

College of St. Scholastica
Department of Communication and Theatre Arts

CTA 2240 Intercultural Communication
Fall 2006

Credits: 4

Class Meeting/Location: M, W, F 11:45 a.m.-12:50 p.m., Tower Hall 4141

Instructor: Julie Ahasay (pronounced Ace-ee)

Email: jahasay@css.edu (I check email frequently. This is a very good way to reach me).

Mailbox: 2301

Office: Tower 3126

Office Phone: 6618

Home phone: 724.2404 (Please feel free to call me at home. **It's OK. Really!**)

Office hours: Tuesdays 2:30-3:30 p.m.

Wednesdays 1-2:30 p.m.

If these times don't work for you, please see me, send an email or call to set up another time for an appointment.

Text:

Experiencing Intercultural Communication: An Introduction, 2nd edition by Judith N. Martin and Thomas K. Nakayama, McGraw-Hill

Course Description

This course combines lectures and discussion, guest speakers, study of film and documentaries, assigned readings, and research to understand the cultural forces that determine communication behaviors. The course prepares you to enter another specific culture and communicate more effectively.

This course meets the Cultural Diversity requirement of the College's Benediction Education Liberal Arts Program.

Course Goals

The overall goal of this course is to develop an understanding of the process of communicating across cultural boundaries. We will operate from the premise that culture is both a producer and a product of communication and therefore an appreciation of cultural processes is an essential factor in promoting positive intercultural relations. Specifically we aim to:

1. Develop an understanding of the intercultural communication process.
2. Enhance appreciation of the diverse ways of communicating in different cultures.
3. Develop analytical skills in examining intercultural interactions.
4. Increase understanding of cultural issues that influence communication effectiveness.

Evaluation

Through a combination writing assignments, tests, class discussion and participation, and attendance each student will have the opportunity to provide evidence of achievement in class.

Grading will work as follows:

Tests	20%
Participation	20%
Field Experience Reports and Assessment	50%
Final	10%

Grading Scale:

% of total possible points:

100 - 94 = A	76 - 74 = C
93 - 90 = A-	73 - 70 = C-
89 - 87 = B+	69 - 67 = D+
86 - 84 = B	66 - 64 = D
83 - 80 = B-	63 - 60 = D-
79 - 77 = C+	59 = F

Assignments

Field Experiences (4) plus final assessment

You will choose experiences from a menu of options, write a brief paper about each, be prepared to discuss with classmates and write a final synthesis paper. The field experiences together introduce you to a variety of intercultural experiences available in our community—both on and off campus—and encourage you to become an enlightened “global citizen” through increasing your awareness and knowledge of world events, trends and issues .

As part of this assignment, each student in this course will attend one (or more) Global Awareness Presentations.

Participation

Regular attendance and thoughtful participation are expected. Participation will be recorded on all days (film screening days excluded). Students in this course will be assigned a discussion partner and you will be expected to interact with your partner in frequent discussions.

Points will be credited as follows:

Freely offers many insightful comments	4 points
Prepared and offers substantive comments	3
Prepared and responds when prompted	2
Present, without comments or questions	1
Absent	0

Course Policies

Attendance: More than two unexcused absences will adversely affect your final grade. Please let me know prior to any planned absences so we can make proper arrangements for the missed course work. **There will be a correlation between attendance and the final course grade.**

Late Work

Due dates for assigned work are clearly stated on the course schedule. I will deduct points from assignments turned in past the designated due date.

Incomplete (I) Grades

An incomplete grade will only be given in extreme cases. Students must make such a request to me before the last week of class. Both the student and I must agree upon a date for completion of the course requirements at the time of the request.

Students with Disabilities Statement

Students with disabilities, physical or learning, are entitled to appropriate accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to notify the Access Center far enough in advance to allow a reasonable amount of time to approve of and provide the accommodation. Students who are taking courses on campus or in a distance format must contact Heather Angelle, the Coordinator for Students with Disabilities at Tower 2144, at 218-723-6645 to make such arrangements.

Academic Honesty Statement

Academic honesty directly concerns ethical behaviors which affect both the academic environment and the civic community. Plagiarism and other academic dishonesty, including falsification of data, will result, at a minimum, failure of the assignment or test, and the maximum penalty shall be failure of the course. In addition, a department may deny admission to or dismiss from a program a student who has engaged in academic dishonesty, and the dean of faculty or the dean of students may exclude such a student from extracurricular activities or expel him or her from the College, even on the first instance of academic dishonesty.

And finally, some thoughts on **Classroom Civility**

This classroom is a place where important business is conducted; therefore there are certain basic standards of classroom civility that should be adhered to, particularly in a communication course. Civility does not eliminate appropriate humor, enjoyment or other features of a comfortable and pleasant classroom community. Classroom civility does, however, include the following:

1. Displaying respect for all members of the classroom community, both your instructor and your fellow students.
2. Attentiveness to and participation in discussions, group activities and other classroom presentations and exercises.
3. Being an attentive and supportive audience member for fellow students as they speak in class and during formal presentations.
4. Avoidance of unnecessary disruptions during class such as private conversations and doing work for other classes.

5. Turning off pagers and cell phones.
6. Avoidance of racist, sexist, homophobic, or other negative language that may unnecessarily exclude members of our campus and classroom community.

These features of classroom civility are by no means a comprehensive list. Rather, they represent the minimal sort of behaviors that help to make the classroom a pleasant place for all concerned.

Course Schedule

Wed, 9/6	Course Intro
Fri, 9/8	Intro, Part 2
Mon, 9/11	Chapter 1
Wed, 9/13	Chapter 2 Guest: Kathleen Cargill What is a culture?
Fri, 9/15	Chapter 2, continued
Mon, 9/18	Chapter 3: History
Wed, 9/20	Chapter 4: Identity
Fri, 9/22	Identity, continued
Mon, 9/25	Identity, continued Guest
Wed, 9/27	Film: Lost Boys of Sudan
Fri, 9/29	Film: Lost Boys of Sudan
Mon, 10/2	Chapter 5: Verbal Issues
Wed, 10/4	Community Day
Fri, 10/6	Verbal Issues, continued
Mon, 10/9	Test #1: Chapters 1-5
Wed, 10/11	Chapter 6, Nonverbal
Fri, 10/13	Nonverbal, continued
Mon, 10/16	Discussion
Wed, 10/18	Field Dialogue #1
Fri, 10/20	Field Dialogue #2

Mon, 10/23	Chapter 7: Popular Culture
Wed, 10/25	Popular Culture, continued
Fri, 10/27	Chapter 8: Culture, Com & Conflict
Mon, 10/30	Mid-semester Break
Wed, 11/1	Chapter 8, continued
Fri, 11/3	Chapter 9: Relationships in Everyday Life
Mon, 11/6	Film: Snow Falling on Cedars
Wed, 11/8	Film: Snow Falling on Cedars
Fri, 11/10	Discussion
Mon, 11/13	Test #2: Chapters 6-9
Wed, 11/15	Field Dialogue #2
Fri, 11/17	Field Dialogue #2
Mon, 11/20	Field Dialogue #2
11/22-11/26	Thanksgiving Break
Mon, 11/27	Film: TBA
Wed, 11/29	Film: TBA
Fri, 12/1	Work Day Field Experience Assessment Paper DUE
Mon, 12/4	Students Teach Chapter 10: Travel & Tourism
Wed, 12/6	Students Teach Chapter 11: Business
Fri, 12/8	Students Teach Chapter 12: Education
Mon, 12/11	Students Teach Chapter 13: Health Care
Wed, 12/13	Discussion/work day
Fri 12/15	Final

Final Exam: Tuesday 12/19 8 a.m.
Continue Final