

Speech 230: Intercultural Communication

Autumn 2007

M-F 9:30am-10:20pm; Room R211

Instructor: Whitney Anspach

Office Hours: T & R 12:30-1:30 in R230, and by appointment

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Required Readings

Jandt, Fred Edmund (2006). *An Introduction to Intercultural Communication: Identities in a global community*. Sage Publications.

Any additional readings will be available as pdf documents on our course website or provided in class.

Note: The assigned readings are critical to your understanding and appreciation of course concepts. I have tried to select readings that will introduce you to important theoretical concepts and provide concrete examples of issues related to small group communication. In some cases, the readings will provide valuable background for issues we will discuss further in class. At other times, the readings will supplement what we discuss in class by addressing issues and concepts that we do not have time to cover in class sessions. Please complete the day's listed readings prior to coming to class.

Course Description

This course aims to increase student intercultural competence by examining the effects of culture on both the communication process and individual. Students taking this course will explore communication and culture, intercultural messages, the role of context in intercultural communication, how culture affects one's identity, how culture influences communication style, language, and non-verbal communication, and how to improve their own intercultural competence.

Course Format and Expectations

Format:

You will be engaged in activities and discussions designed to aid your understanding of the concepts explored in this class. Computer use is not required. This course also includes a group project. Lectures by the instructor will be kept to a minimum. Given this format, students need to commit to being active participants in this class. In addition, this area of study contains complex theories and difficult social science jargon. I will do my best to assist you, but a college reading level and college writing level in English is needed to succeed in this course.

Expectations:

Your active participation in the learning process is expected and valued. We will address a variety of topics, many involving controversies that touch upon our personal values and beliefs. I encourage you to share your thoughts, concerns, and opinions in class—we will have a stimulating learning environment and a richer learning experience if we can discuss a wide range of perspectives. At the same time, the issues we will address can be highly emotional ones and we won't always agree with

one another. It is vital that everyone feels safe to air her or his ideas and opinions. Please be sensitive and respectful to other viewpoints when making comments and contributing to discussion.

Learning Assessment

In order to earn a passing grade in this course you will need to submit **all** of the assignments listed below and take all exams. Submission of all assignments and exams constitutes a necessary, but insufficient condition for passing the course. In other words, you need to submit all assignments and exams *and* need to earn 63% of the total possible points in order to pass the course. Unfortunately, I am unable to offer incompletes for this course.

Exams (3 X 100 pts each)	300
Cultural Identity Paper	100
Group Project	300
Participation	200
Total:	900

Grading Scale:

94-100 = A	73-75 = C
90-93 = A-	70-72 = C-
86-89 = B+	66-69 = D+
83-85 = B	60-65 = D
80-82 = B-	0-59 = F
76-79 = C+	

Assignment Descriptions

Class Participation (200 Points):

Please turn off all cell phones, pagers, blackberries, ipods, etc. before class begins.

You will be evaluated on the quality of your contributions to in-class discussions. You are expected to come to class prepared. This means you will have read all required reading assignments, bring the course textbook to each class meeting, and be ready to share relevant and constructive information with the class. With regard to your overall course grade, your participation will be measured by assessing your involvement in and completion of a variety of in-class activities and assignments.

Note: More than three (3) unexcused absences will result in a reduction of your course participation grade. Students who miss 10 or more classes will fail the course. Students more than 5 minutes late will receive an absence for the class. Students with 10 or more absences will not receive credit for the course.

Exams (3 @ 100 points each):

There will be a total of three exams worth 100 Points each. Each exam will consist of multiple choice and true and false questions. A Scantron form is required for each exam and can be purchased at the campus bookstore. Prior to each exam, an exam review will be distributed.

Cultural Identity Paper (100 Points):

Students will write a Cultural Identity paper exploring their cultural identities and practices. The paper must be typed, double-spaced in size 12 Times New Roman font (or similar) with 1" (one inch) margins on white paper and include a bibliography of references in APA or MLA style. Detailed instructions for the paper will be provided in class.

Group Project (300 Points):

Students will be assigned to a small group. Each group will choose a culture to explore from a list provided by the instructor. The goal of this assignment is for each group to enlighten the class regarding their chosen culture's: worldview, cultural patterns, values and practices in a presentation before the class. Students will be given adequate time to meet in class or online in order to complete this project. The entire project grade consists of three parts: group performance and effectiveness on the presentation (150 pts.), a written, detailed outline of the presentation with accompanying bibliography (50 pts.), and the student's contribution to his/her group (100 pts). Presentations will begin the 11th week of the quarter. More details regarding this assignment will be provided in class.

Note: Students who contribute little or inadequately to their group project (or group meetings) can be voted out of their group at any time during the quarter. If a student is voted out of his/her group, he/she will research and write a 15 page research paper on an Intercultural Communication topic of the instructor's choice. The research paper will have a minimum of 15 cited journal sources and a comprehensive bibliography. The student will present his/her paper and findings to the class in a 30 to 45 minute presentation.

General Policies**Late Written Assignments:**

For purposes of equity and fairness for all students, you will be given a reasonable amount of time to complete all written assignments. Deadlines for all assignments will be announced in class and are listed in the syllabus. An assignment is on time when it is delivered to me **at the beginning of class** on the day it is due. *(Any assignment passed in after that time will be considered a day late.)*

If you know you will be absent on the day an assignment is due or there is an activity planned, make arrangements with me prior to this. In the event that you do not turn in your assignment on the day/time it is due, you will be assessed the following academic penalty: late written assignments will receive a one point grade reduction for every day they are late (i.e. B+ to C+).

Statement on Academic Integrity:

You should know that plagiarism is a serious violation of your contract as a student and will be treated severely. It is important for you to understand that plagiarism is *any* representation of another person's words or ideas in a manner that makes it seem as if they were your own, in either oral or written form. Obviously, this means that you may not copy another person's papers. Students caught cheating on an exam or assignment will not receive any credit for that portion of the class and will be reported to the Dean of Student Programs.

Special Needs:

Please contact the DSS at 564-2498 or go in person to the DSS reception area of the Student Services Building if you have special needs. If you have a documented disability and need a type of accommodation, please meet with me as soon as possible.

Classroom Conduct:

When engaged in your role as a student, please be constructive in your comments both in the classroom and online. Always treat your classmates with respect. Please consult with www.bcc.ctc.edu/artshum/policy.html to review the Arts and Humanities Division statement of Student Procedures and Expectations and/or contact your instructor should you have any questions or concerns.

Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Reading
1	Mon 24 Sept	Introduction	
	Tue 25 Sept	Intercultural Com. in Action	
	Wed 26 Sept	Intercultural Com. in Action Continued	Chapter 1 (pp. 3 - 8)
	Thur 27 Sept	Defining Culture	Chapter 1(pp. 8 - 26)
	Fri 28 Sept	Communication: Process & contexts	Chapter 2 (pp. 27 -43)
2	Mon 1 Oct	Intercultural Com. Competence	Chapter 2 (pp. 44 - 50)
	Tue 2 Oct	Dimensions of Culture	Chapter 7 (pp. 159 - 182)
	Wed 3 Oct	Dimensions of Culture Continued	
	Thur 4 Oct	Value Orientation: Worldview	Chapter 8 (pp. 188 - 189)
	Fri 5 Oct	Film: <i>Whale Rider</i>	None
3	Mon 8 Oct	Film: <i>Whale Rider</i>	None
	Tue 9 Oct	-Film: <i>Whale Rider</i> - In-class writing assignment	None
	Wed 10 Oct	Barriers to Intercultural Com.	Chapter 4 (pp. 71 - 96); <i>pp. 82 - 93 are optional</i>
	Thur 11 Oct	Perception & Intercultural Com.	Chapter 3 (pp. 51 - 68)
	Fri 12 Oct	Non -Verbal Com.	Chapter 5 (pp. 97 - 124)
4	Mon 15 Oct	Non-Verbal Com.	None
	Tue 16 Oct	- Non-Verbal Com. - Exam Review	None
	Wed 17 Oct	Exam #1	

	Date	Topic	Reading
4	Thurs 18 Oct	-Discussion of Group Project -How to succeed in group work	Hand-out will be provided.
	Fri 19 Oct	NO CLASS: College Issues Day	
5	Mon 22 Oct	In-class group work on project	None
	Tue 23 Oct	- Language as a Barrier - Do you speak American?	Chapter 6 (pp. 122 - 156)
	Wed 24 Oct	Language Continued	
	Thur 25 Oct	- Enculturation - Acculturation	Chapter 12 (pp. 306 - 316)
	Fri 26 Oct	Acculturation Continued	Chapter 12 (pp. 289 - 306)
6	Mon 29 Oct	Marginalization & Separation	Chapter 13 (pp. 317 - 346)
	Tue 30 Oct	NO CLASS: Faculty Professional Development Day	
	Wed 31 Oct	Assimilation & Integration	Chapter 14 (pp. 347 - 377)
	Thur 1 Nov	Cultural Identity Analysis Paper Discussion / Outline	None
	Fri 2 Nov	-In-class group work on project	None
7	Mon 5 Nov	-In-class group work on project -Exam Review	None
	Tue 6 Nov	Exam #2	
	Wed 7 Nov	Film: <i>Blue Collar & Buddha</i>	None
	Thur 8 Nov	Film: <i>Blue Collar & Buddha</i>	None
	Fri 9 Nov	Inter-group Relations Activity	None
8	Mon 12 Nov	NO CLASS: Staff Professional Development Day	
	Tue 13 Nov	Gender as Culture	Chapter 10 (pp. 231 - 259)
	Wed 14 Nov	Gender Continued	
	Thur 15 Nov	Identity & Sub-Groups	Chapter 15 (pp. 378 - 394)
	Fri 16 Nov	Identity Continued	

	Date	Topic	Reading
9	Mon 19 Nov	US Media & Intercultural Com.	Chapter 11 (pp. 260 - 276)
	Tue 20 Nov	US Media & Intercultural Com. Continued	Chapter 11 (pp. 276 - 285)
	Wed 21 Nov	In-class group work on project	None
	Thur 22 Nov	NO CLASS: Thanksgiving Holiday	
	Fri 23 Nov		
10	Mon 26 Nov	In-class group work on project	None
	Tue 27 Nov	Applied Practice: Multicultural business environments	None
	Wed 28 Nov	Applied Practice Continued	None
		Cultural Identity Paper Due	
	Thur 29 Nov	-In-class group work on project -Exam review	None
	Fri 30 Nov	Exam #3	
11	Mon 3 Dec	In-class group work on project	None
	Tue 4 Dec	Group presentations	
	Wed 5 Dec	Group Presentations	
	Thur 6 Dec	Group Presentations	
	Fri 7 Dec	Group Presentations	
12	Mon 10 Dec	Group Presentations, Wrap-up & Hand back papers	