



AMBROSE
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

FACULTY OF
THEOLOGY

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

Winter 2010

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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 5	Introduction, Q & A
January 7	The importance of Trust and openness I
January 12	The importance of Trust and openness II
January 14	<i>No class in lieu of retreat</i>
<i>January 15-17</i>	Retreat
January 19	<i>No class in lieu of retreat</i>
January 21	Team Building I
January 26	Team Building II
<i>January 28</i>	<i>Community Day</i>
February 2	Budget and finances
February 4	How to Thrive in a New Culture I
February 9	How to Thrive in a New Culture II
February 11	How to Thrive in a New Culture III
<i>February 15-19</i>	<i>Reading Week</i>
February 23	Dealing w. Culture Stress I
February 25	Dealing w. Culture Stress II
March 2	Spiritual Formation in the Midst of Chaos I
<i>March 4</i>	<i>No class in lieu of retreat</i>
March 9	Raising Prayer and Financial Support
March 11	Conflict resolution I (culture)
March 16	Conflict resolution II (mentor)
<i>March 18</i>	<i>No class in lieu of retreat</i>
March 23	Ron B. guest speaker
March 25	Raising Prayer and Financial Support
March 30	onSite credits
April 1	onSite History and Culture Dr. Kyle Jentzen
April 6	“If something were to happen”
April 8	Final dinner @ Emma’s house (no class @ 4)

Course Requirements

All assignments will be posted on moodle by 5:00 on the due day. You cannot for any reason submit an assignment any other way.

◆ onSite Preparation

- You will complete a Budget, Financial Reporting, DiSC, Conflict Resolution, Lingenfelter and Mayers cultural test, Support Strategy, News Letter Critique, Language Learning, and onSite info. Further information will be given in class.
- News Letter Critique
 - You will read 3 email updates and 3 different people’s blogs (two entries for each one) from current onSiders. 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 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.

◆ **Cultural Experiences**

- You will do seven of the following experiences (spaced out over the semester) 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. You will do three experiences in three groups (note, you will have to change group for each experience), the other experiences you will do individually. Four experiences are prescribed and you will choose three more from a list below. You cannot choose an option if you have had a previous experience of a similar situation.
- Write-up
 - Analyze the experience in light of the article and report about all your insights in a one-to-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. Include the article you read and reference.
- Experiences everyone must do – done in three groups
 - Attend a Catholic or some Eastern European Orthodox church. See appendix for questions to answer.
 - Attend a service at a Sikh, a Hindu or a Buddhist temple. See appendix for questions to answer. Note, you are not to actually do what they do, but observe.
 - Visit a small store that caters to people from a different part of the world. Each group must visit a store from a different ethnic background. Bring back something to eat for the next class. See appendix for questions to answer.
- Life Story: everyone must do individual life stories.
 - Each person in the class will make friends with one person from a different nation. You cannot use a person you already know, but you can introduce them to someone else in the class. You will meet with this person at five different times, each time about 20 minutes. You will need to ask for this time commitment before the first meeting begins. See the appendix for questions to ask.
- Individual experiences, you will choose three from among these.
 - 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.
 - 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.

◆ **Cultural Portfolio**

- During your time on onSite you will collect cultural information. This assignment is designed to begin that process. During the semester you will set up a system for how to collect and organize the data. You will collect one short children's story, five proverbs or sayings (literally translated into English and explained), learn some dinner etiquette, learn how to greet a teacher, an older person, a teen ager and a child, and something in five other different categories. More information will be given in class.
- The information you gather must be from the onSite culture in which you are going to live during your onSite. By the time you return from onSite you will have a large amount of cultural data.
- You will have at least ten different sources for this assignment. You must include information gathered from your mentor, from a person born in that nation, at least three books, and the rest can be online information.

◆ **Hosting a Luncheon**

- As a team you will provide and host light luncheon for 8 specially invited guests. You will make invitations, the meal, decorate a room, and have some form of appropriate entertainment, and you will do a creative presentations of yourself and of onSite—you should know that some of the guest are not familiar with onSite. The event from the beginning to end must take no more than 20 minutes—the guests all have busy schedules and thus will have other appointments after the event. Please be aware that you must time this perfectly. This assignment will require major organization and team work. Since we are not allowed to bring outside food to an event, the menu must be unique (thus you cannot serve anything that could be bought in the cafeteria) and yet very tasteful. Choose the date and time as soon as possible but note that it must be a time that fits with the president and all the students must attend. More information will be given in class.
- The guests to invite are
 - Ms. Cyndy Ingram
 - Dr. Emma Emgård
 - Ms. Helen Thiesen
 - Mr. Howard Wilson
 - Ms. Kara Rautenberg
 - Dr. Kyle Jentzen
 - Ms. Wally Rude
 - One of the fundraisers for Ambrose

- You will also write a one page single spaced analysis about what you learned about yourself and teamwork.
- You will be graded on the apparent preparation that went into the event, the creativity in the invitations, room decoration, the quality and uniqueness of the food, the presentation of the food, the quality of the program, the quality of your individual service and presentation of the program.

◆ **PowerPoint Presentations**

- You will prepare seven different power point presentations—one for each team member. The length of each production is no more and no less than **six** 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, to find information.
- 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 interesting and creative the presentation is, how informative, well organized, how 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 classroom 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. It will be an open book exam, thus you all must purchase the book since you cannot share books during the exam.

Course Grade and Due Dates. Assignments are due in the moddle at 5:00 pm.

Please note that the due dates do not always coincide with class times.

	Percentage	Due Date
Budget & Financial Reporting	2	March 5
DiSC, Conflict Resolution	2	January 27
News Letter Critique	2	January 8
onSite info (required information returned to the office)	1	April 8
Cultural Experiences	28	1 st January 15 2 nd February 5 3 rd February 12 4 th February 26

		5 th March 19 6 th March 26 7 th April 1
Cultural Portfolio	10	April 9
Hosting a Luncheon	20	TBA
PowerPoint Presentations	8	April 30
Final Exam	27	TBA
Total	100	

- 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.
- For each assignment you will be designated the average grade between the highest and the lowest points of the individual submissions.
- 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.**

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 posted on moodle by 5:00 pm on the due date will receive a penalty of 10% for the first day and after that it will be given 0 points. Papers received five minutes past 5:00 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 assignments on time.