Syllabus
CMS 321
Doane College, Summer 2014
Intercultural Communication

6:00 – 10:30 p.m. Karla J. Cooper
Mondays--Lincoln 573-344-7198; 402-826.6747
Tuesdays--Omaha karla.cooper@doane.edu

Course description
CMS 321 will explore communication among cultures in the interpersonal and organizational context. Differences in communication behaviors due to nationality, ethnicity, and social status are examined. Students study their own cultures, as well as the cultures of others, to develop greater awareness of patterns of thinking, beliefs, assumptions, values, and cultural norms, which influence communication (verbal, nonverbal, and listening) behaviors. Various guest speakers will present from an array of cultural expressions and multiple perspectives.

Assessment
Assessment is ongoing and involves contributions to the collaborative process, group work, reflection papers, assignments, and a final project.

Text requirements

Other required readings as provided

Course requirements
- Listening
- Participation
- Attendance
- Completion of assignments
- Investigation of class readings
- Respect for classmates & their ideas

Assignments
- Readings
- Reflection Papers
- Group Presentations
- Final Project

Weekly Assignments
Watch and read about events happening in the world. Create a journal of events, reflect on and share each class.

Points for Assignments: 500 total
- Chapter discussion responses and weekly reflections (8 weeks @ 20 points each) 160
- Cultural Identity Analysis paper or powerpoint final presentation 100
- Class participation and attendance 100
- Intercultural Events (2 @ 20 points each) 40
- Cultural Metaphor 50
- Intercultural Film Review 50

Grades

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<td>400-500</td>
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COURSE OBJECTIVES
1. To develop a greater awareness and understanding of various types of people in cultures and sub cultures, in order to communicate and connect more effectively with them.

2. To foster an attitude of open-mindedness and a willingness to invest time in understanding the benefits of valuing diversity and the commitment to honor it;

3. To learn and practice listening skills to communicate more effectively;

4. To examine fears, prejudices, stereotypes, and myths regarding classes of people, cultures, sub cultures, different professions, or other ways that create new perspectives;

5. To know how xenophobia, ethnocentrism, heterosexism, classism block effective communication and disconnect us from others, and to determine practical ways to break down these barriers and confidently replace them with what can work.

**Tentative Schedule: May 26-July 23**

*Please note: first date listed is Mondays in Lincoln-- the second date is Tuesdays in Omaha*

1\textsuperscript{st} Session (May 26, 27)  
Please be aware and prepared to discuss current global issues that are in the news from articles in the newspaper and magazines of your choice.  
Introduction and Orientation
Questions/Concerns/Assumptions

2\textsuperscript{nd} Session (June 2, 3)  
**Theme: Communication and Intercultural Competence**
Part I: Share personal reflections/journals
Part II: Chapter presentation: Chapters 1, 2 & 3
  • Introduction to Intercultural Competence
  • Culture and Intercultural Communication
  • Intercultural Communication Competence
Part III: Lecture/debriefing

3\textsuperscript{rd} Session (June 9, 10)  
**Theme: Cultural Differences in Communication**
Part I: Share personal reflections/journals
Part II: Chapter Presentation: Chapters 4, 5 & 6
  • Cultural Patterns and Communication: Foundations
  • Cultural Patterns and Communication: Taxonomies
  • Cultural Identity and Cultural Biases
Part III: Lecture/debriefing

4\textsuperscript{th} Session (June 16, 17)  
**Theme: Coding Intercultural Communication**
Part I: Personal Reflections/journals shared
Part II: Chapter presentation: Chapter 7, 8 & 9
  • Verbal Intercultural Communication
  • Nonverbal Intercultural Communication
  • The Effects of Code Usage in Intercultural Communication
Part III: Lecture/debriefing

5\textsuperscript{th} Session  
**Theme: Communication in Intercultural Relationships**
Part I: Personal Reflections/journals shared  

Part II: Chapter presentation: Chapter 10, 11 & 12  
- Intercultural Competence in Interpersonal Relationships  
- Episodes, Contexts, and Intercultural Interactions  
- The Potential for Intercultural Competence

Part III: Lecture/debriefing

6th Session
(June 30, July)
Part I: Personal Reflections/journals shared  
Part II: Lecture/debriefing  
Theme: The Global Village

7th Session
(July 7, 8)

Final Presentations

8th Session
(July 14, 15 or July 21, 22)
Final Presentations
What does this all mean?
Final Projects
Course evaluations