



**ICS 205 Intercultural Communication
Fall 2006**

Class Schedules:

Wednesdays & Fridays 2.30 – 3:45

Classroom: TBA

Online classroom:

Instructor

Emma Emgård, eemgard@auc-nuc.ca,

Office: # 533 Office Phone: 410-2000 ext 4903

Course Description:

In this course we will deal with foundational principles for communication between people from different cultures. You will learn to be aware of the influence of thinking processes, worldviews, verbal and non-verbal behaviors.

What we think about communication has consequences for how we communicate. Regardless of whether we relocate to a different nation and speak to people we meet there or if we speak with a co-worker in our hometown, we have probably crossed some cultural border. Therefore, everyone needs to be aware of the principles involved in cross-cultural communication.

After completing the course, you should be able to:

- explain the importance of cross-cultural communication.
- explain basic components of cross-cultural communication.
- explain the importance of cross-cultural communication to change, transformation and conversion.
- identify personal traits in your perception of reality and explain how these traits affect communication.
- evaluate different means and models of communication.
- suggest how to apply principles of cross-cultural communication in daily life.

Textbooks

Klyukanov, Igor E. *Principles of Intercultural Communication*. Boston, Pearson, 2005.

Achebe, Chinua *Things Fall Apart*. Johannesburg, Heinemann, 1958.

And either:

Hosseini, Khaled *The Kite Runner*. Ancor Canada 2003.

Or

Nafisi, Azar *Reading Lolita in Teheran: A Memoir in Books*. New York, Random House, 2004.

TENTATIVE Course Schedule

Date	Topic
September	
6	What is Intercultural Communication and Why Study it?
8	Jesus Style Communication
13	Anxiety and Uncertainty
15	Movie
20	Movie continued
22	Cultural Differences I
27	Cultural Differences II
29	Cultural Differences III
October	
4	Cultural Differences IV
6	“Things Fall Apart” Discussion
11	Cultural Identity I
13	Cultural Identity II
18	Stereotypes, Prejudice & Privilege I
20	Stereotypes, Prejudice & Privilege II
25	<i>No class—Missions Emphasis Day</i>
27	Stereotypes, Prejudice & Privilege III
November	
1	Shame, Guilt and Saving Face
3	Conflict
8	Verbal, Non-Verbal Communication & Interpreting Messages I
10	No class—Winter break
15	Verbal, Non-Verbal Communication & Interpreting Messages II
17	Verbal, Non-Verbal Communication & Interpreting Messages III
22	Class presentations
24	Class presentations
29	Verbal, Non-Verbal Communication & Interpreting Messages IV
December	
1	Verbal, Non-Verbal Communication & Interpreting Messages V
6	TBA
8	TBA
13	Catch-up

Course Requirements

All written assignments must be submitted via the drop box in the “online classroom” at the latest by midnight. Submissions 1 minute past midnight are one day late.

1. Active Class Participation

Active participation means more than being present and on time; it means that you actively interact in the class discussion.

- You will automatically receive 1% for attending class and responding when called upon. If you want higher points you will do frequent and relevant interaction. In order to receive 5%, your interaction must show outstanding insights.

2. Book Reviews

You will read two novels from the required list.

- Report on *Things Fall Apart*: you will participate in a class discussion about how we communicate the gospel, and you will write a two page report analyzing the book from a missiological communication point of view.
- Report on the second novel: you will write a two page paper comparing how the book culture dealt with an issue and compare it to how your own culture deals with it. Draw out what you have learned from the book culture, things that you need to include in your own life. You will choose one of the following topics: shame, silence, saving face, or conflict resolution.

3. Research Paper

You will choose one of the following topics: shame, silence, saving face, or conflict resolution. Note, you can not use the same topic you choose for analyzing your second novel. You will research how your issue is dealt with in three significantly different cultures: your own, one you have some familiarity with and, one completely unfamiliar. You are expected to spend about twenty hours in research and writing.

- Write up: (Use MLA format)
 - Begin with an introduction where you share why you chose your topic and the three cultures. Remember, an interesting opening will get the reader excited and is more likely to give you a good grade!
 - In the main body of the paper you analyze the topic, give general understanding and discuss the differences in your three cultures. You must include relevant insights from the three textbooks. You should integrate insight from at least ten additional different sources.
 - In the conclusion you do not add any new information, just bring it all together and give the reader a "so what?", what have you learned from this research?
 - You will include a Title Page and a References Cited (for a sample of Title Page see the end of this syllabus.)
- Grading: you will be graded on quality of content, the flow of the paper, English grammar and spelling.

4. Group Project

In groups of three you will research the culture of a new Canadian, using both library and field research. You will do a class presentation in addition to a written report. You can choose to research:

- Muslims from the Middle East or North Africa
- Muslims from Asia (normally Folk Muslims)
- Buddhists from Asia
- Sikhs from the Indian Subcontinent
- Hindus from the Indian Subcontinent
- Orthodox from Eastern Europe
- Library research: your group will research immigration statistics, (numbers, trends, demographics, etc) reasons for migration, location of the new Canadian. You will read twenty pages dealing with religious beliefs, and twenty pages about their homeland.
- Field research: your group will visit a neighborhood in Calgary, conduct interviews, visit a market, listen to music, attend a religious service and taste some cultural food. You will also analyze what your own local church does in order to reach out to the new Canadians.
 - Bear in mind that you are not judging the culture but you want to learn all you can about the new Canadian. Always be courteous and friendly. This is not a time for sharing the Gospel; this is a time to gather information. You must submit your questions for the religious leader to Emma before you conduct that interview.
- Class presentation
 - You will do a thirty minute presentation (minus points if you go more than one minute over time). You will be graded on creativity and quality of information, and use of time and apparent preparation. Bring something typical for the class to eat.
- Written report
 - You will write a well integrated four-to-five page pamphlet that could be used to introduce a group of Christians to your culture—helping them to love, understand and reach this group. You will be graded mainly on the quality of content, but also on layout, English grammar and spelling.

5. Additional Assignments

During the semester we will watch a couple of movies, and conduct some impromptu research around the school, and do one biblical study. Normally you will do a one page write up where you analyze the experience. More information will be given in class. Due dates: seven days after the assignment is announced.

Grading and Due Dates

	Due date	% of grade
Active class participation	N/A	5
Research Paper	December 1	30
Book Reviews	October 6, November 15	20
Group Project	November 22 and 24	30
Additional Assignments	TBA	15
Total		100%

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
A+		93-100
A	Excellent	85-92
A-		80-84
B+		77-79
B	Good	73-76
B-		70-72
C+		67-69
C	Satisfactory	63-66
C-		60-62
D+		55-59
D	Minimal Pass	50-54
F	Failure	below 50

Important Notes:

Late policy: An assignment that is not submitted on time will receive a penalty, 10% for the first day (note: a paper submitted one minute past midnight is considered one day late) and then 3% for each of the following 10 days (including holidays). After that the paper will receive 0 points. (This penalty relates to any assignment.)

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies of as are stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar.

Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@auc-nuc.ca.

The last day to enter a course without permission and /or voluntary withdrawal from a course without financial penalty: 15 September 2006. The last day to voluntarily withdraw from a course or change to audit without academic penalty: 15 November 2006.

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a "Course Extension." Alternative times for final examinations cannot be scheduled without prior approval. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the

appropriate deadline. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise “due to circumstances beyond the student’s control.”

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar and the Student Handbook that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean.

Students are advised to retain this syllabus for their records.

CATCHY BUT INFORMATIVE TITLE

By
Your Name

Mailbox
1234

Email

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
Intercultural Communication ICS 205

Dr. Emma Emgård
December 10, 2006