

DEST 485
Intercultural and International Communications
GFC Hours 3-0
Winter 2023

Instructor: Dr. Marcia Jenneth Epstein

Location: SH 157

Phone: Use email

Days/Time: T/Th 11-12:15

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Office: SS316

Office hours: By appointment or after class

Prerequisite(s): Global Development Studies 393 or Development Studies 393

COURSE DESCRIPTION This seminar course examines intercultural communication at the personal, organizational, societal and international levels, including issues of language, power, identity and influence, as well as communication failures and why they happen. An attempt will be made throughout to develop the intercultural communication competence of students to prepare them for potential career trajectories. Student experiences will be an important part of the content.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology is committed to student knowledge and skill development.

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- approach intercultural dialogue with greater awareness and sensitivity;
- be better able to understand their own cultural perspectives as well as those of others;
- apply techniques to assess and navigate effectively within situations of cultural diversity;
- explain the reasons why communication breakdowns occur in international and intercultural settings;

- demonstrate an awareness of the role of communication in issues of social justice;
- articulate the impacts globalization and conflict are having on human communications today.

READINGS AND TEXTBOOKS:

Required: Suen, E. and Suen, B., *Intercultural Communication: A Canadian Perspective*. (Print or E-Book). E-books can be rented from the publisher, Canadian Scholars Press.

REQUIRED TECHNOLOGY and EQUIPMENT:

- Word processing software: Word is preferred.
- Visual content: Powerpoint.
- If you have technical difficulties, contact IT support services. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/student-campus-services-information-technologies-it.html>

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

Assignments and Evaluation (see Instructions below)	Due
Ethics Statement -----	10% January 19
Topic abstract & annotated bibliography-----	15% January 31
Seminar Presentation 1 -----	15% February 16
Midterm Essay -----	15% February16
(posted), March 2 (due)	
Seminar Presentation 2 (presentation + document) -----	20%. March 21-23
Participation: Posts re: presentations, discussions in class --	10% Entire term
Final Essay -----	15% April 4 (posted)
	April 11 (due).

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination: No

Instructions for assignments:

Ethics statement: Following the discussion and readings at the beginning of the course, write a statement (1-2 pages) describing the ethical guidelines you will use to inform your practices with intercultural communication. What are the relevant guidelines and boundaries? Why are they recommended? How might they apply to situations you have already studied or experienced?

Project group formation: Each group would ideally include a mix of majors from the DEST, COMS, and International Relations programs, to enable cross-pollination of perspectives and skills. With a very small class, this is unlikely – but please keep the value of previous experiences in mind.

Abstract & Annotated Bibliography: The Abstract is a description of your group's topic, in as much detail as you can manage (it doesn't have to be totally precise because this is just the first stage), and a plan for how you intend to approach the topic and divide the work.

The bibliography should include a minimum of 3 sources per member of your group with an annotation for each source. The annotation should describe the general focus of the source (not the entire content of a book), and how it will be useful to your project. (1-2 concise paragraphs for each entry). Legitimate sources can be books, scholarly articles, reliable news sources, documentary films & videos, blogs, and websites -- it depends on your topic. Personal experience from travel or volunteer work can also be included. Please consult the Library databases as your first step: Google and Wikipedia are not sufficient by themselves.

The average document will be 3-5 pages in length.

Seminar presentations: Each group will prepare two audio-visual presentations to the class of approximately 30 minutes in length (total, for each project), and submit on D2L:

- a summary document with full citation of sources
- a brief statement from each member of the group of what you learned from the project.

These will be submitted in the D2L Dropbox. Your visuals (Powerpoints) will be submitted to the D2L Discussion Board, so that all students can see them (see instructions for Participation, below). *All documents should be submitted in Word or Powerpoint.*

Midterm and Final Essays: A topic that exemplifies an issue in communication or miscommunication will provide a focus for analysis, commentary, and/or problem-solving. Topics will be posted in 2-3 weeks in advance of the due date (see Schedule). The average document will be 2-3 pages in length for the Midterm, 4-5 pages for the Final. Both essays will be submitted in the D2L Dropbox.

Note: Late assignments may be penalized 5% per day, including holidays and weekends. All assignments must be submitted to the Dropbox on D2L unless otherwise specified.

Reappraisal of Graded Term Work: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

Reappraisal of Final Grade: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

Department of Anthropology and Archaeology Grading Scheme:

A+	95 – 100%	B+	80 – 84.9%	C+	67 – 70.9%	D+	55 – 58.9%
A	90 – 94.9%	B	75 – 79.9%	C	63 – 66.9%	D	50 – 54.9%
A-	85 – 89.9%	B-	71 – 74.9%	C-	59 – 62.9%	F	< 50%

*****Please note that no extra credit or ‘make up’ work is available in this class*****
You do not need to pass each course component to earn a passing grade in the class

Land Acknowledgement

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology acknowledges the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta, which includes the Blackfoot Confederacy (comprising the Siksika, Piikani, and Kainai First Nations), as well as the Tsuut’ina First Nation, and the Stoney Nakoda (including the Chiniki, Bearspaw, and Wesley First Nations). The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3.

Acknowledgment and Respect for Diversity

The Department of Anthropology and Archaeology views diversity of identity as a strength and resource. Your experiences and different perspectives are encouraged and add to a rich learning environment that fosters critical thought through respectful discussion and inclusion.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit <https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/student-services/access>. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor or the Department Head. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Academic integrity is the foundation of the development and acquisition of knowledge and is based on values of honesty, trust, responsibility, and respect. We expect members of our community to act with integrity. The University Calendar includes a statement on the principles of conduct expected of all members of the university community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors, and volunteers), whether on or off university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary, and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html. Often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are (1) presenting another student's work as your own, (2) presenting an author's work or ideas as your own without adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

For students wishing to know more about what constitutes plagiarism and how to properly cite the work of others, the Department of Geography recommends that they attend Academic Integrity workshops offered through the Student Success Centre: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing. Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/intellectual-property-policy>

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

SUPPORTS FOR STUDENT LEARNING, SUCCESS, AND SAFETY

Please visit the Registrar's website at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success Centre
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Note: some dates may change to accommodate guest speakers.

1/10 Introduction: Course plans, questions, stories. *What is culture?*

1/12 Culture, communication, "difference", and why we get confused. Ethics statement instructions. Read: Suen & Suen, p. xvi through ch. 1.

1/17-19 Group formation & topic ideas, possible guest speaker. ***Ethics statement due.***
Read: S&S ch 2.

1/24 -26 Project planning: abstract & bibliography. Read: S&S ch. 3-4.

1/31-2/2 Discussion: S&S ch 1- 4. Read: S&S ch. 5. Possible guest speaker.

Abstract & bibliography due

2/7-9 TBA. Read: S&S ch. 6-7.

2/14 Discussion, ch.5-7. Review: Powerpoints and chapters.

2/16 **Presentations, round 1 (Define problem).**

Midterm essay topics posted.

2/18-26 *Reading Week*

2/28-3/2 Regrouping, Read: S&S ch. 8

Midterm essays due 3/2 by midnight.

3/7-9 TBA. Read: S&S ch. 9-10

3/14-16. TBA. Read: S&S ch. 11-12

3/21 -23 **Presentations, round 2 (Solve problem that was previously defined).**

3/28-30 TBA; review of chapters 8-12

4/4 Final essay topics posted; discussion of approaches.

4/6 TBA

4/11 Final meeting, Discussion of learning outcomes. *Final essays due by midnight.*

IMPORTANT DATES

M Jan 9	First day of Winter Term lectures
R Jan 19	Last day to drop a class without a financial penalty
F Jan 20	Last day to add or swap a course
F Jan 27	Fee payment deadline for Winter Term full and half courses.
Feb 20-24	Reading Break. No classes.
F Apr 7	Good Friday, University closed. No classes.
M Apr 10	Easter Monday, University closed. No classes.
W Apr 12	Winter Term Lectures End. Last day to withdraw with permission from Winter Term half courses.
Apr 15-26	Winter Final Exam Period

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html#fall2017>