ED 560: Intercultural Communication and Learning
Hybrid Syllabus

C5:2012

COURSE START DATE: July 2, 2012
ONLINE DATES: July 2 – July 8; July 14 – August 10
ON CAMPUS DATES: July 9 – 13, 2012
COURSE END DATE: August 10, 2012

COURSE DESCRIPTION

More information on this course, including the official course description and any prerequisites, can be found in the GPS Catalog at http://www.sjcme.edu/gpscatalog/

COURSE INTRODUCTION

This course is about communication within different cultures (cross-cultural) and communication between different cultures (intercultural). We will examine the values, beliefs, and assumptions that people of other cultures hold generally and about communication specifically as they interact with people unlike themselves. The course combines theory and research from a communication perspective. The course will involve the application of communication concepts through activities, papers, and group discussions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Compare and contrast the major theories and models of cross-cultural interaction.
- Apply the “Five Value Orientations.”
- Manage cross-cultural conflicts.
- Apply techniques for communicating in different cultures.
- Apply appropriate methods of dealing with stereotypes
- Become aware of the influence of culture in your own thinking and behavior and the thinking and behavior of others.
- Understand how culture influences communication, and how it interacts with social and psychological factors to influence communication.
- Identify barriers to effective cross-cultural and intercultural communication and develop strategies for dealing with these barriers.
- Develop an awareness of contemporary events that illustrate the need for improved cross-cultural and intercultural communication skills
• Increase cognitive, affective and behavioral skills that would create and/or improve cultural awareness, sensitivity, appreciation, tolerance and intercultural communication competence.

The course assignments will culminate with a research paper about intercultural communication in the field of education (or within your professional field). The final paper is designed to be a compilation of what you have learned in this course.

COURSE GUIDELINES

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Students are expected to attend and participate in all dimensions of this course. Missing more than one class or not contributing online for more than a week will adversely affect your grade. Students are expected to attend class and actively contribute to the online discussions in timely fashion, as this supports a significant portion of your grade. It is the responsibility of each student to understand fully the attendance policies and procedures for every course in which the student is enrolled.

Students must participate (defined as logging in to the course website and interacting; posting questions, thoughts, homework, assignments, etc.) no less than three times per week.

Academic Integrity: You are expected to maintain high standards of academic integrity in this class. Cheating, plagiarism, or any behavior deemed unethical will NOT be tolerated, and will be prosecuted in strict accordance with St. Joseph’s policies. Remember that these standards apply to the spoken word just as they apply to the written word. You are also expected to behave with integrity in the online classroom. Always show respect for others.
REQUIRED TEXT(s)


If you have any questions regarding your course materials, please contact your academic advisor and/or our book vendor EdMap. You can reach EdMap by phone 1- (800) -274-9104 or website at
http://www.edmapbookstore.com/storefront/index/STJSP

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1 - Online
Topic: Introduction to Intercultural Communications: Building Blocks & Barriers
Required Readings:
Bennett, *Basic Concepts of Intercultural Communication*

- Stumbling Blocks in Intercultural Communication: pp. 173-244.

Storti, *Figuring Foreigners Out*

Chapter 1: What is Culture? pp. 5-15
Chapter 2: Building Blocks of Culture, pp. 19-83

Additional Article:

- One Hundred Per Cent American by Ralph Linton
  http://anthropologyman.com/files/3_One_Hundred_Percent_American.pdf

Assignments: ANGEL Discussion #1: Original Post due by Thursday Midnight
Replies to others due by Sunday midnight

Week 2 – Day 1 On campus
Topic: Identity and Intercultural Communication
Required Readings:

Additional Articles:


**White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack**


Assignments:

Week 2 – Day 2 On campus
Topic: Perceptions and Stereotypes
Required Readings:
- Bennett, *Basic Concepts of Intercultural Communication*
- Culture: A Perceptual Approach, pp. 97-110

Additional Reading:
- Deering High School Focus Group Report on Harassment
  (see ANGEL documents)

Assignment: Describe in writing the advantages and disadvantages you have experienced which you believe to be a function of your race and/or gender. Write a 1-2 page essay and submit your essay to me via email at jzink@sjcme.edu

Submit PowerPoint presentation topic.

Week 2 – Day 3 On campus
Topic: Culture, Communication, and Conflict
Required Readings:

1. Bennett, *Basic Concepts of Intercultural Communication*

2. Read the PowerPoint notes and the mini-lecture. *(ok, so it’s not a mini-lecture this week – gotta love conflict, right??!)*

3. Additional Article:
Assignments: How do you handle conflict? Take the conflict management style survey from the “Conerly” article.

Week 2 – Day 4 On campus
Topic: Nonverbal Issues in Intercultural Communication
Required Readings:
1. Bennett, Basic Concepts of Intercultural Communication
   The Power of Hidden Differences: pp. 53-68.

2. Storti, Figuring Foreigners Out

3. Read the PowerPoint notes, case studies, and the mini-lecture.

4. Additional Article: (full of info. on nonverbal communication – even a little quiz!)
   http://humanresources.about.com/od/interpersonalcommunication/a/nonverbal_com.htm

5. Answer the question throughout the week in the Discussion Board.

Assignments: Work on PowerPoint Presentation

Week 2 – Day 5 On campus
Topic: Power Point Presentations
Required Readings: Presentation Day!

Assignments: 15-30 minute PowerPoint presentation

Week 3 – Online
Topic: Verbal Issues in Intercultural Communications
Required Readings:
1. Bennett, Basic Concepts of Intercultural Communication

2. Storti, Figuring Foreigners Out
   Chapter 3: Styles of Communication/Verbal Communication. pp. 87-112.

3. Read the PowerPoint notes and the mini-lecture.

   Watch several of the videos from “American Tongues.”
5. Answer the question throughout the week in the Discussion Board.

Assignments: Submit your research paper proposal to me via email at jzink@sjcme.edu. Write a short paragraph describing your proposal, and list some of your proposed resources, both primary and secondary.

ANGEL DISCUSSION #2: Original Post Due by Thursday midnight
   Replies to others due by Sunday midnight

Week 4 – Online
Topic: Intercultural Communication and Education

Required Readings:
1. Bennett, Basic Concepts of Intercultural Communication

2. Read the PowerPoint notes and the mini-lecture.

3. Additional Article:
   Effective Educators are Culturally Competent Communicators (see ANGEL documents)

   ALSO: Visit the following websites:
   http://www.everythingsl.net/downloads/culture_questions02.pdf
   Read the 37 intercultural classroom scenarios as well as the correct responses for each.

   In this second link, read the 20 new intercultural education scenarios and responses.

4. Answer the question throughout the week in the Discussion Board.

Assignments: Education Essay: Locate a journal article about intercultural communication and education through the library online at http://www.sjcme.edu/library. Summarize and reflect on the article in a 1-2 page essay. Send an electronic copy of the article (or the link) when you submit your essay to me via email at jzink@sjcme.edu

ANGEL DISCUSSION #3: Original Post Due by Thursday midnight
   Replies to others due by Sunday midnight
Week 5 – Online
Topic: Intercultural Communication and Business
Required Readings:
1. Storti, Figuring Foreigners Out
   Chapter 4: Culture in the Workplace, pp. 127-151.

2. Read the PowerPoint notes and the mini-lecture for this week.

3. Additional Articles:
   3) Goman, C. (2002). Cross-Cultural business practices. Communication World. (I think you will like this article the most!)

4. Answer the question throughout the week in the Discussion Board.

Assignments:

BOOK REVIEW: Answer the following questions about the book When the Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down in 2-3 page essay form.

   a. What were your overall thoughts on the book?
   b. What were some of the main areas of intercultural misunderstanding?
   c. What could have been done differently to avoid these clashes?
   d. How would you describe Hmong culture? What is their orientation toward time, nature, and activity? What are some of the things that they value?
   e. What style of communicating do you think they use?

ANGEL DISCUSSION #4: Original Post Due by Thursday midnight
Reply to others due by Sunday midnight

Week 6 – Online
Topic: Intercultural Communication and Business
Required Readings: 1. Storti, Figuring Foreigners Out
   Chapter 5: The Cross Cultural Perspective, pp. 153-157
2. Read the PowerPoint notes for this week.

3. You Tube Video: Justine’s Story

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jIFWxWG9I-s&feature=related

Additional Article:
Intercultural Palliative Care: Do We Need Cultural Competence?

4. Answer the question throughout the week in the Discussion Board.

Assignments:
ANGEL DISCUSSION #5: Original Post Due by Thursday midnight

 Replies to others due by Sunday midnight

RESEARCH PAPER DUE by August 14th via email

The research paper must be between 12-15 double-spaced, typed pages. The purpose of the paper is to explore a topic of particular interest within the field of education, health care, or business and intercultural communication. Your project must include the use of primary sources and oral interviews (if possible). In selecting a topic, think about what area interests you and what is feasible. This paper is designed to enable you to synthesize what has been learned in the course and to apply your knowledge and understanding to an individualized topic. Your paper will be submitted to me via email at jzink@sjcme.edu on the final day of the course. Please copy apd on the email.

COURSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Current information regarding College policies affecting your course can be found on the Resources/Policy section of the course homepage. On this page, you will find vital information, including the following:

- Current Student Handbook, outlining course-specific policies
- Access to support resources, including advising and online tutorial services
- Student Success Guides

SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments should be submitted via the Assignment Submission Form on your ANGEL course site.
EVALUATION

- Race/Gender Mini Essay (1-2 pgs.) ................................................................. 5%
- Education Mini Essay (1-2 pgs.) ................................................................. 5%
- Book Review Essay (2-3 pages) ................................................................. 15%
- PowerPoint Presentation ............................................................................. 20%
- Discussion Board Participation ................................................................. 25%
- Research Paper ......................................................................................... 30%
Welcome to ED 560: Intercultural Communication and Learning! Communicating effectively across cultures is one of the most important tasks that we face in the twenty-first century. As our workplaces, schools, and neighborhoods continue to become increasingly diverse, the need to understand differences is essential. In this course, we will explore the foundations of intercultural communication. Major concepts to be covered include the definition of culture, communication styles, stereotypes and perceptions, and conflict management.

About me: I am currently an adjunct faculty member at the University of Southern Maine and St. Joseph’s College where I teach a variety of communication and education courses.

I graduated from the University of Mississippi with a B.A. in Education. After that, I taught high school in my home state of Arkansas. I left my teaching position and received my Master’s Degree from the University of South Carolina. In 1999, I completed my Doctorate Degree in Instructional Design and Development at the University of South Alabama.

From 1988 to 2001, I taught at the University of Mobile, Spring Hill College, and the University of South Alabama in Mobile, Alabama. In 2001, I left Mobile and moved to Maine with my family.

I am looking forward to working with you!
HOW DO I ACCESS DISABILITIES SERVICES?

Anyone who would like information or needs access to accommodations or services related to disabilities should contact the college’s Accommodations Office. Please contact your Academic Advisor or refer to the [Student Handbook](#) for more information.

This course was developed by **Saint Joseph’s College of Maine** for the exclusive use of students enrolled in the College’s Division of Graduate and Professional Studies.

For more information on this course, including the official course description and any prerequisites, can be found in the GPS Catalog at [http://www.sjcme.edu/gpcatalog/](http://www.sjcme.edu/gpcatalog/)

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