

Cross-Cultural Communication in the United States
CMST 141
Dr. Robert Shuter

Fall 2005
Office: JH418
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Office Hours: Monday 12:00-2:20
 Wednesday 12:00-2:20

Course Objectives

1. Develop the students' understanding of cross-cultural dynamics that affect human communication.
2. Develop the students' analytical skills that will improve their relationships across cultures.

Requirements

1. Culture contact papers that focus in two different co-cultures in the U.S., and one self-reflection paper.

Paper 1 (Due Sept. 14, 3-6 pages)

An examination of prejudice(s) of yours regarding an ethnic group, race, or religion within the U.S. Try to uncover the origin of your group prejudice. Candor and depth are of paramount concern. Indicate how your attitudes may affect communication with the group.

Paper 2 (Due Oct. 26, 3-6 pages)

An examination of African American communication and intergroup relations

Paper 3 (Due Nov. 30, 3-6 pages)

An examination of Latin American/Native American/Asian American communication patterns.

For papers 2 and 3 you should try to examine a culture of which you are not a member.

Also, you should interview at least one member of that culture and read outside material on the culture.

2. Anything cross-cultural
3. Informant feedback sheets
4. Group presentation on a co-culture in the U.S.
5. Midterm and optional final exam
6. Cross-cultural simulation: **September 25, 2005** (Sunday evening), 4:00-6:30 p.m.

Readings

1. Our Voices(fourth edition)
2. Rodriguez, *A Hunger of Memory*
3. Readings provided in class

Absence Policy

Five absences permitted. Student will be dropped from class on the sixth absence.

Curriculum

Weeks 1-3

1. Cross-cultural models
2. Intergroup Attitudes and Intergroup Communication
3. Read: pp. 16-43(Voices); 50-56(Voices); 250-265(Voices)

Weeks 4-6

1. African American Communication and Intergroup Communication
2. Read: 61-73(Voices); 113-125(Voices); 183-197(Voices);

Weeks 7-10

1. Hispanic Cultures, Readings: *A Hunger of Memory* (entire book)
2. Read: 217-228(Voices); 126-134(Voices);
3. Group Presentations

Weeks 11-End

1. Asian American/Native American Communication
2. Read: 104-112(Voices); 153-159; 266-273