

Chaminade University Of Honolulu

October 6- December 8, 2001

Accelerated Course

Syllabus

Com 310² Intercultural Communication

Time: Saturday, 8:00 a. m. to 12:10 p. m.

Location: Kaneohe

Professor: **Kimberly A. Carter**

Email: kcarter@aloha.com

Home phone: 394-8704

(Feel free to call with your questions any evening, *before 8: 00 p. m.*)

Office Hours: Prior to or after class, by pre-arranged appointment

Required Text and Materials:

Intercultural Competence: Interpersonal Communication Across Cultures (3rd edition). **Myron Lustig and Jolene Koester.**

Composition notebook (for note-taking & exercise Log)

Periodic handouts will be provided for required readings & in-class workshops

Electronic Sources:

- **Peace Corps** *Teaching About Culture*
<http://www.peacecorps.gov/www/educators/culture.html>
- **Geert Hofstede's** *Intercultural Communication Models*
<http://www2.soc.hawaii.edu/css/dept/com/resources/intercultural/Hofstede.html>
- Gary Fontaine's *Presence in a Strange Land*
<http://www2.hawaii.edu/usr/cgi/ssis/~fontaine/ustudy01.html>
- *Intercultural Communication Institute*
<http://www.intercultural.org/resources.html>

Course Objectives:

- **To identify, investigate & analyze challenges of intercultural communication**
- **To increase understanding of the relationship between culture & communication;**
- **To build an awareness of & sensitivity for people from different cultures**
- **To gain a better understanding of one's own cultural identity**
- **To recognize the extent to which motivation plays a roll in intercultural communication**
- **To learn skills for intercultural conflict management & problem solving**

Course Description:

During this course, Intercultural Communication, we will explore major concepts in the study of communication among people from diverse backgrounds. We will examine the attitudes, values, beliefs, expectations and customs of various ethnic groups, while learning to better understand our own. We will learn about intercultural perception & convergence; ecological influences on culture; common dimensions of culture, & our tendencies toward stereotyping. We will look at specific challenges presented by intercultural encounters, including coping with culture shock, dealing effectively with diversity, & maintaining motivation in intercultural settings, while acknowledging how technological advancements work to bridge the culture gap.

Particular emphasis will be on

- **Increasing understanding of relationships between cultures on macro & micro levels;**
- **Shaping awareness of different cultural rules, roles, norms, social styles, world views, customs, expectations, myths, and communication processes;**
- **Providing an intellectual framework that allows description and understanding of communication between culturally heterogeneous individuals;**
- **Explaining the role of cultural patterns, verbal codes, and nonverbal codes in the development of intercultural relationships;**
- **Describing obstacles to competent intercultural communication;**
- **Developing communication skills to improve intercultural interaction**
- **Increasing understanding; hence, developing tolerance, flexibility & adaptability**
- **Examining differences between multicultural & intercultural realities**

During class we will explore many theoretical concepts applied to intercultural communication. We will examine the practical application of principles & digom our personal intercultural interactions. We will learn ways to strengthen our personal & collective abilities to communicate, thereby improving our interpersonal relationships. As part of our exploration into the intercultural setting, we will incorporate lectures, open discussions & group workshops into our class time. I hope you enjoy the class. I truly am looking forward to the time we spend together, since the subject matter is so wonderfully pertinent in our lives today! I especially look forward to our capstone experiences, when each of you will have the opportunity to present research findings to the class in a creative format.

General Policies, Procedures, and Courtesies

- Due to the accelerated platform of the class, examinations & quizzes must be taken on the day assigned. No make-up quizzes will be allowed. A make-up midterm exam may be arranged as a result of a verifiable illness or military duty.
- Absences may result in a drop in your letter grade, (-20 points per absence)
 - We will conduct daily workshops
 - Attendance during group presentations is mandatory.
- Note-taking during class lectures is highly encouraged.
- All assignments must be completed and turned in on time for credit.
- Be on time. We will spend the first 20 minutes of each class period taking a quiz. So it is very important that you be *on time* for class.
- Weekly quizzes are open-book. No make-up quizzes will be offered.
- If you must miss the midterm exam, schedule a make-up one week prior to the test.
- Your continued registration in this class denotes your understanding of the syllabus & what is expected of you, & your willingness to participate in the assignments as stated herein.

Grading (1000 points available)

900-1000 = A

800-899 = B

700-799 = C

600-699 = D

Below 600 = F

Class attendance (-20 points for each day absent)

Absences reduce points

Journal exercises (Weekly homework assignments to be advised)

10%

6-8 page term paper (Explained in class)

10%

10 Chapter Quizzes (open-book)

20%

Midterm Exam (Chapters 1-6)

20%

Final Exam (Chapters 7-12)

20%

Group Presentation

20%

Term Paper – Graded on the following 4 standards:

1. Content & clarity (appropriately relates to class assignment)
2. Mechanics & Grammar (spoiling, sentence structure, proper use of language)
3. Organization (main and supporting points stated in an organized fashion & clearly written)

Paper must be

TYPED on white paper, DOUBLE-SPACED, ONE INCH MARGINS ALL AROUND
10-12 POINT FONT, STAPLED AT TOP LEFT. No plastic covers please.

Group Project Presentations:

Group membership will be assigned randomly. Topics also will be assigned randomly, although the development of your topic will be strictly up to you & your team members. This project reflects 20% of your overall grade. A "presentation date" sign-up sheet will be made available. Some class time will be allotted for initial organization of projects. Students must arrange time outside of class to develop & practice their presentations.

Graded on the following criteria:

- 1) Originality (shows a keen sense of imagination & understanding of class content)
- 2) Good use of visual aids & props
- 3) Content (material presented is highly relevant to intercultural communication)
- 4) Group cohesiveness (how well the group works together, as a team)
- 5) Time frame = 15 minutes minimum

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*Weekly Schedule - subject to change

Week	Dates	Daily Tasks
<u>Week #1</u> Sat	10/6	<p>Introductions! Peer introduction exercise; Explain syllabus and assignments; <i>In-class icebreaker exercises:</i> <i>Lecture - Introduction to the course: Importance of Intercultural Competence; U.S. Cultural Diversity</i></p> <p><u>Homework:</u> <i>Read Chapters 1 - 2</i></p>
<u>Week #2</u> Sat	10/13	<p><i>Quiz - Chapters 1 & 2</i> <i>Lecture - Culture and Communication; Why Cultures Differ; Intercultural Communication</i></p> <p><u>Homework:</u> <i>Read Chapter 3</i> <i>Term Paper Topics Due next week (1-2 paragraphs typed & list of at least 3 references)</i></p>
<u>Week #3</u> Sat	10/20	<p><i>Quiz - Chapter 3</i> <i>Lecture - Cultural Patterns; Beliefs, Values, Norms; Taxonomies of Cultural Patterns; Cultural Identities</i></p> <p><u>Homework:</u> <i>Read Chapter 4 & 5</i></p>
<u>Week #4</u> Sat	10/27	<p><i>Quiz - Chapter 4 & 5</i> <i>Lecture - Ethnocentrism; Prejudice, Discrimination, Racism</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Term Paper Topics & Reference List due today - typed only!</i> • <i>Grade quiz in class & return for studying</i> • <i>Assign group membership & topics for group presentations</i> <p><u>Homework:</u> <i>Prepare or Midterm by reviewing quizzes and text information through Chapter 6</i></p>
<u>Week #5</u> Sat	11/3	<p>Midterm Exam Today on Chapters 1-6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Get together with groups to discuss roles for group presentation</i> <p><u>Homework:</u> <i>Read Chapters 7-8</i></p>

<u>Week #6</u> Sat	11/10	<p>Quiz - Chapters 7-8</p> <p>Lecture - Verbal & Nonverbal Intercultural Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return Midterm Exams <p>Term Papers Due Today</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Prepare for Group Presentations!</p> <p>Read Chapter 9-10</p>
<u>Week #7</u> Sat	11/17	<p>Quiz - Chapter 9 & 10</p> <p>Lecture - Effects of Code Usage; Interpersonal Relationships</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Prepare for Group Presentations!</p> <p>Read Chapter 11</p>
<u>Week #8</u> Sat	11/24	<p>Quiz - Chapter 11</p> <p>Lecture - Tools for Improving Intercultural Competence</p> <p><u>Homework:</u> Prepare for Group Presentations!</p> <p>You will have extra class time to prepare your presentations</p> <p>Read <u>Chapter 12</u></p>
<u>Week #9</u> Sat	12/1	<p>Quiz - Chapter 12</p> <p>Group Presentations Today!!!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Each person must participate or grade will automatically drop by one letter!</u> <p>Homework:</p> <p>Prepare or Final Exam: Review Quizzes, Chapters, and Lecture Notes</p>
<u>Week #10</u> Sat	12/8	<p>Final Exam - On Chapters 7-12</p>

*I reserve the right to change information on the syllabus and schedule, if I find cause to. If this occurs, you will be informed in a timely fashion.

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