

COM 310- Intercultural Communication
Chaminade University of Honolulu

Spring 2009

Class Schedule: TTH- 2:00-3:20 PM Eiben Rm 202

Instructor: Jeffrey “Rusty” Kent

Contact: Room Eiben Hall: (808) 440-4294
Email: jeffrey.kent@chaminade.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

Texts:

Samovar, L.A.& Porter, R.E. (2004). *Communication between Cultures* (6th Ed.). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomas Learning.

Other materials and films.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

COM 310: Intercultural Communication (3) – Major concepts in the study of communication with people from different cultural backgrounds. Values, beliefs, expectations, customs and attitudes of various ethnic groups are studied to facilitate communication across cultural boundaries. Prerequisites: COM 140 and EN 102.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of COM 310, students should be able to:

- Understand the basic processes, principles and definitions of communication.
- Know the theoretical terminologies, functions and characteristics of culture.
- Understand the relationship between culture and communication and its global/societal implications.
- Understand the dimensions of macro cultures (patterns of relationships, nonverbal/verbal communication, business, education, health and religious practices and beliefs).
- Anticipate cultural communication through simulations, virtual interaction and fieldwork.
- Recognize barriers to communicating inter-culturally with others
- Improve intercultural communication competence.

COURSE POLICIES

1. **RESPECT.** The most fascinating thing about knowing cultures different from ours is we become kinder to ourselves and we become more respectful of others. We respect our ways and we respect others. When we have to work together this value becomes the single most important one that will be useful in this class. We will find disagreements on ideas a chance to increase learning. You will enjoy finding out the other side of issues in enlightening debates. Since we study different cultures, we find disagreements. It is okay to disagree. It is not okay to be disrespectful.
2. Please turn off all cell phone ringers and audible pagers before the class begins. Repeated violation of this rule will result in an unexcused absence.
3. **Attendance.** Regular attendance in class is vital to your success in COM 310. Poor attendance will adversely affect performance and grades.
 - a. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class. If the student is not there when roll is taken, s/he will be counted as absent.
 - b. If the student misses more than the equivalent of two weeks of class during a regular 15 week semester, **the final course grade may be lowered by one full letter grade.** Because COM 310 is a course that focuses on oral communication as well as written assignments, students with more than two weeks of absences (out of 15 weeks) should seriously consider withdrawal from the course.
 - c. **Documentation** for absences (due within one week of the absences) for illness, official university functions, or other dire emergencies may be excused. *Work related absences like picking up people from the airport, alarm clock malfunction and hangovers are not excused absences.*
 - d. Students involved in military deployment should visit with instructor if possible to make alternate arrangements.
 - e. It is the absent student's, *not the instructor's*, responsibility to catch up after missed class days by making arrangements with a classmate for class notes and missed assignments.
 - f. It is important to arrive in class at the scheduled time. If you are tardy, leave early, or take unauthorized breaks, you will be counted absent, may miss important announcements, or an assignment.
 - g. We may have guest speakers come to speak to our class, but for the sake of a consistent learning and speaking environment, no student guests will be admitted.
4. **Participation:** Active participation in class discussion and exercises is expected. *I will keep track of your class contributions and award participation points according to each project.* Involvement in class activities and discussions is essential to processing the material and ideas presented in this course.

5. **Readings and written assignments:** Class discussions and activities are based on assigned textbook readings. Assigned material must be read before the class period for which it is assigned (See Course Outline). All written assignments should follow the assigned format and **MUST** be typed; handwritten materials will receive a grade of zero (0). Written work that contains excessive typographical and grammatical errors is subject to grade penalty. Students should keep a copy of all written work submitted.
6. **Late assignments:** Students must turn in assignments and take the tests on time. If a student misses an assignment for a documented reason (see item 1 above), the student may be permitted to make up the assignment at a later date (time permitting), the instructor's convenience. If the student is not ready when called on for the make-up, a grade of zero (0) will be recorded. All late, unexcused assignments receive a TWO letter-grade penalty. Questions about grades should be raised within one week of receiving graded papers.
7. **Plagiarism:** All assignments should be original work done by the student for this class. Use of work that is not credited to the original source, or use of someone else's speech or written material is a serious academic offence and will not be tolerated. Communication Department policy requires that, on first offence, plagiarized assignments will be given a grade of zero and the student's final course grade will be reduced by one full letter. A second offence will result in automatic failure of the class. Refer to the Chaminade Student Handbook (p.91) for the complete university policy regarding plagiarism and academic honesty.
8. **Course Content:** The instructor of the Communication Department reserves the right to determine all aspects of the 310 curriculum and content.

9. Course Requirements:

ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS POSSIBLE	% OF GRADE	YOUR SCORE
Class Reports	25	4.15 %	
Reading Responses	50 (10 x 5)	8.3%	
Immigrant Interview/Ch. 2	25	4.15%	
Cultural Awareness	50	8.3 %	
Film Review	50	8.3 %	
Intercultural Event	50	8.3 %	
Group-Workshop Project	150	25.0%	
Exams (2)	125	21.8%	
Participation	75	12.5%	
TOTAL POINTS:	600	100%	

COMMUNICATION 310 CLASS SCHEDULE – Spring 2009

Date	Topic	Readings
<u>Week 1</u>		
Jan 13	Introduction, Questionnaire Syllabus and Assignment 1: Review Communication Elements- Group: What did we learn?	<u>CBC 6th ED</u> Ch. 1 (p. 9-19)
Jan. 15	Project Assignments for the semester Review Syllabus Challenge of Intercultural Communication News Reports- Group Discussion	Ch. 1 (p. 1-9)
<u>Week 2</u>		
<i>(Interview a classmate about the history of his or her country and his/her migration to America. How is this different or similar to your own? Bring your notes from Chapter 2 including the library work on Jan. 22).</i>		
Jan. 20	Discussion of Homework Cultural Identity <u>Reading Response I Due</u>	Ch. 4
	Library Work: Look up factual records in the country's history of your interviewee for comparisons. Graded – 25 points. 3 minutes. Read Chapter 2 – p. 36-52 and p. 52-71. Relate your interview data with the reading. Check other history books for other countries ethnicities.	
Jan. 22	Paired Reports on History and Migration	
<u>Week 3</u>		
Jan. 27	Family (review) Alternate views of reality Dominant US Cultural Patterns	Ch. 2 Ch. 5 p. 135-140
Jan. 29	Diverse Cultural Patterns <u>Reading Response II Due</u>	Ch. 5 p. 140-160

Week 4

Feb. 3/5

CULTURAL AWARENESS PRESENTATIONS

Reminder: Film Review Project Groups of 3 students per movie

Week 5

Feb. 10

Worldview: Cultural Explanation of Life and Death
Religion

Ch. 3

Reading Report III Due

Feb. 12

Recognizing and Dealing with Difference
Movie Scenes: Intercultural Communicative
Events.

Ch. 11
p.316-333

Week 6

Feb. 17

Swarm Intelligence
Subject : Bogota, Columbia

Feb. 19

Socialization
Subject: Hiroshima, Japan

Week 7

Feb. 24

Becoming Competent
Reading Response IV Due

Ch. 11

Feb. 26

FILM REVIEW DUE
(Short reports by group)
- Choose languages to study -

Week 8

Mar. 3

Short Reports by Groups on Film Project – Papers Due

Mar. 5

No class in lieu of cultural visit with host cultural resource

(Visit a church, restaurant or meeting or festival of your target language in preparation for your language presentations. Please schedule time with your partner.)

Week 9

Mar. 10 Language and Culture Ch. 6
Reading Response V Due

Mar. 12 Non-Verbal Communication Ch. 7
Paired Rehearsal for Project III

Week 10 **Language and Culture Week**

Mar. 17 Presentation of **Picture of Costume** and **Notes on Food and Language**.

Mar. 19 Everyone in Costumes
Sharing of food and conversations

Week 11

Mar. 31 Review for Exam I
First Meeting: Final Group Projects (FGP)

Apr. 2 **EXAM I (CBC 6th ED Ch. 6,7 and 11)**

Week 12

Apr. 7 Concepts and Activities Lecture and Group Practice
Second Meeting (FGP) - Review Guidelines and Choose Settings

Apr. 9 Context and the Business Setting - Ch. 8
Third Meeting – (FGP)
Class Reports

Week 13

Apr. 14 Context and Educational Setting Ch. 9
Fourth Meeting – (FGP)
Class Reports

Apr. 16 Context and the Healthcare Setting Ch. 10
Fifth Meeting – (FGP)
Class Reports

Week 14

Apr. 21 Submit **Individual** Group Outline - Graded
Class Review: Guide for Presentations
Run Thru – (FGP)

Apr. 23 ***GROUP PRESENTATIONS***

Week 15

Apr. 28 ***GROUP PRESENTATIONS***
Apr. 30 ***GROUP PRESENTATIONS***
(Review Guide will be emailed to class)

Week 16

May 6 **FINAL EXAM, Wednesday**
12:45 PM to 2:45 PM (COM 310-02)

Criteria for evaluating all class work

Completeness & Organization - all parts of the assignment must be done
Quality of the Content – including knowledge of basic information and theoretical clarity.
Engagement with the Material – choice of topic, thoroughness of research.
Quality of writing – including grammar and punctuation.
Thoughtfulness/Reflection
Exploration of Personal Meaning
Caring, Positive and Respectful Attitude