COMM 1310: Intercultural Communication

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3
Lecture Hours/Week: *.*
Lab Hours/Week: *.*
OJT Hours/Week: *.*
Prerequisites: None
Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 07 - Human Diversity, Goal 08 - Global Perspective

The influence of culture is an especially important and sensitive issue facing us today. A person's culture strongly influences his/her identity, beliefs, expectations, and communication style. This course explores communication across culture as defined by nationality, gender, and ethnicity while concentrating on effective use of communication in all of these areas.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 02/24/2012 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. This course looks at intercultural communication from the viewpoints of culture and communication. It may include:
   a. An examination of students' personal cultural and/or co-cultural backgrounds.
   b. Identification and analysis of some characteristics of various cultures.
   c. Identifying and researching cultures or co-cultures previously unknown to the student.

2. Course content may also contain communication theory, taxonomies for identifying cultural patterns, language, non-verbal behavior, ethics, values, and practical aspects of intercultural competence.

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Understand the scope of culture and how cultural identity shapes and is shaped by communication (MnTC G7, b, c, d; MnTC G8 b, d; MnTC G2, a, c, d; ELO 1, 2 & 3).
2. Compare/contrast patterns of thought, value, belief, and behavior (verbal and nonverbal) exhibited in different cultures. (MnTC G8, b, c; MnTC G2, a; ELO 1, 2 & 3).
3. Define the role of perception and bias, particularly as it relates to the complexity of intercultural communication (MnTC G7, c; MnTC G8, b, c; MnTC G2, a, b, c, d; ELO 2, 3 & 4).
4. Articulate the skills needed to manage various intercultural communication contexts. (MnTC G7, e; MnTC G2, a, b, c; ELO 1, 2 & 3).
5. Assess and reflect on one's own personal intercultural competency. (MnTC 7 c, e, MnTC 8 b, d; ELO 1, 2, 3)
6. Understand perspective shifting in intercultural communication and the need for intercultural competency in our global and ever-changing world. MnTC G7, e; MnTC G8, d; MnTC G2, a, b, c, d; ELO 2, 3 & 4).
E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 07 - Human Diversity
1. Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
2. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
3. Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.
4. Demonstrate communication skills necessary for living and working effectively in a society with great population diversity.

Goal 08 - Global Perspective
1. Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.
2. Analyze specific international problems, illustrating the cultural, economic, and political differences that affect their solution.
3. Understand the role of a world citizen and the responsibility world citizens share for their common global future.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION
1. Knowledge of Human Cultures and the Physical and Natural World: Through study in the sciences, mathematics, social sciences, humanities, histories, languages, the arts, technology and professions.
2. Intellectual and Practical Skills: Including: Inquiry and analysis; Critical and creative thinking; Written and oral communication; Quantitative literacy; Information literacy; Teamwork and problem solving.
3. Personal and Social Responsibility and Engagement: Including: Civic knowledge and involvement; campus, local and global; Intercultural knowledge and competence; Ethical reasoning and action; Foundations and skills for lifelong learning.