



## **COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE TITLE:** Intercultural Communication

**TERM & YEAR:**

**COURSE & SECTION NUMBER:** COM 233

**TIME & PLACE:** Asynchronous, Online

**NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS:** 3-0-3

**INSTRUCTOR:** TBD

**OFFICE LOCATION/HOURS:** TBD

**OFFICE PHONE:** TBD

**EMAIL:** TBD

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Considers interrelationships between communication and culture, the diversity between and within cultures, and the challenges and rewards of intercultural communication practice. Topics include cultural patterns, worldview and perception, cultural identity, verbal and nonverbal communication, listening, family and relationships, and business.

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**REQUIRED TEXT:** None. This is an Open Educational Resources course.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Explain the relationship between individual identity, social identity, and culture.
- Analyze how culture impacts communication.
- Engage with a variety of cultural experiences outside of their own.
- Analyze how power and context function to impact communication in multiple cultural systems.
- Describe multiple techniques for effectively navigating cross-cultural communication challenges.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** A basic understanding of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint are required as well as the ability to upload attachments.

**ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION:** Attendance is triggered by turning in an assignment for that week, by Sunday night at the latest. See the Course Calendar for details. Failure to complete at least one assignment by Sunday night results in an "Absent" notification for that week.

**GRADING/EVALUATION:** All assignments are assigned a grade of 0-100; the grade book automatically averages them or weighs them into their respective category.

- **Grading Scale:**
  - 90-100 = A
  - 87-89 = B+
  - 80-86 = B
  - 77-79 = C+
  - 70-76 = C
  - 67-69 = D+
  - 60-66 = D
  - 59 or below = F

## Here are the categories:

Discussions and Peer Review (13) – 20 percent  
 Learning Journals (6) – 20 percent  
 Infographics (4) – 20 percent  
 Final Exam – 20 percent  
 Kaltura Media Presentation – 20 percent

Grading rubrics are provided with each assignment for clarity and transparency.

## OTHER POLICIES:

**DISCUSSION FORUMS** – All discussions require at least two posts – one about the topic and one as a peer to peer response. Peer Review requires five posts. Your own project or paper plus four reviews. Missing any of the required posts results in a significant markdown. Extra posts with good detail receive extra credit.

**LATE POLICY** – this is a carefully sequenced course, and thus late work loses its value quickly. I mark it down accordingly. Any work not received in time for me to adequately assess it before the next assignment is due receives a zero as it has defeated its purpose. In order to get a C or better in this class, all work must be turned in on time.

**TECHNOLOGY AND SOFTWARE** – this is an Internet class so you must be able to watch videos on your computer and upload attachments. The Learning Management System only works with Chrome or Firefox. Please do not use Safari or Internet Explorer.

All assignments other than Discussion Forums must be submitted on the LMS as attachments with the Microsoft Office 365 suite, which is *available for free* on the splash page of your campus email. Any other file will not be assessed as I can't read it. Never email me an assignment as once it is outside the LMS it can not be graded.

Please be advised that I am not responsible for your technology issues: the **Help Desk** may be contacted by going to this web site: <https://services.trine.edu/support/home>

*Technology issues are not an excuse for late work.*

**PLAGIARISM:** This class uses a plagiarism detector, plus I am pretty experienced at catching work that is not in your own voice. The first instance results in a 0 for the assignment, and the second instance will be referred to the Program Director. See below for Trine's official policy.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI) is prohibited:** All work submitted by students in this course must be generated by the student. Students may not have another person or entity contribute to an assignment for them, which includes using AI. Students may not incorporate any part of an AI-generated response in an assignment, use AI to formulate arguments, use AI to generate ideas for an assignment, or submit work to an AI platform for improvement. Using an AI tool to generate content may qualify as academic misconduct in this course.

OR

**Artificial Intelligence (AI) is allowed:** Students may use AI tools on instructor-identified assignments in this course. To adhere to our scholarly values, students must cite any AI-generated material that informed their work. Using an AI tool without proper attribution may qualify as academic misconduct in this course. It is the responsibility of the student to verify the accuracy, reliability, and ethical implications of AI-generated content.

## ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

The University prohibits all forms of academic misconduct. Academic misconduct refers to dishonesty in examinations (cheating), presenting the ideas or the writing of someone else as one's own (plagiarism) or knowingly furnishing false information to the University by forgery, alteration, or misuse of University documents, records, or identification. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following examples: permitting another student to plagiarize or cheat from one's own work, submitting an academic exercise (written work, printing, design, computer program) that has been prepared totally or in part by another, acquiring improper knowledge of the contents of an exam, using unauthorized material during an exam, submitting the same paper in two different courses without knowledge and consent of professors, or submitting a forged grade change slip or computer tampering. The faculty member has the authority to grant a failing grade in cases of academic misconduct as well as referring the case to Student Life.

## PLAGIARISM

You are expected to submit your own work and to identify any portion of work that has been borrowed from others in any form. An ignorant act of plagiarism on final versions and minor projects, such as attributing or citing inadequately, will be considered a failure to master an essential course skill and will result in an F for that assignment. A deliberate act of plagiarism, such as having someone else do your work, or submitting someone else's work as your own (e.g., from the Internet, fraternity file, etc., including homework and in-class exercises), will at least result in an F for that assignment and could result in an F for the course.

**COURSE CALENDAR/SCHEDULE:** see separate document

**COURSE MAPPING:**

<b>Week One: Broadening Horizons (LO3)</b>	
<b>Learning Activities and Materials</b>	<b>Assessments</b>
Read <a href="#">Chapter 1, Language and Culture In Context: A Primer on Intercultural Communication</a> (LO3)  Watch • <a href="#">“The dangers of a single story”</a> (LO3) <a href="#">“How the news distorts our worldview”</a> (LO3)	Participate Discussion 1 (LO3) Response Discussion 2 (LO3) Response  Assignment  Learning Journal 1 (LO3)
<b>Week Two: Building Identities (LO1)</b>	
<b>Learning Activities and Materials</b>	<b>Assessments</b>
Read • <a href="#">Chapter 2, Language and Culture In Context: A Primer on Intercultural Communication</a> (LO1) • <a href="#">“White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack”</a> (LO1)  Watch • <a href="#">“The Color of Fear”</a> • “Women and Identity”: TED Talks (LO1)	Assignment Quiz 1 (LO1)  Learning Journal 2 (LO1)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">“Drawing on Humor for Change”</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">“Looking Past Limits”</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">“How do you define yourself”</a></li> </ul>	
<b>Week Three: Using Language (LO2)</b>	
<b>Learning Activities and Materials</b>	<b>Assessments</b>
<p>Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Chapter 3, Language and Culture In Context: A Primer on Intercultural Communication</a> (LO2)</li> <li>• <a href="#">“There Was No Committee”</a> (LO2)</li> <li>• <a href="#">“What the World Will Speak in 2115”</a> (LO2)</li> </ul> <p>Watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">“Could your language affect your ability to save money?”</a> (LO2)</li> <li>• <a href="#">“Don’t Insist on English”</a> (LO2)</li> <li>• <a href="#">The World’s English Mania</a>” (LO2)</li> <li>• <a href="#">“Grammar, Identity, and the Dark Side of the Subjunctive”</a> (LO2)</li> <li>• <a href="#">“Dreams from Endangered Cultures”</a> (LO2)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">“What the People of the Amazon Know that You Don’t”</a> (LO2)</p>	<p>Participate</p> <p>Discussion 3 (LO2) Response</p> <p>Discussion 4 (LO2) Response</p> <p>Assignment</p> <p>Learning Journal 3 (LO2)</p>
<b>Week Four: Conversing and Relating (LO4,5)</b>	
<b>Learning Activities and Materials</b>	<b>Assessments</b>
<p>Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Chapter 4, Language and Culture In Context: A Primer on Intercultural Communication</a> (LO4 and 5)</li> <li>• <a href="#">“What Language Barrier”</a> (LO4)</li> <li>• <a href="#">“Sex, Lies and Conversation”</a> (LO4, 5)</li> </ul> <p>Watch</p> <p><a href="#">“Who Sounds Gay”</a> (LO4)</p> <p><a href="#">“Can We Talk”</a> (LO5)</p>	<p>Participate</p> <p>Discussion 5 (LO4) Response</p> <p>Discussion 6 (LO5) Response</p> <p>Assignment</p> <p>Quiz 2 (LO5)</p>
<b>Week Five: Communicating nonverbally (LO2)</b>	
<b>Learning Activities and Materials</b>	<b>Assessments</b>
<p>Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Chapter 5, Language and Culture In Context: A Primer on Intercultural Communication</a> (LO2)</li> <li>• <a href="#">“The Stories of a Headscarf”</a> (LO2)</li> </ul> <p>Watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">“Your Body Language Shapes Who You Are”</a> (LO2)</li> <li>• <a href="#">“The Hidden Power of Smiles”</a> (LO2)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">“What does my headscarf mean to you”</a> (LO2)</p>	<p>Participate</p> <p>Discussion 7 (LO2) Response</p> <p>Discussion 8 (LO2) Response</p> <p>Discussion 9 (LO2) Response</p> <p>Assignment</p> <p>Quiz 3 (LO2)</p>
<b>Week Six: Contextualizing Intercultural Communication (LO4)</b>	
<b>Learning Activities and Materials</b>	<b>Assessments</b>

<p>Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Chapter 6, Language and Culture In Context: A Primer on Intercultural Communication</a> (LO4)</li> </ul> <p>Watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">“Magical Houses, Made of Bamboo”</a> (LO4)</li> <li>• <a href="#">“How to build with clay...and community”</a> (LO4)</li> <li>• <a href="#">“Creative houses from reclaimed stuff”</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">“Green Citadels”</a> (LO4)</li> <li>• <a href="#">“In Praise of Slowness”</a> (LO4)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">“Psychology of Time”</a> (LO4)</p>	<p>Participate</p> <p>Discussion 10 (LO4) Response</p> <p>Assignment</p> <p>Quiz 4 (LO4)</p> <p>Learning Journal 4 (LO4)</p>
<b>Week Seven: Encountering other cultures (LO2,3)</b>	
<b>Learning Activities and Materials</b>	<b>Assessments</b>
<p>Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Chapter 7, Language and Culture In Context: A Primer on Intercultural Communication</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">“Keeping Face in China”</a> (LO3)</li> </ul> <p>Watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">“Difficult customers and intercultural conflict resolution”</a> (LO3)</li> <li>• <a href="#">“Connected but alone”</a> (LO2)</li> <li>• <a href="#">“Israel and Iran: a love story?”</a> (LO2)</li> </ul>	<p>Participate</p> <p>Discussion 11 (LO2) Response</p> <p>Assignment</p> <p>Learning Journal 5 (LO3)</p>
<b>Week Eight: Peer review and final project (LO3,5)</b>	
<b>Learning Activities and Materials</b>	<b>Assessments</b>
<p>Watch:</p> <p>Instructor video: “Peer Review is a two-way street”</p>	<p>Participate</p> <p>Peer Review (LO3 and 5) Responses</p> <p>Assignment</p> <p>Kaltura Media Presentation (LO3 and 5)</p>