CMST 280 - Intercultural Communication Syllabus
0868 B     M, W 12:30-2:40     A240

(CMST 280 Winter, 2015)

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Office location: R230
Office Hours: M-Th 11:45-12:30

Books and Materials Required


Course Information

Description:
Examines the effect of culture on the communication process. Students learn about the influence of culture on communication styles, language, and non-verbal communication. Students practice skills that contribute to intercultural competence.

Course Outcomes

- Explain how environmental factors affect and make cultures different.
- Explain how cultural variables influence intercultural competency in communication.
- Explain why appropriateness and effectiveness are critical in constructing messages in intercultural contexts.
- Explain how individualism and collectivism affect the communication in intercultural communication contexts.
- Apply various models of cultural values to intercultural interactions.
- Define ethnocentrism and social comparison. Demonstrate your competence in applying the concepts across cultures.
- Identify and analyze one’s own cultural identity.
Grading

Paper 20%, Tests 50%, Group project 20%, Attendance, participation, & homework 10%

Grading Scale:
A/A- 100-90       D+/D- 69-60
B+/B- 89-80       F 59 or below
C+/C- 79-70

Participation/attendance: Your attendance is critical! Participation and attendance are important because we learn from interaction with our peers, and much of the learning that occurs in this class will be generated from hands-on experience. As a result, I take attendance daily at the beginning of class, and lower the att./part. portion of your grade one-third of a grade (A- to B+) after two absences. Absences on presentation days, though, will always lose points, regardless of your previous record. If you are sick, please call the Humanities Office and leave a message.

If you have a series of extenuating circumstances which prevent you from coming to class, I recommend that you consider withdrawing, since it becomes too difficult to make up multiple absences.

Exams: There will be exams covering both text material and lecture notes. They will be multiple-choice, true/false, and short essay. If you are at all concerned about the content of the exams please schedule an appointment with me prior to the exam. There will be no make-up exams without extenuating circumstances. If a situation arises which is beyond your control that prevents you from taking an exam on time, contact me immediately.

***In fairness to other students, late exams will incur a 3 pt. penalty.

If you are a student with a recognized disability, please let me know what I can do to accommodate your needs.

Papers: Late papers will be penalized a letter grade. *I strongly encourage you to use the writing lab on campus.

Group Presentations: Group projects cannot be made-up without extreme extenuating circumstances. It has been my experience that members who fail to come on the day of their presentation also fail the course. Remember that your group members are depending on you (as well as you on them) to do your part. A group outline is required along with your presentation; a complete description of the group presentation will follow in a handout.

**If you find that for any reason you are unable to keep up with the class, please discuss it with me so we can look at your options, including withdrawing from the class. If a student simply stops attending or turning in assignments without contacting the instructor, he/she will fail the class. A "W" grade, however, does not count against your GPA.
Classroom Learning Atmosphere

Expectations and tips for student success:

- It is expected that students will spend 2 hours studying out of class for every 1 hour in class. Most of the work done in college is studying, researching, and writing (not hw).

- Public speakers should spend 1-2 hours of prep. time per minute of speaking time.

- Plagiarism (4 or more words in series copied directly but not quoted, or stealing ideas without giving credit) is academic dishonesty and has serious consequences.

- When writing papers, a paragraph is usually 3-5 sentences and contains a complete idea about one subject. When you switch subjects, you also start a new paragraph. (Also: you’re=you are; it’s=it is; remember to spell check!)

- All written assignments are typed; papers are double-spaced, and work is error-free.

- The single most common error in any college class is not carefully following directions on assignments, test questions, papers, speeches, etc.

- **Late papers are penalized, but you may turn them in early.**

  - The syllabus is your instructor's contract with you. It is required in every college class, and the schedule for the quarter is usually posted on the syllabus.

  - Assigned readings for the day are done before you come to class.

  - If you miss class, you are responsible for getting all notes, assignments, or handouts.

  - You are responsible for printing out your own work that requires a hard copy.

  - You are expected to attend class regularly, be on time, and participate.

  - If you are tardy, you may be counted absent for the day.

  - It is expected that students will not detract from the learning environment (by things like falling asleep, surfing the web, texting, etc.)

  - I ask that you not use portable electronic devices in class—including laptops—unless requested to do so.
**Working Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 5</td>
<td>Introductions, syllabus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 7</td>
<td>Chapter 1 Intro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 12</td>
<td>Chapter 2 Communication and Culture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 14</td>
<td><strong>Test (Chapters 1, 2); begin Chapter 3 Family</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 19</td>
<td>Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 21</td>
<td>Chapter 3 Family</td>
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<td>Jan 26</td>
<td>Chapter 4 History</td>
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<td>Jan 28</td>
<td>Chapter 5 Life and Death</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 2</td>
<td><strong>Test (Chapters 4,5); begin Chapter 6 Cultural Values</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 4</td>
<td>Library research—meet at library</td>
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<td>Feb 9</td>
<td>Library assignment due; Chapter 6 Cultural Values/ Chapter 7 Identity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 11</td>
<td>Chapter 7 Identity</td>
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<td>Feb 16</td>
<td>Professional Development Day—no class</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 18</td>
<td><strong>Paper due—My Cultural Identity (Chapters 3, 6, 7); begin Chapter 8 Verbal Communication</strong></td>
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<td>Feb 23</td>
<td>Chapter 8 Verbal Communication</td>
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<td>Feb 25</td>
<td>Chapter 9 Nonverbal Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 2</td>
<td><strong>Test (Chapters 8, 9); Chapter 10 Context</strong></td>
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<td>Mar 4</td>
<td>Chapter 10 Context</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 9</td>
<td>Chapter 10 Context</td>
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<td>Mar 11</td>
<td>Group time</td>
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<td>Mar 16</td>
<td>Group project presentations</td>
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<td>Mar 18</td>
<td>Group project presentations</td>
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<td>Mar 25 (Wed.)</td>
<td>Group project presentations (11:30-1:20 Exam Schedule)</td>
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Affirmation of Inclusion

Bellevue College is committed to maintaining an environment in which every member of the campus community feels welcome to participate in the life of the college, free from harassment and discrimination.

We value our different backgrounds at Bellevue College, and students, faculty, staff members, and administrators are to treat one another with dignity and respect.

http://bellevuecollege.edu/about/goals/inclusion.asp

Division Statements

Information about Bellevue College's copyright guidelines can be found at:
http://bellevuecollege.edu/lmc/links/copyright.html

A good resource for Plagiarism is the Writing Lab: http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/Plagiarism.html

Student Code

“Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one’s own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Vice President of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Vice President of Student Services.” The Student Code, Policy 2050, in its entirety is located at:
http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050_Student_Code.asp

Important Links

Bellevue College E-mail and access to MyBC

All students registered for classes at Bellevue College are entitled to a network and e-mail account. Your student network account can be used to access your student e-mail, log in to computers in labs and classrooms, connect to the BC wireless network and log in to MyBC. To create your account, go to: https://bellevuecollege.edu/sam.

BC offers a wide variety of computer and learning labs to enhance learning and student success. Find current campus locations for all student labs by visiting the Computing Services website.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)

The Disability Resource Center serves students with a wide array of learning challenges and disabilities. If you are a student who has a disability or learning challenge for which you have documentation or have seen someone for treatment and if you feel you may need accommodations in order to be successful in college, please contact us as soon as possible.

If you are a person who requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your individual instructors to develop a safety plan within the first week of the quarter.
The DRC office is located in B 132 or you can call our reception desk at 425.564.2498. Deaf students can reach us by video phone at 425-440-2025 or by TTY at 425-564-4110. Please visit our website for application information into our program and other helpful links at [www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/drc)

**Public Safety 425.564.2400** (24 hours/day every day)

Public Safety is located in K100 and on the web at: [http://bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/](http://bellevuecollege.edu/publicsafety/)