



Intercultural Communication

AEC3073

Spring 2025- 3 credit hours

Instructor

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Teaching Assistant

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Office hours: By Appointment

Class Times & Location

Asynchronous online class. There will be optional meetings every four weeks via Zoom (<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/96850443045>).

Course Description

Basic culturally coded communication behaviors, such as cultural values and beliefs, attitudes, and verbal and non-verbal behavior, are examined to identify basic differences among individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds. Special emphasis is placed on cultural communication issues in the agricultural and natural resources sciences.

Attributes: General Education -Humanities, General Education - International, General Education - Social Science

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 culture's essential role in 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 cultural patterns and preferred communication styles in relation to other cultures, domestic and international.
7. Develop a cross-cultural understanding of the United States and a global society.
8. Enhance their intercultural communication proficiency.

Course Design

The course is a self-paced, asynchronous online course with the expectation of meeting every two weeks for questions and answers about the content. The instructor and TA are willing to meet with students via Zoom if they need help or guidance throughout the semester. The course will provide students with a learning experience tailored to their preferred learning style as determined by the VARK model. Numerous opportunities will be made available to students to engage in new experiences, followed by personal and group reflection activities to facilitate the creation of meaning. The course is guided by a set of values that prioritize cultural awareness, critical thinking, real-world experience, diversity, life-long learning, and teamwork.

Requirements

Textbook:

Students are expected to purchase the text online via Perusall, an online platform that we will utilize to not only read the text but also annotate together as a class. Texts acquired from sources other than Perusall will not be eligible for use within the platform. For more information, please review the Perusall Information page within Canvas.

Jandt, F. E. (2020). *An Introduction to Intercultural Communication: Identities in a Global Community*. Sage Publications.

- \$104.00 USD | Perpetual online access
- \$71.73 USD | 180-day online access
- \$64.55 USD | 120-day online access
- \$57.38 USD | 90-day online access

Technology:

To succeed in this course, you must have access to the following technology:

- Desktop Computer or Laptop
 - Audio Capabilities
 - Webcam and Microphone for synchronous sessions
- Microsoft Office Programs
 - [Microsoft Privacy Statement](#)
 - [Microsoft Accessibility Information](#)
 - Word - [Microsoft 365 basics video training](#)
- Adobe Reader
 - [Acrobat tutorials](#)
 - [Adobe Privacy Statement](#)
 - [Adobe Accessibility Statement](#)
- Zoom
 - [Zoom Privacy Policy](#)
 - [Zoom Accessibility Information](#)
- Internet Connection with access to Canvas

- Canvas is the course management system at the University of Florida in which students will find course content, links to video lectures, assignments, quizzes, discussions, and grades. The use of this system will vary by instructor, but the following videos describe the most common tools in Canvas. The [full student guide](#) is provided if you have additional questions.
- [Canvas Privacy Policy](#)
- [Canvas Accessibility Standards](#)
- **Web Browser - Chrome** is the preferred browser for Canvas. If you do not have Chrome, you can [download it](#).
- University of Florida Email
 - Students are expected to check their my.ufl emails daily. View the [Student Computing Requirements](#) page for information on technology requirements and expectations.

Prerequisite Knowledge

There is no pre-requisite courses required to take AEC3073, and no prior knowledge of intercultural communication is needed to succeed.

Expected Technical & Digital Literacy Skills:

Minimum technical skills required:

1. Proficiency in utilizing Canvas and navigating the internet effectively.
2. Competence in using email for communication purposes, including sending and receiving messages and managing attachments.
3. Familiarity with commonly used word processing applications (such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs), including the ability to create, edit, and format documents.
4. Basic computer skills, including understanding fundamental operations like file management, using menus and toolbars, and navigating between different applications.
5. Ability to perform online research using a variety of search engines and library databases.

Instructor Response & Feedback

Communication - The instructor and graders are committed to responding to your Canvas and email messages **within 24 hours**, except on holidays, when feasible during the work week, Monday through Friday. We also hold office hours each week via Zoom. The major assignments will be graded, with *meaningful feedback* provided, **within ten days of their submission**. Quizzes are graded automatically upon submission.

Individual Learner Interaction – Education extends beyond the mere transmission of knowledge; it involves providing valuable feedback and maintaining ongoing communication with the learner. The instructor is committed to engaging in one-on-one interactions with each student. This may manifest as detailed feedback on assignment submissions, responses to discussion board posts, or personalized Canvas messages to check in on the student's progress in the course.

Office Hours: Dr. Lamino sets aside dedicated office hours each week on Fridays from 9am-3pm, and is also available by appointment, as is your TA Jose. **But what exactly are office hours?** It is time specifically set aside each week for students to physically or virtually drop in and visit with Dr. Lamino or Jose. Whether you have questions about the course, assignments, or the covered topics, or simply wish to have a casual chat to better

get to know each other, these hours are reserved for you. Dr. Lamino and Jose strongly encourage students to take advantage of these office hours as an enriching experience for academic support and personal connection.

Assignments

You will find participating in class on a regular basis provides the best opportunity for success in this course. You are expected to complete all course assignments during the specified time frame. Assignments are due on the dates listed in the syllabus.

Late assignments will receive a 10% deduction per day late. After 10 days, assignments will receive a zero.

Class Pre-flection (25 points)

- This assignment aims to encourage self-reflection and exploration of personal cultural identity. By responding to a series of thought-provoking questions, students are expected to gain a deeper understanding of how their cultural background, heritage, and upbringing have shaped their perspectives, values, and decision-making processes. Additionally, the assignment aims to foster critical thinking about the influence of cultural identity on leadership styles and ethical beliefs.

Quizzes (5 x 20 points each = 100 points)

- The quizzes are designed to assess your comprehension of the course material. These quizzes will consist of multiple-choice, true/false, and short-answer questions. You can take the quiz twice; your highest score will be counted as your final grade.

Perusall Readings (points vary, 70 points total)

- These assignments are designed to engage students in collaborative reading and discussion. Through this platform, students will annotate and comment on the assigned course textbook, fostering deeper understanding and interaction with course material. Active participation in these assignments is crucial for enhancing comprehension and contributing to class discussions.

Final Class Reflection (25 points)

- The purpose of the assignment is to encourage students to reflect on their personal growth and understanding of cultural identity and apply their knowledge of intercultural communication in professional settings. Through critical analysis and self-awareness, students examine the impact of multicultural experiences on their worldviews and develop strategies for fostering cross-cultural understanding. Additionally, the assignment aims to deepen students' understanding of cultural patterns and their implications, preparing them for real-world scenarios where intercultural communication competence is crucial.

Documentary reflection (100 points)

- The purpose of this assignment is to show you the reality of people around the world. "Living on One Dollar" is a documentary that will provide you with that insight since it was filmed by two young people from the United States who went to Guatemala.

Multicultural Event or Activity (30 points)

- This activity aims to promote cultural awareness, understanding, and sensitivity among students. By attending an activity related to a culture different from their own, students are encouraged to step out of their comfort zones, engage with diverse perspectives, and broaden their cultural horizons.

Country Comparison Presentation (100 points)

- As part of your learning experience, you'll explore the cultural dimensions of various countries and showcase their unique perceptions, habits, and practices. Your task is to research, create a PowerPoint presentation, and record your presentation on a specific assigned country with an assigned class partner, covering topics such as agricultural exports, history, culture, and the population's biggest needs and potential solutions. Additionally, you will evaluate the country compared to the United States based on Hofstede's Cultural Dimensions.

Cultural Interview Assignment (50 points)

- This assignment aims to enhance students' understanding of cultures by engaging them in a meaningful conversation with someone from a different cultural background. Through this activity, students will gain insight into cultural values, traditions, communication styles, and perspectives, fostering cross-cultural awareness and self-reflection.

Assignment Points

Assignment	Total Points	Due
Class Pre-reflection	25 points	Week 1
Documentary Reflection	100 points	Week 11
Cultural Interview	50 points	Week 13
Multicultural Event or Activity	30 points	Week 14
Country Comparison Presentation (90 points for the presentation, 10 points for peer-reviews)	100 points	Week 15
Final Class Reflection	25 points	Week 16
Persuall Readings (points vary, 70 points total)	70 points	Every week
Quizzes (5 x 20 points)	100 points	Throughout the course
Total Points in the Class	500	

Grading Scale:

Letter Grade	Point Percentage
A	100%to94%
A-	< 94%to90%
B+	< 90%to87%
B	< 87%to84%
B-	< 84%to80%

Letter Grade	Point Percentage
C+	< 80%to77%
C	< 77%to74%
C-	< 74%to70%
D+	< 70%to67%
D	< 67%to64%
D-	< 64%to61%
F	< 61%to0%

Further information about UF grading policies can be found here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

Reading & Assignment Schedule:

Week	Date	Topic	Zoom Meeting	Assignment due
1	01/13-01/19	Introduction to the course	Zoom Meeting 1 (01/17/2025- 4:00 pm) https://ufl.zoom.us/j/96850443045	Pre-flection activity Peer Introductions <i>*Optional Practice Perusall Assignment</i>
2	01/20-01/26	Culture and Communication		Perusall (Chapter 1)
3	01/27-02/02	Intercultural Communication Competence		Perusall (Chapter 2) Quiz 1
4	02/03-02/09	How Culture Affects Perception		Perusall (Chapter 3)
5	02/10-02/16	Nonverbal Communication in Intercultural Contexts	Zoom meeting 2 (02/14/2025- 4:00 pm) https://ufl.zoom.us/j/96850443045	Perusall (Chapter 4) Quiz 2
6	02/17-02/23	Verbal Communication		Perusall (Chapter 5)
7	02/24-03/02	Cultural Dimensions		Perusall (Chapter 6) Quiz 3
8	03/03-03/09	Values and Identity		Perusall (Chapter 7)
9	03/10-03/16	Religion and Identity	Zoom meeting 3 (03/14/2025- 4:00 pm) https://ufl.zoom.us/j/96850443045	Perusall (Chapter 8)
10	03/17-03/23	Spring Break		

11	03/24-03/30	Gender and Culture		Perusall (Chapter 9) Documentary Reflection Quiz 4
12	03/31-04/06	Cultures within Cultures		Perusall (Chapters 10 and 11)
13	04/07-04/13	Identities and Communities	Zoom meeting 4 (04/11/2025- 4:00 pm) https://ufl.zoom.us/j/96850443045	Cultural Interview Assignment Perusall (Chapter 12) Quiz 5
14	04/14-04/20	The Impact of Cultures on Other Cultures		Perusall (Chapter 13) Multicultural Event or Activity
15	04/21-04/27	Future Challenges		Country Comparison Presentations Perusall (Chapter 14)
16	04/28-05/02	Country Comparison Presentations		Final Class Reflection Peer Reviews of Country Comparison Presentations

This COURSE SCHEDULE is TENTATIVE and will be updated and modified

Academic Integrity

UF's Academic Honesty Statement:

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 dishonesty to the instructor, department chair, college dean or Student Honor Court. **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: [UF Student Code of Conduct Webpage](#).

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism includes taking **verbatim phrases of just a few words** without permission or full attribution. It includes **quoting too much** from your sources, thereby substituting their expression for your own, or quoting too much from one source, effectively taking more than a *fair use* of their work. **Over quoting (direct quotes)** comprising more than 10% of any assignment will be considered plagiarism. Plagiarism includes **unique expression**, which can be a phrase of a few words or a simple moniker. Our writing is mostly *our own expression*. When writing for science and business, we base our work on **facts** obtained from a variety of **credible sources**. We give credit where it is due. We **cite our sources** so others can access the information we present. When appropriate, we very carefully, ethically, and lawfully use others' expression of that information. We obtain permission to use our sources' expression or give full credit for a *limited, fair use*, including direct quotes.

Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) Use

Using an AI content generator such as ChatGPT to complete the assignment without proper attribution violates academic integrity. Note that all large language models tend to make up incorrect facts and fake citations; they may perpetuate biases, and image generation models can occasionally develop offensive products. You will be responsible for any inaccurate, biased, offensive, or otherwise unethical content you submit, regardless of whether it originally comes from you or an AI model. By submitting assignments in this class, you pledge to affirm that they are your work and attribute the use of any tools and sources.

Learning to use AI responsibly and ethically is an important skill in today's society. Be aware of the limits of conversational, generative AI tools such as ChatGPT.

- Quality of your prompts: The quality of its output directly correlates to the quality of your input. Master "prompt engineering" by refining your prompts to get good outcomes.
- Fact-check all AI outputs: Assume it is wrong unless you cross-check the claims with reliable sources. The current AI models will confidently reassert factual errors. You will be responsible for any errors or omissions.
- Full disclosure: Like any other tool, AI should be acknowledged. At the end of your assignment, write a short paragraph to explain which AI tool you used and how you used it, if applicable. Include the prompts you used to get the results. Failure to do so violates academic integrity policies.

Here are some approved uses of AI in this course:

- Brainstorming ideas: Use AI to generate a list of potential topics or approaches for your assignment.
- Drafting content: AI can help you create initial drafts, which you can then refine and develop further.

- Refining text: Use AI to improve the clarity, style, and grammatical correctness of your writing.
- Research assistance: AI can help you locate sources and summarize information, but ensure you verify all facts independently.

When you use an AI model, its contribution must be cited and discussed:

- What was your prompt?
- Did you revise the AI model's original output for your submission?
- Did you ask follow-up questions?
- What did you learn?

Ethical Considerations:

- Avoiding Plagiarism: Ensure that any AI-generated content is properly cited and that you do not present it as entirely your own work.
- Respecting Intellectual Property: Be mindful of the source of AI-generated content and respect copyright laws.

Support Resources: To help you learn more about using AI tools responsibly and effectively, the following resources are available:

- Workshops: Attend AI and academic integrity workshops offered by the institution.
- Online Courses: Utilize online resources and courses to improve your AI and prompt engineering skills.
- Writing Center: Seek assistance from the writing center to integrate AI tools into your writing process.

Attendance Policies

Attendance is required and will be monitored by daily check-ins in the class. If students must miss class for an excused reason, they will work with the instructor to make up all work and discussion elements. This class relies heavily on participation and attendance. If you do not attend and participate, YOU WILL NOT do well in this course. Changes to due dates will be a whole class decision and will be given in advance. You are given 4 unexcused absences for this course. **The 5th unexcused absence will result in an automatic F** for the class. Absences that comply with university policy will be excused.

Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog and require appropriate documentation. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at: [UF Attendance Policies](#). It is essential that you attend class and are an active member of the class.

Institutional Policies

Recording Statement

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3)

as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or guest lecturer during a class session. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code. [UF IN-CLASS RECORDING](#)

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. [UF ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY](#)

Course Evaluations

Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at: <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email, they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at: <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>

Student Services

Health & Wellness

- U Matter, We Care
 - If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

- Counseling and Wellness Center
 - Visit the [Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
 - 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.
- Student Health Care Center
 - Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the [Student Health Care Center website](#).
- University Police Department
 - Visit [UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- GatorWell Health Promotion Services
 - For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the [GatorWell website](#) or call 352-273-4450.

Academic Resources

- E-learning technical support
 - Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.
- [Career Connections Center](#)
 - Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.
- [Library Support](#)
 - Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- [Teaching Center](#)
 - Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
- [Writing Studio](#)
 - 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
- Student Complaints On-Campus
 - Visit the [Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage](#) for more information.
- On-Line Students Complaints
 - View the [Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#).

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, [UF Disability Resource Center](#).