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Fall 9-1-2022

### COMX 212X.50: Introduction to Intercultural Communication

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**THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA  
MISSOULA COLLEGE  
DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED ARTS AND SCIENCES  
FALL SEMESTER, 2022**

**COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:** COMX 212X, Introduction to Intercultural Communication, Online  
**SEMESTER CREDITS:** 3

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**PROFESSOR:** Kimberly Reiser

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:** [Kim.Reiser@umontana.edu](mailto:Kim.Reiser@umontana.edu)

Please communicate with me via email. You are welcome to request a telephone or Zoom call via email or on my voice mail at 243-7839. If you do so, be sure to include your contact information as well as a variety of times that you are available. I will arrange a time with you that matches up with my schedule. If your questions or concerns pertain to Moodle, please call UOnline Tech Support at 243-4999.

**OFFICE LOCATION:** Rm 423 at the 1205 E. Broadway Missoula College Riverside Building

**OFFICE HOURS:** By Appointment via Zoom, telephone, or Face-to-Face

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course introduces students to key theories and practical applications relating to intercultural communication. We will investigate the influence of our own culture on view of self and others. In addition, the following topics will be explored: international conflict, social networking, migrancy, and the effect of technology and mass media in the globalization of communication.

**STUDENT PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES:**

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Explain the role of history and identity in intercultural communication and the influence these have on our communication interactions with others.
2. Identify intercultural communication barriers that lead to interpersonal conflict.
3. Critically evaluate your own intercultural competence.
4. Understand how verbal and nonverbal communication is shaped by culture.

**GRADING:**

Quizzes – 25% of grade

Inquiries – 45% of grade

Substantive Discussions – 25% of grade

**GRADING SCALE:** 100-90 (A), 89-80 (B), 79-70 (C), 69-60 (D), 59 and Below (F)

**Quizzes**

Quizzes will cover the assigned readings and video content. These will consist of true/false and multiple-choice questions.

## **Inquiries**

Inquiries will ask students to engage with the course material. These will vary in format and focus but will oftentimes take the form of written reflections asking students to analyze a rhetorical artifact or to apply course concepts to the world around them.

## **Substantive Discussions**

There will be weekly discussion forums that will prompt students to reflect on and apply concepts from the reading. Students will also be asked to post visuals of choice and reflect on their social significance.

## **ASSIGNMENT AND TEST MAKEUP POLICY:**

No assignment or test make-ups will be allowed. Please plan ahead. All of the due dates for readings, assignments, and tests are listed in the course calendar. In addition, the week before assignments or tests are due, reminders will be posted in a weekly announcement. It is your responsibility to keep track of the course calendar and check announcements regularly.

If you encounter “technical difficulties” with a test, please notify me by email or phone **the day of the test**. I will verify the status of this issue in Moodle. It is important we reschedule the test within 48 hours of the test date.

## **TITLE IX:**

Title IX protects people from discrimination based on sex in education programs or activities that receive Federal financial assistance. Title IX states that:

*No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.*

In accordance with Title IX laws, all employees at The University of Montana are considered “**Responsible Employees**,” which requires us to report incidents of gender-based discrimination (e.g. sexual violence, sexual harassment, rape, sexual assault, domestic violence, and/or stalking) to the Title IX Coordinator, **Alicia Arant (243-5710, [eoaa@umontana.edu](mailto:eoaa@umontana.edu), University Hall, Room 006)**. Please know, we will work with you when we do this. Once an incident is reported to Title IX, the student will be contacted by the Title IX Coordinator for follow up. Students can also report directly to the Title IX coordinator in regards to any gender-based discrimination.

## **STUDENT CONDUCT:**

Please conduct yourself in a way that promotes learning for all students in the classroom (i.e. do not use language that might offend others, avoid disclosing too much personal information, and be respectful of others thoughts and opinions).

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at the following link: [student conduct code](#).

## **OFFICE FOR DISABILITY EQUITY:**

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and the Office for Disability Equity (ODE). If you anticipate or experience barriers based on disability, please contact the ODE at: (406) 243-2243, [ode@umontana.edu](mailto:ode@umontana.edu), or visit [www.umt.edu/disability](http://www.umt.edu/disability) for more information. Retroactive accommodation requests will not be honored, so please, do not delay. As your instructor, I will work with you and the ODE to implement an effective accommodation, and you are welcome to contact me privately if you wish.

## **DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION:**

Missoula College values the diversity of its students, faculty, and staff as an essential strength that contributes to our shared educational mission. Students of all backgrounds and perspectives are recognized and respected in this class. Course content and activities are intended to honor diversity of gender, sexuality, ethnicity, race, culture, religion, age, disability, socioeconomic status, and all dimensions of diverse human experiences and their intersection. Please notify your instructor if components of this course present barriers to your inclusion. Students can also reach out to Dr. Salena Beaumont Hill in the Office of Inclusive Excellence for Student Success, which provides student support for BIPOC and LGBTQ+ students and student groups. To explore making a formal report about discrimination or harassment, please visit the Equal Opportunity / Title IX office. For counseling or advocacy related to discrimination, please visit SARC.

\*COURSE POLICIES ARE APPLIED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE INSTRUCTOR

## **REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Ting-Toomey, S. and Chung, L. C. (2021). *Understanding intercultural communication* (3rd ed.). New York: Oxford University Press.

The electronic version of this text (an ebook) can be purchased at the following site:

<https://www.vitalsource.com/products/understanding-intercultural-communication-stella-ting-toomey-leeva-v9780197573952>

You can also purchase textbooks through the University of Montana bookstore.

## **COURSE OUTLINE:**

### **August**

29 Introductions  
Complete the Introductory Discussion Forum; it will wrap up on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.

### **September**

6 Chapter 1, Why Study Intercultural Communication?  
THIS WEEK STARTS ON TUESDAY AS MONDAY IS A HOLIDAY  
Complete the Chapter 1 Quiz and Inquiry by September 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.

12 Chapter 2, What Is Intercultural Communication Flexibility  
Complete the Chapter 2 Quiz and Discussion Forum by Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.

26 Chapter 3, What Are the Essential Cultural Value Patterns  
Complete the Chapter 3 Quiz and Inquiry by October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:59 p.m.

### **October**

3 Chapter 4, What Are the Keys to Understanding Cultural and Ethnic Identities?  
Complete the Chapter 4 Quiz and Discussion Forum by October 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.

10 Chapter 5, What Is Culture Shock?  
Complete the Chapter 5 Quiz and Inquiry by October 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.

17 Chapter 6, What Is the Connection Between Verbal Communication and Culture?  
Complete the Chapter 6 Quiz and Discussion Forum by October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:59 p.m.

24 Chapter 7, What Are the Different Ways to Communicate Nonverbally Across Cultures?  
Complete the Chapter 7 Quiz and Inquiry by October 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.

31 Chapter 8, What Causes Us to Hold Biases Against Outgroups

Complete the Chapter 8 Quiz and Discussion Forum by November 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.

**November**

- 7 Chapter 9, How Can We Manage Intercultural Conflict Flexibly  
Complete the Chapter 9 Quiz and Inquiry by November 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.
- 14 Chapter 10, What Are the Challenges in Developing an Intercultural-Intimate Relationship?  
Complete the Chapter 10 Quiz and Discussion Forum by November 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.
- 21 Breather Week to Get Ahead; No Assignments Due this Week  
**\*This is a short week due to the Thanksgiving Holiday**
- 28 Chapter 11, Why Does Global Identity Matter?  
Complete the Chapter 11 Quiz by December 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.

**December**

- 5 Chapter 12, How Can We Become Ethical Intercultural Communicators  
Complete the Chapter 12 Quiz and Final Inquiry by December 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m.