Be prepared to discuss R.J., Ch. 11 +12 H2: NA	H1: Read Ch. 11: What Are The Communication Issues Facing A Global Identity? H1: Read Ch. 12: How Can We Become Ethical Intercultural Communicators? H2: NA
Week 15		
H1: 5/10 H2: 5/12	H1: <i>In-class activity—Final Exam Review</i> H2: <i>In-class activity—Final Exam Review</i>	H1: NA H2: NA
Week 16		
H1: 5/17 H2: 5/19	H1: <i>Be prepared for the in-class activity & potluck</i> H2: Ch. 8-12 R.J.s Due H2: Final Exam	H1: Prepare for the in-class activity H2: NA

Last day of the semester: May 21, 2015