Course Description
Communication between cultures in the interpersonal and organizational context. Differences in communication behaviors due to nationality, ethnicity, and social status are explored. 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 communicative (verbal, nonverbal, and listening) behaviors.

Text
Communication Between Cultures - Wadsworth Cengage Learning: Boston, MA


*You do not need to purchase both books for class, either edition will be appropriate for all required activities and assignments.

Learning Targets
- Identify strategies to become an effective, culturally aware communicator.
- Explain factors that contribute to your cultural lens and reflect upon how culture shapes our perceptions.
- Identify the unique relationship between communication and culture.
- Examine how language reflects cultural values and affects intercultural communication.
- Develop a greater awareness and understanding of the lives of individuals from other cultures.
- Describe the cultural proficiency continuum that indicates unique ways of seeing and responding to differences and identify ways to support your journey.

In order to meet our learning targets, we will dig deeper into the following topics: communication, culture and the link between them; elements of culture including family, history, and religion; cultural identity; cultural perceptions; language and culture; nonverbal communication; cultural influences on context; and becoming culturally proficient.

Course Expectations
- Take control of your own learning. Engage in thinking about your own thinking. Focus on growth and development.
- Develop cultural self-awareness in a safe environment.
- Be an active member of class: listen to the ideas of others, seek to understand, contribute new and relevant information, appreciate and value diverse views, comment in a positive manner, and build on ideas from others.
- Commit to doing your best. Written assignments and class presentations are to be of the highest quality. Adhere to deadlines.
Assignments/Projects to Connect Learning

- **Personal Reflective Writing**  You will write a personal reflection based on the readings, group discussions, class activities and presentations completed that week in class. This is a way to share your learning, to make connections, and note new insights and next steps. Personal Reflective Writing should apply the Reflective Cycle - What? Why? So what? Now what? which will be discussed the first day of class. Your reflections will be submitted electronically by the end of the day on Friday each week we have class.

- **Readings, Discussions, and Class Activities**  We will use the text and additional articles to develop background and understanding of course topics. Most of our reading will take place in class by using a structure to guide group discussions, personal reflections and to complete any group activities or presentations. A detailed list of topics for each week will be given on the first day of class.

- **Final Learning Project**  You will complete a final project related to your learning from this class. This is your opportunity to demonstrate your knowledge, personal connections, growth and vision related to the course learning targets. You will show what you know through a final product (e.g., display, song, brochure, skit, newsletter, slideshow, photo essay) that will presented on the last day we meet in October. This will be assessed using a rubric.

- **Final Learning Reflection**  Write a reflective paper on what you have learned and where you go from here. It is to show how you have grown in your understanding of intercultural communication and the knowledge and skills developed to communicate and interact between cultures. Guiding questions will be provided to help organize thoughts. You will also want to refer back to weekly personal reflections, readings, and class projects to develop ideas for your final reflection.

- **Thank You**  You will write a personal thank you to any guest speakers that present to our class throughout the term. This includes specifically sharing something that you learned as a result of their presentation.

**Evaluation**

Your grade for this course will be based on the successful completion of all reading and written assignments, active participation in class sessions based on attendance and participation. We will follow Doane College Grading and Academic Integrity Policies.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments/Projects</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal Reflective Writing</td>
<td>7 personal reflections x 20 points each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation (readings, discussions, activities)</td>
<td>7 in-person class sessions x 20 points each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thank You</td>
<td>5 Guest Speakers x 4 points each</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Learning Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Learning Reflection</td>
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*all assignments/projects will be scored using rubrics provided on the first day of class  

**Total Points: 500**

“Our lives are all different and yet the same.” ~Anne Frank