

# 1 Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

## MCC 630 Intercultural Patterns of Communication

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Visiting Professor of Missions  
Time: 7:30-8:45 a.m. Wednesday & Friday

Spring 2004

### COURSE SYLLABUS

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

An analysis of communication theory and the inherent problems encountered by a communicator attempting meaningful dialogue in a cross-cultural setting. Variations in basic values are seen as factors in interpersonal relations. Prereq: MCS/PTH 529 or equivalent.

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES

After completing this course students should be able to:

1. Identify how cultural variables influence communication.
2. Develop strategies to facilitate intercultural relationship formation.
3. Exhibit knowledge of intercultural skills applied to adaptation, relationship formation, ambiguity reduction, adjusting to differing communication styles, reducing conflict and creating social influence.
4. Train and educate others to develop positive intercultural relations.

#### TEXTBOOKS

##### **Required Textbook(s)**

Gudykunst, William B. *Bridging Differences: Effective Intergroup Communication*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2004.

Tarr, Del. *Double Image: Biblical Insights from African Parables*. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1994.

##### **Recommended Textbooks**

Dodd, Carley, H. *Dynamics of Intercultural Communication*. 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Boston: McGraw Hill, 1998.

Gudykunst, William & Young Yun Kim. *Communicating With Strangers: An Approach to Intercultural Communication*. New York: Random House, 1994.

## **BASIC OUTLINE**

1. Overview and introduction of materials
2. Fundamental Axioms of Intercultural Communication
3. Elements of Cultural Systems
4. Cultural Diversity Within Cultures
5. Underlying Dimensions of Culture
6. Linguistic Diversity and Intercultural Communication
7. Nonverbal Messages
8. Adapting to Culture
9. Competencies Associated with Intercultural Effectiveness
10. Communication and Conflict
11. Social Influence of Network Cultures and Information Flow
12. Media as a Source of Influence on Intercultural Communication
13. Innovation and Creating Planned Change

## **METHODOLOGY**

Lectures

Group interaction

Videos

Guest lecturers

Student presentations

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Completion of a 12-15 page research paper following seminary guidelines.

- A. There will be a reduction of one letter grade for papers turned in after the due date.
- B. The topic must be approved by the professor.
- C. Two copies will be submitted, one marked one returned.
- D. Details will be provided in a separate handout.

Reading of the required textbooks

Collateral readings with reports submitted following the Professor's style guide.

Successful completion of outside interviews. Details will be provided.

Completion of all exams

Active participation in class discussions and interactions

Attendance is required as per the seminary catalog.

## **GRADING PROCEDURE**

Required reading of both the textbook and collateral reading 20%

Research paper 30%

Two exams 40%

Participation in class and outside interviews 10%

## **SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- Asante, Molefi Kete, and William B. Gudykunst, eds. *Handbook of Intercultural Communication*. Newbury Park: Sage Publications, 1989.
- Engel, James F. *Contemporary Christian Communications: Its Theory and Practice*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1979.
- . *Getting Your Message Across*. Bloomington, IL: Media Associates International, 1988.
- Gudykunst, William B. *Bridging Differences.: Effective Intergroup Communication*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2004.
- , ed. *Intercultural Communication Theory: Current Perspectives*. Newbury Park: Sage Publications, 1983.
- , and Stella Ting-Toomey. *Culture and Interpersonal Communication*. Newbury Park: Sage Publications, 1988.
- , and Young Yun Kim. *Communicating With Strangers: An Approach to Intercultural Communication*. Newbury Park: Sage Publications, 1984.
- , and Young Yun Kim, eds. *Methods for Intercultural Communication Research*. Beverly Hills: Sage Publications, 1984.
- Hall, Edward T. *The Hidden Dimension*. Garden City, NY: Doubleday & Co., 1966.
- . *The Silent Language*. Garden City, NY: Doubleday & Co., 1959.
- Hesselgrave, David. *Communicating Christ Cross-Culturally: An Introduction to Missionary Communication*. Second. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1991.
- Kim, Young Yun, and William B. Gudykunst. *Theories in Intercultural Communication*. Newbury Park: Sage Publications, 1988.
- Kraft, Charles H. *Communicating the Gospel God's Way*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1979.
- . "God's Model For Cross-Cultural Communication --- The Incarnation." *Evangelical Missions Quarterly* 9 (summer 1973a): 205-16.
- . "The Incarnation, Cross-Cultural Communication, and Communication Theory." *Evangelical Missions Quarterly* 9 (fall 1973b): 277-84.
- Littlejohn, Stephen W. *Theories of Human Communication*. Columbus, OH: Charles E. Merrill Publishing Co., 1978.
- Nida, Eugene A. *Message and Mission: The Communication of the Christian Faith*. Revised. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library, 1990.
- Richardson, Don. "Finding the Freeway Into the Heart." *Evangelical Missions Quarterly* 15, no. 2 (April 1979): 89-96.
- Samovar, Larry A, and Richard E. Porter, eds. *Intercultural Communication: A Reader*. 7th ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing Company, 1994.
- Smith, Donald K. *Make Haste Slowly: Developing Effective Cross-Cultural Communication*. Portland, OR: Institute for International Christian Communication, 1984.

## **SPECIFIC DATA**

Prepared by Dr. Warren Newberry, November, 2003