



AMBROSE  
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

FACULTY OF  
THEOLOGY

## **ICS 204 *Team Dynamics (onSite)* (3)**

**Winter 2009**

**Instructor: Dr. Emma Emgård**

**Assistant: Matt Russell**

### **Contacting the Instructor**

**Office:** # L 2047

**Office Phone:** 410.2000 ext 4903

**Email Address:** EEmgard@ambrose.edu

**Class Times:** Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:00-5:15

**Class Location:** A2212

**Email Address:** eemgard@ambrose.edu

**Email address Matt:** onsite@ambrose.edu

### **Course Description**

This course will examine team dynamics theories, including team formation process, decision making, conflict resolution, and creative aspects of team work. An important part of the course is applying theory to teams working cross-culturally. The students will use various diagnostics to assess their own preferred team role.

### **Course Objectives**

By the end of the course, the student should be able to

- understand the theoretical foundations for working in a team and be able to apply them
- understand the foundation for working in a cross-cultural team
- plan a mission trip, raise support and keep in contact with supporters
- define, understand, and apply the basics in cross-cultural communication
- define, understand, and cope with anxiety and uncertainty
- understand and be able to apply knowledge about confident living and ministering in a new culture
- demonstrate flexibility

### **Required Texts**

Cornes, Alan. *Culture from the Inside Out: Travel—and Meet Yourself*. Yarmouth, ME: Intercultural Press, 2004.

There will be an additional 500 pages of required reading related to assignments.

## TENTATIVE Course Schedule

January 6	Introduction, Q & A
January 8	The importance of sharing life story (Emma)
January 13	Team Building I
January 15	No class due to retreat
January 16-18	<b>Retreat</b>
January 20	No class due to retreat
January 22	Team Building II
January 27	No class due to retreat
January 29	Global Impact Day
February 3	Intercultural Communication I
February 5	Intercultural Communication II
February 10	The Importance of Trust and Openness
February 12	Budget and Support Raising
February 17, 19	No class—Reading Week
February 24	Financial Reporting
February 26	How to Thrive in a New Culture I
March 3	How to Thrive in a New Culture II
March 5	Dealing w. Culture Stress
March 10	The Importance of Trust and Openness
March 12	Spiritual Formation in the Midst of Chaos I
March 17	Spiritual Formation in the Midst of Chaos II
March 19	How to Learn a New Language
March 24	Raising Prayer and Financial Support
March 26	Conflict resolution I (culture)
March 31	Conflict resolution II (mentor)
April 2	onSite credits
April 7	“If something were to happen”
April 9	TBA
April 14	Final class and dinner @ Emma’s house

## Course Requirements

### ◆ onSite Preparation

- You will complete a Budget, Financial Reporting, DiSC, Conflict Resolution, Support Strategy, News Letter Critique, Language Learning, and onSite info. Further information will be given in class. Unless otherwise stated you will print a hard copy and hand it in to the reception before closing on the due date, note this goes to Matt Russell.
- For the news letter critique you will read 3 email updates and 3 different people’s blogs (two entries for each one) from current onSitters. You will write a list of Do’s and Don’ts relating to what you want to do for your own onSite communication. You will evaluate them based on whether or not the opening entry invited you to read on (or if it was

Jane Onthesite  
 Matt Russell  
 ICS 204 Team Dynamics  
 January 15, 2009  
 Article read:  
[http://www.ifacca.org/international\\_news/2008/10/06/culture-cambodia-we-dont-have-film-industry/](http://www.ifacca.org/international_news/2008/10/06/culture-cambodia-we-dont-have-film-industry/)  
 Experience: Video The Killing Fields

This movie shook me. I had no idea about the horror that happened to parents of the youth I will be working with in Cambodia.

boring!), grammar and spelling, appealing layout, length, amount of detail, etc. You need to be very specific in your evaluation. You must include the names of the different students you critiqued, and the dates of the email/blog entry. Obviously, this assignment will not be shared with current onSitters. When you have been on onSite for a few months we will return this assignment to you—to remind you what you aimed for in your communication. Thus, this assignment must be emailed to Emma. In order to get any points for the assignment you must state in the subject line: **ICS 204, email critique, and your own name**. If you do not state this in the subject line you will receive an automatic 0 for the assignment.

- For the language learning you will learn to say a few sentences in your onSite language, you will put them on You-tube and will be graded on pronunciation by local speakers. You will discover and learn how to say: “Hello, my name is ... and I come from Canada. Soon I will go to .... I will spend 7 months there. I want to learn to speak ... but this is all I know right now. Thank you. Good-bye.” You will inform Matt (onsite@ambrose.edu) when your entry is on You Tube.

#### ◆ **Cultural Experiences**

- You will do seven of the following experiences (spaced out over the semester) **in a culture similar to your onSite host culture**. (If your cultures are similar, you can do the visit with another onSite student.) You will also read one article related to each experience. The aim is to learn about the culture, and to observe and learn about your own reactions through this analysis.
- Write-up
  - Analyze the experience in light of the article and report about all your insights in a two page paper, single spaced, for each experience. End with a short paragraph where you explain how you think this knowledge will help you adapt to living in your onSite nation.
  - You will not have a cover page but use the format shown in the picture.
- Experiences to choose from
  - Attend a church service (without English translation.) If appropriate, before the service, tell the pastor or greeter that you are doing a cultural experience, so that they do not feel they need to translate for you.
  - Attend a non-Christian religious service and interview the religious leader.
  - Visit a market/store that caters to your host culture. Buy/try something edible that you have never eaten before.
  - View a cultural movie (at first without English subtitles, then a second time with subtitles).
  - Listen first to some traditional and then some modern music from the culture.
  - Attend a cultural event (you will research local organizations here in Calgary and ask for permission to attend).
  - Visit a restaurant and eat a main dish or entry which you have never eaten before.
  - Visit a museum or art exhibition.
  - Visit the home of a person from the culture.

◆ **Event**

- As a team you will provide and host a breakfast or luncheon for 10-12 specially invited guests. You will choose one culture and everything related to the meal/event will reflect that one culture. You will make invitations, the meal/snacks, decorate a room, and have some form of appropriate entertainment. The event from the beginning to end must be no more than 60 minutes—the guests all have busy schedules and thus will have other appointments after the event. More information will be given in class. This assignment will require major organization and team work.
- You will also write a one page single spaced analysis about what you learned about yourself and teamwork.

◆ **PowerPoint Presentations**

- You will prepare ten different power point presentations—one for each team member. The length of each production is no more and no less than **eight** minutes. The presentations will enhance your sharing with supporters what you will be doing on *OnSite*.
- You will research about your designated nation, city and ministry. You will include: geography, very brief history, whether conditions, demographics, economics and industry, social problems, issues regarding modern slavery, missional update, as well as information about the ministry you will be doing and your budget.
- In order to obtain all this information you will read books, articles, use the internet, contact embassy and travel agencies, and you will interview at least three people from that culture (two of them can be knowledgeable missionaries) to find information, and be in contact with your mentor.
- You must use the automatic timing for the PowerPoint.
- You will end with a slide for Works Cited. (You probably will not use this slide for your support raising but it is needed for the academic assignment.)
- You will be graded on how well organized and interesting and creative the presentation is, how informative, factual, as well as how personal. It must communicate excitement to the audience. You will receive negative points if the PowerPoint goes over time, does not work on the computer, the sound does not work etc.

◆ **Final Exam**

- The exam will deal with the theoretical aspects of the class. It will cover the lectures, text books, and all other readings.

**Course Grade and Due Dates**

- The grade for this course is a team grade—the whole class will receive the same grade, except for the Final Exam, where you write as individuals and thus will have individual grades.
- A team grade means that you can help each other out on any assignment except the final exam.

- A significant part of learning a new culture is to know your own and to know your own strengths and weaknesses. An important aspect of preparing for onSite is to learn to budget your time and to check-up on of your fellow onSitters well-being, in this case make sure they are on time with their assignments. Canada is a punctual culture and thus there will be no extensions on any assignment.
- **In order to get a passing grade everyone in the class must complete all the assignments.**

	Percentage	Due Date
Budget & Financial Reporting	3	March 5
DiSC, Conflict Resolution	3	January 13
News Letter Critique	3	January 22
Support Strategy	3	March 3
Language Learning	3	April 2
onSite info (required information returned to the office)	3	April 10
Cultural Experiences	28	1 <sup>st</sup> January 22 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 3 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 12 4 <sup>th</sup> February 26 5 <sup>th</sup> March 12 6 <sup>th</sup> March 26 7 <sup>th</sup> April 9
Event	20	TBA
PowerPoint Presentations	9	April 13
Final Exam	25	April 17
	100	

### Important Notes

- ◆ For information about the last day to enter course without permission and/or voluntarily withdraw from course without financial penalty and the last day to voluntarily withdraw from course or change to audit without academic penalty see current academic calendar.
- ◆ It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to Ambrose Academic Policies, such as the policy on Academic Dishonesty, which are stated in the current Catalogue.
- ◆ Late policy: Late policy:
  - Any assignment that is not emailed on time (at midnight) will receive a penalty of 10% for the first day and then 3% for each of the following 10 days (including holidays). After that the paper will receive 0 points, unless otherwise stated in the syllabi. (This penalty relates to any assignment.) Papers received five minutes past midnight is considered one day late. Please be aware that the library is closed on Friday nights and make sure you have all the info you need in order to send the assignment on time.