

University of Florida // Agricultural Education and Communication  
**AEC 3073 Intercultural Communication (3 credits)**  
**Online thru e-Learning/Canvas**  
**Summer A 2017**

**Professor:**

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**\*\*\*\*Office Hours: By appointment only\*\*\*\***

**Overview**

The purpose of this course is to increase knowledge of the social, political, anthropological, psychological and linguistic perspectives of intercultural communication and to enhance cultural competence in communication through practical application of intercultural communication principles and concepts. Past and present society illustrates the continuous need to understand and improve the ways in which we lead and function within a multicultural world. This course will examine and take a complex look at the underpinnings of multiculturalism, identity development, and leadership practices. Learners will examine values and beliefs, perceptions and practices, attitudes, and verbal and nonverbal behavior to identify and understand and learn about historical and present occurrences and individuals of diverse cultural backgrounds. The course will also explore issues of power, oppression, privilege and the responsibilities of leadership and communication.

**Course Objectives**

Upon completion of the course learners should be able to:

1. Recognize the broad range of theoretical, philosophical, linguistic, anthropological and practical issues involved in intercultural communication and cultural competence
2. Develop appropriate and effective skills in the field of intercultural communication, particularly in the areas of cultural knowledge and sensitivity
3. Describe the essential role that culture plays on people's perceptions, beliefs, communication patterns and behavior
4. Recognize and interpret underlying cultural values, messages, and implicit cultural meanings expressed in intercultural communication
5. Understand and discuss the relationship of ethics with both communication and culture
6. Analyze and evaluate their own cultural patterns and preferred communication style in relation to other cultures, domestic and international
7. Develop a cross-cultural understanding of United States and global society
8. Enhance their intercultural communication proficiency

## **Requirements:**

1. **Class engagement:** Students should take ownership of their own learning. It is expected that you are engaged with the course material provided by the instructors. Please be advised that as part of this engagement grade, students are expected to complete all reading assignments according to schedule.
2. **Assignments:** All written (excluding discussion board posts) assignments must be typed and double-spaced; include page numbers and 1-inch margins; font should be “Times” or “Times New Roman” with a font size of 12, in APA Formatting. All assignments will be submitted electronically by the day that they are due at the time stated in Canvas. If you have questions about how to cite utilizing APA formatting, please utilize the following website: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/> . **We have also posted resources on APA in Module “0” on Canvas.**

\*\*To insure that disability-related concerns are properly addressed from the beginning, students with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this class are asked to inform the instructor as soon as possible.

## **Services for Students with Disabilities:**

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)

## **Late Paper Policy:**

Adherence to deadlines is extremely important. Barring a serious emergency (for which you must have an official documented excuse), there are no acceptable excuses for late papers, posts, assessments, or other assignments. Therefore, **SIGNIFICANT POINTS WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM LATE PAPERS.** To that end, papers will be graded one point lower for the first day that they are late and two points lower for each day thereafter.

## **\*\*PLAGIARISM\*\***

Plagiarism includes turning in writing that is not your own, copying sections of someone else’s work into your own, cutting and pasting material from websites, and failing to cite your sources. It is YOUR responsibility to understand the full definition of what constitutes plagiarism and ensure that you do not turn in any work that even remotely suggests such a practice. Evidence of plagiarism on any assignment may result in a zero for that assignment, a failing grade for the course, and the possibility of disciplinary action by the university. If you have questions about citing sources or what constitutes plagiarism, consult the following website: [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r\\_apa.html](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_apa.html).

## **Academic Honesty:**

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: “*We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.*” You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for

credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."*

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code>.

### **Software Use:**

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

### **Campus Helping Resources:**

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- *University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, [www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/)*
- Counseling Services Groups and Workshops Outreach and Consultation Self-Help Library Wellness Coaching
- U Matter We Care, [www.umatter.ufl.edu/](http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/)
- *Career Resource Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, [www.crc.ufl.edu/](http://www.crc.ufl.edu/)*

### **Student Complaints:**

- Residential Course: [https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF\\_Complaints\\_policy.pdf](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf)
- Online Course: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>

### **Required Texts and Readings:**

- There are no required textbooks for the Summer A 2017 version of this course. All readings and materials will be posted on the Canvas site for you to easily access online.

### **Assignments**

Papers, presentations, projects, and quizzes will be assigned throughout the semester. All assignments will be turned in through the course Canvas website. Should you have questions regarding assignments, it is **your responsibility** to contact your TA for clarification. **Please ensure that you check the grading rubrics on Canvas for each of the assignments (excluding quizzes) to ensure that you are completing them in a way to receive maximum credit/points.**

### **Critical Reading & Analysis Posts (C.R.A.P.)**

Each week, you will be assigned intentional readings that will be illustrative of the assigned topic. We expect that you have read the material, digested it, and have thought critically about the material before engaging in assignments. To that end, you will be expected to post a Critical Reading & Analysis Discussion Post **each Tuesday and Thursday by 12:00pm** as noted on the course schedule.

Each post that you make should include the following information/answer the following questions:

- 1 – Why do you believe this reading was assigned? What is its purpose related to the week’s topic?
- 2 – What are two things you learned about the topic from the readings?
- 3 – Is the information presented still relevant and applicable to leadership today?
- 4 – What critical questions do you have after reading the material?

**In addition** to posting the information above, you should post responses to at least four class members per week. These four posts should be posted in the original discussion thread by **Wednesdays (2 responses) and Fridays (2 responses) at 11:59pm**. More information can be found in the rubrics on Canvas.

All posts should be reflective of all of the readings for the entire week, not just those assigned for Tuesday.

### **Weekly Reading Quizzes**

Weekly quizzes will be given online each week and will be focused on the assigned reading for the week. On assigned quiz weeks, quizzes will open in the "quizzes" section of Canvas on Wednesday at 12:00pm. The quiz will close online at 11:59pm on the Wednesday it is assigned. You will be allotted 15 minutes to complete each quiz. Make-up quizzes will only be given at the discretion of the instructors for University Approved Absences or serious illness. Documentation may be required.

### **Papers**

#### **Cultural Self Reflection Essay:**

The purpose of this autobiographical essay is to increase self-awareness of the cultures and beliefs you represent and that shape your life experiences as a leader and community member.

This paper will be **2 pages in length** and does not require citation of sources.

### **Presentations**

#### **“Heavy History”**

As the saying goes, “You can't know where you're going until you know where you've been”. While it is important to pay attention to current events and occurrences in society, it is important to understand and recall history, because history is one of the most essential tools to help guide and nurture society to a more fruitful and just space. For this assignment, you will be assigned a specific topic/event that you need to research and develop a brief slide show or prezi presentation to cover. Details of what should be covered are available in the Rubric on Canvas.

Multiple people will be assigned the same topic, which allows you to collaborate on the research portion of the assignment. However, each student is expected to create their own original research content and turn in their own presentation on Canvas. No voiceover is required so long as your presentation is detailed enough to be understood and contains all of the rubric elements.

Topics will be assigned **by the instructors** and will include the following topics:

- Indian Removal Act
- Stonewall Inn/Riots
- The Bracero Project
- Loving vs. Virginia
- Tuskegee Experiment
- March on Washington, 1983
- The Dream Act, 2001
- Stand in the Schoolhouse Door, 1963

**Exams**

**Final Exam**

Your final exam will be a reflective short answer online exam that asks you to personally reflect on and synthesize the topics covered during the course of the semester. You will need to support your answers with citations from readings within the course. It will ask you to apply topics covered in the course to your future professional and personal life experiences. You will be given **two hours** to complete this online exam on Canvas.

**\*Extra Credit Opportunities\***

*Below are the **only** anticipated extra credit opportunities for the semester. Please take advantage of them, because it is extremely unlikely we will offer additional opportunities.*

**Syllabus & Expectations – Where We Start From Quiz**

We want to ensure that you get started on the right foot in the course. On the first “day” of class we will cover the syllabus and basic course expectations. You will have until the date in the course schedule to complete the online Syllabus and Expectations quiz to earn up to **2 points of extra credit**.

**Intercultural Activities Attendance and Reflection(s)**

Throughout the semester you will have several opportunities to participate in intercultural activities. Different types of activities must be chosen for the experiences which will be explained by the instructor. After participating in the activity, submit an electronic report submitted on Canvas for each assignment within 2 weeks of attending event. The written report should consist of two (2) typed, double-spaced pages. You may complete a **maximum** of 2 intercultural activities extra credit assignments for the semester. Each assignment is worth 3 extra credit points.

**\*\*The grading criteria/rubrics for assignments are available on Canvas.\*\***

**Grading Specifics:**

<b>Assignment Category</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Points of Assignment</b>
Papers and Essays	• <i>Cultural Self Reflection Paper</i>	<b>100</b>
Class Attendance, Participation and Engagement	• <i>Critical Reading and Analysis Posts (12 @ 20pts each)</i>	<b>240</b>
Quizzes & Assessments	• <i>Weekly Reading Quizzes (6 @ 50 points each)</i> • <i>Final Exam</i>	<b>300</b> <b>200</b>
Presentations & Creative Assignments	• <i>Heavy History Group Presentation</i>	<b>160</b>
<b><i>Total Points Possible</i></b>		<b>1000</b>

### Grading Scale

*Grading Scale is represented in final percentages.*

A: 94-100	C: 74-76
A-: 90-93	C-: 70-73
B+: 87-89	D+: 67-69
B: 84-86	D: 64-66
B-: 80-83	D-: 61-63
C+: 77-79	E/F: 0-60

### Grading System and Course Content on Canvas

All assignments must be turned in by **the deadline on canvas** on the day the assignment is due or students will risk the possibility of partial or no credit for the assignment. Two points will be deducted from the final score for late work submitted less than 24 hours after the due date. Another point will be taken off for each day after until the assignment is submitted.

Canvas is utilized in this course for posting technical content (syllabus, handouts, power point presentations, etc.) and to keep track of your academic progress in the class. Assignments will be turned in on Canvas unless otherwise specified. Please refer to Canvas first before emailing with questions about the course.

### A Note on Spelling and Grammar

Professionals throughout the world state that one of the more important skills that they need to be successful is the ability to write well. Sentence structure, spelling, and grammar WILL BE examined when determining a grade for any written project.

**\*Content subject to change\***

### **TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:**

**Readings will be posted for each week in the MODULE SECTION that corresponds with the week/dates. All Readings should be completed prior to arriving to class for the day in which they are assigned.**

<b>Mod d</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Assignment(s)</b>
<b>Reminder – Critical Reading Analysis Posts are Due Each Tuesday and Thursday on Canvas by 12:00pm with the Follow-up Response to your Peers by Wednesdays and Fridays at 11:59pm, beginning May 09, 2017.</b>			
<b>1</b>	May 8 – 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identities, Subgroups, and Categorization</li><li>• Culture Defined</li><li>• Microcultures</li><li>• Personal Values</li></ul>	<b>1) Tues/Thurs – C.R.A.P Due 12:00pm</b> <b>2) Wed/Fri – C.R.A.P. Responses Due at 11:59pm</b> <b>3) Wed – Online Quiz by 11:59pm</b> <b>4) Friday – Cultural Reflection Paper by 11:59pm</b> <b>6) Sun – Syllabus Extra Credit Quiz by 11:59pm</b>
<b>2</b>	May 15 – 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communication Process, Communicating Identity(ies)</li><li>• Privilege and Oppression</li><li>• Diversity, Multiculturalism, and Social Justice</li><li>• Hierarchies of Oppression</li></ul>	<b>1) Tues/Thurs – C.R.A.P Due 12:00pm</b> <b>2) Wed/Fri – C.R.A.P. Responses Due at 11:59pm</b> <b>3) Wed – Online Quiz by 11:59pm</b>
<b>3</b>	May 22 – 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Race – Definitions, Concepts, Systems of Power</li></ul>	<b>1) Tues/Thurs – C.R.A.P Due 12:00pm</b> <b>2) Wed/Fri – C.R.A.P. Responses Due at 11:59pm</b>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Racism</li> </ul>	3) Wed – Online Quiz by 11:59pm
4	May 29 – June 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food Security &amp; Socioeconomic Status</li> <li>• Education Systems and Inequality</li> </ul>	1) Tues/Thurs – C.R.A.P Due 12:00pm 2) Wed/Fri – C.R.A.P. Responses Due at 11:59pm 3) Wed – Online Quiz by 11:59pm 4) Fri – Heavy History Presentation by 11:59pm
5	June 5 - 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender, Sexism, and Sex</li> <li>• Sexuality</li> <li>• Systems and Gender/Sexuality</li> </ul>	1) Tues/Thurs – C.R.A.P Due 12:00pm 2) Wed/Fri – C.R.A.P. Responses Due at 11:59pm 3) Wed – Online Quiz by 11:59pm 4) Sun – All extra credit due by 11:59pm
6	June 12 - 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Synthesizing the Material from the Semester</li> </ul>	1) Tues/Thurs – C.R.A.P Due 12:00pm 2) Wed/Fri – C.R.A.P. Responses Due at 11:59pm 3) Wed – Online Quiz by 11:59pm 4) Fri – Final Exam by 11:59pm

*Write if you will: but write about the world as it is and as you think it ought to be and must be—if there is to be a world. Write about all the things that men [ & all genders ] have written about since the beginning of writing and talking—but write to a point. Work hard at it, care about it. Write about our people: tell their story. You have something glorious to draw on begging our attention. Don't pass it up. Use it. Good luck to you. This Nation needs your gifts. Perfect them! (Hansberry, 1960, 263)*