

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION (SPCM 250)
Spring 2009

Instructor: Tatyana Dumova, Ph.D.
Course: # 14885; Monday & Wednesday 11:30 A.M.-12:45 P.M.; Life Hall 051
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Office: Life Hall 055A; Monday 1:00-3:00 P.M. and by appointment

Course Description

This course focuses on the relationship between communication and culture in a global environment of today. Topics addressed include: foundations of intercultural communication, intercultural communication processes, identity and intercultural communication, intercultural communication in everyday life, and intercultural communication in applied settings. After completing this course, students will acquire intercultural communication competencies that will help them to develop greater intercultural awareness and ability to communicate effectively and appropriately in a diverse society and increasingly globalized economy.

Required Textbook

Martin, J. N., & Nakayama, T. K. (2008). *Experiencing intercultural communication: An introduction* (3rd ed.). Boston, MA: McGraw-Hill.

Methods of Instruction

Methods of instruction include but are not limited to lecture, discussion, technology enhanced active learning techniques, instructional video, individual and group presentations, and self-reflection.

Methods of Evaluation

Weekly reading reviews submitted online (5 pts each)	55 pts
Two exams (midterm and final, 50 pts each)	100 pts
Cultural profile wiki & group presentation	55 pts
Photoblog & reflection paper	100 pts
Final group presentation	<u>40 pts</u>
Total:	350 pts

Expectations and Policies

Grading Policy:

A: 329-350 pts; A-: 315-328 pts; B+: 305-314 pts; B: 291-304 pts; B-: 280-290 pts;
C+: 270-279 pts; C: 256-269 pts; C-: 245-255 pts; D+: 235-244 pts; D: 221-234 pts; D-: 210-220 pts

Academic Integrity: All students are subject to the code of student conduct, including but not limited to, issues of Academic Honesty and Integrity. If you have any questions about Montclair State University's policy on academic integrity, please contact the Coordinator of Student Conduct at 973-655-4206.

Deadlines: All work must be submitted on time. In-class assignments are due at the end of each class period. For each day a project is late 3% of the grade will be deducted.

Disability Accommodations: Montclair State University is committed to the full inclusion of students with disabilities in all curricular and co-curricular activities as mandated by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. If you have a disability, please make an appointment to see the instructor. All students will be accommodated to meet their needs.

Sample Course Schedule

Monday 11:30 A.M.-12:45 P.M.	Wednesday 11:30 A.M.-12:45 P.M.
	Jan 21 Welcome and Course Overview
Jan 26 Foundations of intercultural communication. Reading: ch. 1	Jan 28 Barriers to intercultural communication. Internet and the Social Web. Reading: ch. 2
Feb 2 History and intercultural communication. Reading: ch. 3	Feb 4 Collaborative web-based technologies and intercultural communication
Feb 9 Identity and intercultural communication. Reading: ch. 4	Feb 11 Designing intercultural wiki spaces Reading: ch. 4
Feb 16 Verbal issues in intercultural communication. Reading: ch. 5	Feb 18 Modifying and editing a wiki as an intercultural communication tool
Feb 23 Nonverbal issues in intercultural communication. Reading: ch. 6	Feb 25 Cultural profile group presentations Reading: ch. 6
Mar 2 Popular culture and intercultural communication. Reading: ch. 7	Mar 4 Midterm review Reading: ch. 7
Mar 9 Culture, communication, and conflict Reading: ch. 8	Mar 11 Midterm Examination due
Mar 16 <i>Spring Recess, no class</i>	Mar 18 <i>Spring Recess, no class</i>
Mar 23 Intercultural relationships in everyday life. Reading: ch. 9	Mar 25 Blogging as reflective practice and intercultural communication technique
Mar 30 Intercultural communication and leisure. Reading: ch. 10	Apr 1 Integrating rich media in blogs Reading: ch. 10
Apr 6 Photoblog presentations	Apr 8 Photoblog reflection paper due
Apr 13 Intercultural communication and business. Reading: ch. 11	Apr 15 Use of Web 2.0 technologies in applied settings. Reading: ch. 11
Apr 20 Intercultural communication and education. Reading: ch. 12	Apr 22 Group Work Reading: ch. 12
Apr 27 Intercultural communication and health care. Reading: ch. 13	Apr 29 Group Presentations Reading: ch. 13
May 4 Group Presentations	
May 11 Final Examination: 1 P.M.	

Course Assignments

Weekly Reading Reviews: These are chapter review questions that have to be answered in writing in 200-250 words each and submitted by the end of every Wednesday class meeting through Blackboard.

Course Examinations: A midterm and a final examination (take-home) will be administered through Blackboard. You will have to answer two questions in a four to five page essay each. Present your arguments, provide evidence, and reach a conclusion. Support your arguments with specific examples drawn from the course readings, class discussions, and other sources. Use APA style for citations and references.

Cultural Profile Wiki: For this group project, gather knowledge about a culture that is of interest for all members of your group. Learn about the social and political contexts, history and local customs, cultural practices and languages. Create a collaborative website (wiki) to share your findings with the class.

Photoblog: For this assignment, choose a culture other than your own and research it using the Internet. Keep an online journal (blog) of your discoveries, personal observations, and experiences. Support your blog entries with relevant photo images and descriptive links to sources of information.

Guest Speakers will be invited to make presentations on critical topics online. Students should be prepared to reflect on the content of guest presentations.

Further Readings

Gudykunst, W. B., & Kim, Y. Y. (2003). *Communicating with strangers: An approach to intercultural communication*. Boston, MA: McGraw-Hill.

Klyukanov, I. E. (2005). *Principles of intercultural communication*. Boston, MA: Pearson Education.

Martin, J. N., Nakayama, T. K., & Flores, L. A. (2002). *Readings in intercultural communication: Experiences and contexts*. Boston: McGraw Hill.

Russell, C. G. (2004). *Culture, language, and behavior*. Fort Worth, TX: International Society for General Semantics.

Samovar, L. A., Porter, R. E., & McDaniel, E. R. (2007). *Communication between cultures*. Belmont, CA: Thompson/Wadsworth.

Schmidt, W. V., Conaway, R. N., Easton, S. S., & Wardrobe, W. J. (2007). *Communicating globally: Intercultural communication and international business*. Los Angeles, CA: Sage Publications.

Thussu, D. K. (2006). *International communication: Continuity and change*. New York: Hodder Arnold.

Ting-Toomey, S., & Chung, L. C. (2007). *Understanding intercultural communication*. New York: Oxford University Press.