



## Course Outline

### BASIC COURSE INFORMATION

**Course Number:** COMM 212  
**Course Title:** INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION  
**C-ID Number:** C-ID COMM 150

Total Student Hours and Credit		Hours/Week	Hours/Term
Lecture Hours	in-class	3.00	54.00
	out-of-class	6.00	108
Lab Hours	in-class		0
	out-of-class	0	0
Activity Hours	in-class		0
	out-of-class	0	0
TBA Hours Per Term			0
Total Student Hours Per Term:			162.00
Hours-per-unit Divisor			54.00
Units of Credit:			3.00

Fall semester term is 18 weeks. Spring semester term is 17 weeks. The term length multiplier is 17.5 weeks.  
Curriculum is calculated based on 18 weeks.

### **Catalog Description:**

Focuses on the importance of culture and its effect on communication. Examines interactive patterns of communication across various cultural contexts (international, ethnic, gender, and class) and assess different methods and techniques of adapting communication to enhance and overcome the difficulties of intercultural communication. Analyzes how cultures adapt, borrow, communicate verbally and non-verbally, and are represented in a diverse world.

### **Schedule Description:**

Focuses on the theory, practice, and analysis of intercultural communication with an emphasis on international, ethnic, gender, and class relationships. Advisory: Eligibility for ENGL 201A. Transfer: CSU; UC.

### **Advisories:**

- Eligibility for ENGL 201A

**Division:** Languages & Communications  
**Department:** Communication Studies  
**Minimal Qualification  
Discipline Designation  
(MQDD):** Communication Studies  
**Degree Applicability:** Credit - Degree Applicable  
**Methods of Instruction:**

- Lecture and/or discussion
- Distance Education

**Grading Method:**

- Letter Grade or P/NP

**Repeatability:**

**Course Cap:** 28

**Face-to-Face Modality  
Limit:** 28

**DE Modality Limit:** 28

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

1. Identify how basic verbal and non-verbal communicative traits of other cultures potentially creates biased perceptions of ourselves and others
2. Illustrate sensitivity to and understanding of other cultural contexts with special emphasis given to ethnicity, gender and class
3. Demonstrate self-reflexivity in interactions when communicating with diverse members from different races, ethnic groups, genders, religions, sexual orientations, classes, abilities, nationalities, or ages
4. Identify institutional and social power and how it influences struggles of non-dominant groups for power, justice, and access to resources.

**COURSE CONTENT**

**Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Recognize and articulate how core values, worldview, and communication patterns shape cultural and individual identity within categories of identity, such as race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, class, ability, nationality, or age.
  - Class Performance(s)
  - Essay Exams
  - Field Work
  - Group Work

- Internet Research
  - Performance Exams
  - Quizzes/Exams
  - Term or Other Papers
  - Written/Typed Homework
2. Critique, analyze, and challenge individual and institutional prejudices, as well as discriminatory practices.
    - Class Performance(s)
    - Essay Exams
    - Field Work
    - Group Work
    - Internet Research
    - Performance Exams
    - Quizzes/Exams
    - Term or Other Papers
    - Written/Typed Homework
  3. Explain how culture influences verbal and nonverbal communication and how it potentially creates biased perceptions of ourselves and others.
    - Class Performance(s)
    - Essay Exams
    - Field Work
    - Group Work
    - Internet Research
    - Performance Exams
    - Quizzes/Exams
    - Term or Other Papers
    - Written/Typed Homework
  4. Analyze the social and psychological variables of culture and its expression within and between races, ethnic groups, genders, religions, sexual orientations, classes, abilities, nationalities, or ages.
    - Class Performance(s)
    - Essay Exams
    - Field Work
    - Group Work
    - Internet Research
    - Performance Exams
    - Quizzes/Exams
    - Term or Other Papers
    - Written/Typed Homework
  5. Discuss the diverse ways of thinking, perceptions and interpretations when analyzing the struggles of non-dominant groups for power, justice, and access to resources.
    - Class Performance(s)
    - Essay Exams
    - Field Work
    - Group Work
    - Internet Research
    - Performance Exams
    - Quizzes/Exams

- Term or Other Papers
  - Written/Typed Homework
6. Compare and contrast cultural communication strategies in various contexts when interacting with diverse members from different races, ethnic groups, genders, religions, sexual orientations, classes, abilities, nationalities, or ages.
    - Class Performance(s)
    - Essay Exams
    - Field Work
    - Group Work
    - Internet Research
    - Performance Exams
    - Quizzes/Exams
    - Term or Other Papers
    - Written/Typed Homework
  7. Recognize barriers to effective intercultural competencies such as stereotyping, prejudice, and ethnocentrism.
    - Class Performance(s)
    - Essay Exams
    - Field Work
    - Group Work
    - Internet Research
    - Performance Exams
    - Quizzes/Exams
    - Term or Other Papers
    - Written/Typed Homework
  8. Identify elements of common ground among diverse cultures.
    - Class Performance(s)
    - Essay Exams
    - Field Work
    - Group Work
    - Internet Research
    - Performance Exams
    - Quizzes/Exams
    - Term or Other Papers
    - Written/Typed Homework

### **Topics & Scope:**

1. Theories and principles of intercultural communication.  
(Obj 1, 8)
2. Components of culture
  1. Worldview
  2. Core values/beliefs
  3. Norms and roles
  4. Assimilation, enculturation
  5. Ethics and morals
 (Obj 1, 2, 4, 5, 7)
3. Components of communication

1. Language
2. Nonverbal codes
3. Perception
4. Competencies

(Obj 3, 4, 6, 8)

4. Barriers to Intercultural communication

1. Ethnocentrism
2. Stereotyping
3. Prejudice
4. Discrimination
5. Power
6. Culture shock

(Obj 1, 2, 7)

5. Social and Psychological Variables

1. high context/low context
2. individualism/collectivism
3. power distance
4. the relationship between humans and nature
5. similarities and differences in communication patterns

(Obj 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8)

**Assignments:**

Examples of independent assignments to fulfill 108 total hours of required out-of-class work:

1. Analytical essays: Self-evaluation reviews, Popular Culture reviews (Obj 1, 2, 4, 8)
2. Field work assignments/Journals (Obj 1, 2, 4, 7, 8)

Class participation and assignments require and develop critical thinking.

1. Group presentations (Obj 3, 5)
2. Formulate various approaches to different intercultural contexts, and evaluate and choose an appropriate communicative strategy. (Obj 1, 3, 6)
3. Assess various elements of intercultural communication that may lead to or result in problems as well as assess a means to resolve those problems with special emphasis given to ethnicity, gender and class. (Obj 1, 3, 4, 5)
4. Examine and assess the effects that verbal, non-verbal and paralinguistic codes have on intercultural communication with respect to ethnicity, gender, class, culture and subculture. (Obj 2, 3)

**Methods of Evaluation:**

- Written/Typed Homework
- Term or Other Papers
- Field Work
- Class Performance(s)
- Group Work
- Internet Research

- Quizzes/Exams
- Essay Exams
- Performance Exams
- Reading Reports

**Texts, Readings, and Materials:**

- **Textbooks**

Martin, J.N., T.K. Nakayama. *Intercultural Communication in Contexts* (4th/e).  
Mayfield Publishing, Toronto (2011).

Samovar, L.A., R.E. Porter, L.A. Stefani. *Communication Between Cultures* (8th/e).  
Wadsworth, New York (2013).

**Diversity Requirement**

**Yes**

The course explores the diversity of cultures which exist domestically and globally; how each culture has a unique method of communication, and how students’ perceptions of themselves and others are influenced by culture and communication patterns.

This course is currently approved for Diversity, but the outline has been updated to comply with C-ID requirements, as it is an option in the Comm Studies AA-T, and therefore must attain C-ID approval.

**IGETC Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences**

**C - Ethnic Studies**

**G - Interdisciplinary, Social & Behavioral Sciences**

**CSU GE Area D: Social, Political, and Economic Institutions and Behavior; Historical Background**

**D3 - Ethnic Studies**

Course currently approved by CSU for D3

**UC Transfer Course**

**University of California, Santa Barbara**

**CSU Transfer Course**

**California Polytechnic State University**