

Bemidji State University

SOWK 2110: Intercultural Communication

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: *.*

Lab Hours/Week: *.*

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

Designed to enable students to develop awareness, knowledge and skills for sensitive and effective intercultural communication on the international scene as well as with core-cultures in America. The course is particularly useful for students who are preparing to work with cultures other than their own, including: the human services field, business, marketing, languages, pre-professional programs and others. Liberal Education Goal Areas 7 & 8.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/25/1997 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Introduction to the course
 - A. Why intercultural communication
 - B. Communication
2. Culture
 - A. Why cultures differ
 - B. Intercultural communication
3. U.S. Cultural diversity
 - A. Intercultural competence
 - B. Improving intercultural competence
4. Cultural patterns
 - A. Beliefs, values, norms
 - B. Overview of cultural patterns
5. Taxonomies
 - A. Hall
 - B. Hofstede
 - C. GLOBE
6. Cultural identity
 - A. Cultural biases
 - B. Intercultural contact
7. Verbal codes
 - A. Interpretation and translation
 - B. Language, thought & culture
8. Organization of verbal codes
 - A. Cultural variations in persuasion
 - B. Culture and conservation
9. Culture and interpersonal relationships
 - A. Face and facework
 - B. Improving intercultural relationships
10. Intercultural episodes
 - A. Contexts for competence
11. Ethics of intercultural communication
 - A. Perils & prospects for intercultural competence

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. reflect an applied understanding of one's standpoint including culture, socioeconomic class, gender, orientation, socio-historical roots, etc.
2. demonstrate an understanding of and appreciation for social, cultural and human diversity and the benefits and opportunities provided in a diverse society.
3. understand the relationship between difference, diversity and oppression and marginalization.
4. employ understanding of cultural identity, cultural uniqueness, differences and universals, intercultural communication.
5. understand and employ a cultural competence/responsive framework/model to facilitate communication and connectedness across, between and within diverse groups.
6. understand human diversity as including many dimensions such as race/ethnicity, socioeconomic class, faith/spirituality, age, able/disability, gender, sexual orientation, etc.
7. demonstrate critical insight regarding personal values, perspectives and paradigms related to human and social diversity and the relationship of these to personal & professional ethical systems and congruence.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted