

Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

MCC 630 INTERCULTURAL PATTERNS OF COMMUNICATION

COURSE SYLLABUS

Warren B. Newberry, D.Th.
Visiting Professor of Missions

Spring 2003

Time: 11:15-12:30 a.m. Wednesday & Friday

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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 adaption, 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

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

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

Recommended Textbook

Hesselgrave, David J. *Communicating Christ Cross-Culturally*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1991.

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

Rogers, Everett & Thomas Steinfatt. *Intercultural Communication*. Prospect Heights, Il.: Waveland Press, Inc., 1999.

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.

Collateral reading (500 pages minimum) with reports submitted following 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 15%

Research paper 30%

Two exams 40%

Participation in class and with outside interviews 15%

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*. Newbury Park: Sage Publications, 1991.
- , 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, December, 2002