

SPC 311 Intercultural Communication

Credit Hours: 3

In-Class Instructional Hours: 3

Labs: 0

Field Work: 0

Catalog Description:

Prerequisite. Junior or senior standing

Examination of theory and practice of intercultural communication; exploration of ways to bridge differences based on culture, ethnicity, religion, gender, age, and other potential social barriers.

Reasons for Addition:

(Fall 2005) Intercultural Communication has been offered as a COM 389 topics course. This new proposal is part of a general program review, through which Communication seeks to update its courses in light of departmental experience with the previous program version, evolving departmental needs, and expanding scholarship in the field. Additionally, the department is undertaking this revision to position itself for accreditation by the Accrediting Council for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

Note: As part of this overall revision, speech and criticism courses are being re-labeled as SPC rather than COM to distinguish between the humanistic base of the new SPC courses and the applied nature of the courses that will retain the COM prefix.

Student Learning Outcomes:	Course Content References:	Assessment:
At the completion of this course, students will be able to:		
1. Critically examine past, current and prospective influences on the relationship between culture and communication	I, II, III, VIII	1. Exams, papers, applied projects, presentations
2. Explain the role of culture, verbal codes and nonverbal codes in intercultural and inter-group relationships	II, III, IV	2. Exams, papers, applied projects, presentations
3. Analyze ways in which social, cultural and institutional structures impede intercultural communication and contribute to privilege and injustice through stereotyping, prejudice and discrimination	VI, VII	3. Exams, papers, applied projects, presentations
4. Apply principles of intercultural communication in diverse situations bridging race, religion, culture, ethnicity, gender, generation, and political differences	IV, V, VIII	4. Exams, papers, applied projects, presentations
5. Systematically explore the role of communication in promoting understanding, respect and value of diversity among people and cultures	I, II, III, VIII	5. Exams, papers, applied projects, presentations

Course Content:

I. Communication

- A. Communication defined
- B. Characteristics of communication
- C. Models of communication
- D. Intercultural communication

II. Culture

- A. Culture defined
- B. Functions of culture
- C. Characteristics of culture
- D. Communication and culture

III. Perception and Values

- A. Nature of perception
- B. Cultural influence on perception
- C. Stereotypes
- D. Prejudice
- E. Communication and cultural transmission

IV. Language and culture

- A. Study of language
- B. Semiotics
- C. Cultural variations in language
- D. Intercultural approach to language study

V. Types of communication

- A. Verbal communication
- B. Nonverbal communication
- C. Structure of nonverbal communication
 - 1. Kinesics
 - 2. Occulesics
 - 3. Haptics
 - 4. Proxemics
 - 5. Paralanguage
 - 6. Chronemics
- D. Intercultural comparisons in verbal communication
- E. Intercultural comparisons in nonverbal communication

VI. Intercultural communication competence

- A. Nature of communication competence
- B. Culture and communication competence
- C. Approaches to the study of intercultural communication competence

VII. Problems in intercultural communication

- A. Prejudice
- B. Ethnocentrism
- C. Conflict
- D. Propaganda

VIII. Applications of intercultural communication

- A. Inter-religious relationships

- B. Interethnic relationships
- C. Inter-racial relationships
- D. Diplomatic and international relationships
- E. Intergenerational relationships
- F. Translation and intercultural communication

Resources:

Current Scholarship in the Field.

- Beebe, S.A., Beebe, S.J., & Redmond, M.V. (2004). *Interpersonal communication: Relating to others* (4th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.
- Collier, M.J. (ed.). (2002). *Intercultural alliance: Critical transformation* (vol. XXV). Thousand Oaks CA: Sage.
- Doyle, T. (2004). *Communication unbound*. Boston: Allyn & Bascon.
- Gudykunst, W.B. & Kim, Y.Y. (2002). *Communicating with strangers: An approach to intercultural communication* (4th ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Gudykunst, W.B. (2004). *Bridging differences: Effective intergroup communication* (4th ed.). Thousand Oaks CA: Sage.
- Jandt, F.E. (2004). *An introduction to intercultural communication: Identities in a global community* (4th ed.). Thousand Oaks CA: Sage.
- Knapp, M.L., & Vangelisti, A.L. (2005). *Interpersonal communication and human relationships* (5th ed.). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.
- Neuliep, J.W. (2003). *Intercultural communication: A contextual approach*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.
- Novinger, T. (2001). *Intercultural communication: A practical guide*. Austin TX: University of Texas press.
- Operrario, D., & Fiske, S. (2001). Stereotypes: Content, structures, processes, and context. In R. Brown & S. Gaertner (eds.). *Intergroup processes*. Oxford, UK: Blackwell.
- Pearson, J.C., & Nelson, P.E. (2000). *An introduction to human communication*. Boston: McGraw-Hill.
- Samovar, L.A. & Porter, R.E. (2000). *Intercultural communication: A reader*. Belmont CA: Wadsworth.
- Ulin, R.C. (2001). *Understanding cultures: Perspectives in anthropology and social theory* (2nd ed.). Malden MA: Blackwell.
- Wood, J.T. (2003). *Interpersonal communication: Everyday encounters* (4th ed.). Belmont CA: Wadsworth.

Periodicals:

Journal of Human Communication Research
Journal of Communication

European Journal of Communication Research

Electronic and/or Audiovisual Resources.

www.intercultural.org – Intercultural Communication Institute

www.stephweb.com/forum – Intermundo, Journal for intercultural Communication

hcr.oupjournals.org – Journal of Human Communication Research, Journal of Communication

www.ejcr.org – European journal of communication Research