

Minnesota State College Southeast

HUMA 1430: Exploring World Cultures

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 2

Lab Hours/Week: 2

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts, Goal 08 - Global Perspective

This course provides an overview of various world cultures through aspects such as communication styles, religions, and family relationships. The arts of each selected country will be highlighted and related to their cultural traits and history. Students will learn some basic culture definitions (high/low context, power distance, gender roles) in order to look at their own culture as outsiders, appreciate the differences in other cultures, and gain some perspective on globalization. During the course, students will be encouraged to bring the information into their daily lives through personal experiences, news stories, and discussions. (MnTC Goals 6 and 8) (Prerequisite: none) (3 credits: 3 lecture)

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 07/17/2016 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Cultural terms
2. Cultural behaviors in various countries
3. Varieties of communication styles
4. World religions
5. Globalization issues

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Learn to comprehend some basic descriptive terms of culture, such as ethnocentrism, high/low context, power distance, and individualism/collectivism and define each.
2. Be able to apply these cultural terms correctly to one's own culture(s) and the cultures included in the course.
3. Become acquainted with a few major world cultures that are different from the cultures of the U.S., such as cultures of Brazil, Nigeria, and India, and be able to explain the similarities and differences using cultural terms, historical comparisons, and other perspectives.
4. Be able to provide basic information about the world's major religions, including background, beliefs and practices.
5. Understand the basic characteristics of intercultural communication, such as politeness, status differences, and variations in meaning through both verbal and nonverbal communication.
6. Be able to relate communication characteristics to cultural characteristics, such as high context/low context cultures, gender roles, and status.
7. Be able to apply knowledge of intercultural communication in daily life situations, such as written and verbal exchanges, work and neighborhood environments.
8. Be exposed to various arts, such as drawing, literature, music, and films, from the selected cultures.
9. Be able to analyze the connections between these various forms of art and their cultures of origin.
10. Compare arts from different cultures using the culture and art terms included in the course.
11. Be able to explain the ways that a culture's arts have changed or not changed in this era of technology and globalization.
12. Gain a basic understanding of globalization, including the effects of the internet and the changing power and economic balance in the world.
13. Be able to use the perspectives of globalization in their own lives and choices.

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

Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within an historical and social context.
3. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

Goal 08 - Global Perspective

1. Describe and analyze political, economic, and cultural elements which influence relations of states and societies in their historical and contemporary dimensions.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.
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

This course was previously HUMA 2530.