

Comm 7 Syllabus - Summer 2019

Comm 7 Course Description

A survey course that compares the communication of the following groups within the larger context of United States culture: African, Asian, Chicano/Latino, European, Indigenous Peoples of the Americas, and Middle Eastern. The course will focus on the interaction between members of different cultures. When appropriate, the course will also examine how issues of sexual orientation, age, religion, disability, and deaf culture structure the communication of all people. This class meets the UC Berkeley American Cultures Requirement.

Recommended Preparation: Eligibility for ENGL 1A.

Transferability: Comm 7 class satisfies the UC Berkeley American Cultures Requirement, IGETC area 4 and CSU GE area D

Required Text - Communication Between Cultures by Samovar, Porter & McDanniel Edition 9

Student Learning Outcomes for Comm7

1. Identify and analyze essential aspects of personal cultural identity.
2. Apply appropriate theories to analyze intercultural communication.
3. Communicate in a variety of contexts with increased sensitivity to diversity.

Course Topics and Scope

1. Intercultural communication vocabulary.
2. Listening with culture in mind.
3. Stereotyping, prejudice, and ethnocentrism as they relate to communication.
4. Cognitive styles and world view and their impact on communication.
5. Value dimensions of communication especially group interaction
6. The importance of language on communicating intercultural.
7. Co-Cultures and Argot (the language of a co-culture).
8. Non-verbal communication: Purpose and type
9. Non-verbal communication factors: time, silence, space/distance.
10. Communication styles, with a focus on a particular culture's communication style, for example, Japanese.
11. Application of intercultural communication theories in different areas of endeavor: business, education, medicine.

Assignments & Grading Criteria

Written Assignments - total 450 possible

All written assignments should be typed using 10 or 12-point font and double-spaced. You should use spell check, grammar check, proof read, and edit your papers before turning them in. Late papers will be marked down 10% each day after the due date. Turn your papers in on time! Please submit your work through Canvas.

➤ **Ethnographic self-study Essay – 100 out of 450 points**

This 5 page paper should answer the question, “who are you”? Use this assignment to analyze how culture has shaped your identity. Begin by analyzing your ethnic and/or racial background. Then select several additional aspects of culture to analyze.

➤ **Cultural Analysis Essay – 100 out of 450 points**

Write a 4 to 5 page essay in response to one of the following three options.

- A cross-cultural film or video
- A cross-cultural novel
- Go to a cultural event that is outside of any of your co-cultures

➤ **Journal – 100 out of 450 points**

You will write a one page journal entry every time we meet in class. They can be hand written or typed and should be a **full** page in length, at least 5 entries worth 10 points each for each journal check. There will be 2 journal checks each worth **50 points**.

- You can write about your reactions and insights to the readings, class activities, personal cross-cultural experiences, cross-cultural incidents in the news and any other cross-cultural related topics. Sometimes I will give you a topic or question to write about. Sometimes I won't. You are responsible for writing one page per day whether I give you a topic or not and whether you come to class or not. See schedule for due dates.

➤ **Team Project Prospectus – 100 out of 450 points**

Each individual will write a prospectus that will include an explanation of your portion of your team project, bibliography, and an outline of your part of the presentation. See schedule for due date

➤ **Team Study Guide – 50 out of 450 points**

Your group will write one 2 page summary of your presentation for your classmates to use as a study guide for the comprehensive final exam. All of your group member will receive the same grade. See schedule for due date.

Oral Presentations – total 150 points possible

➤ **Cultural Metaphor Speech – 50 out of 150 points**

In a 3 to 5 minute presentation you will talk about an object and explain how that object metaphorically represents your culture or co-culture. See schedule for due date.

➤ **Team Project – 100 out of 150 points**

You will choose a co-culture that can be found in Sonoma County that you want to investigate and analyze using the cross cultural theories discussed in class and in your text. The class will be divided into 4 to 6 groups each focusing on a different co-culture. Selection for the groups will be based on which co-culture you would like to study. Each team will have 60 minutes to teach the rest of the class what you have learned about the culture you choose to study. See schedule for due date.

Tests – total 300 points possible

➤ **Quizzes – 200 out of 300 points**

There will be one quiz for each chapter in your text book. Each quiz will be worth 20 points. There are ten chapters. You will take your quizzes on Canvas. You can take each quiz up to three times. You will get the highest score out of your three attempts. Go to the schedule page to find the reading assignment and the due dates. There are 11 chapters. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped.

➤ **Comprehensive Exam – 100 out of 300 points**

There will be a comprehensive essay exam. Details will be available the last week of class. See schedule for due date.

Participation – total 100 points

➤ **Participate Fully** in class discussions and exercises. Share your experiences, thoughts and ideas with your classmates. You must read the assigned chapters so you can contribute to the discussions. Because this is a communication course participation is vital! For this reason I take attendance during every class period.

➤ **Attendance** -If you are not present you cannot participate. Your participation grade will be affected if you are absent, arrive late and/or leave early.

➤ If you miss more than 10% of the class your grade will go down. There are about 50 hours in a semester long class, which means you can miss 5 hours of class without penalty. If you miss more than 5 hours of class 20 points will be deducted from your total points for every hour that you miss. That means you can miss two classes this summer session. If you miss 3 classes your grade will drop 60 points.

➤ **BE AWARE** - According to the SRJC Attendance Policy, "Instructors *may* drop students from any class when that student's absences exceed 10% of the total hours of class time". In this Comm7 course **if you miss 20% or more of the class you cannot pass** regardless of the quality and quantity of your work and I will drop you from the roster. That is 4 classes periods for this summer session class.

➤ **Tardies** - If you miss roll call you will be marked absent. Please come to talk with me after class on the day you are late to get it changed to a tardy. If you do not clear the absence on the day you are late I will not change it later! Don't be late. Do not disrupt class.

➤ You are responsible for assignments and information that you miss. You can check the website, send me an email, or talk to a classmate. You cannot make up presentations. If you are absent you will not get credit for assignments that you miss.

➤ **Homework** Be prepared when you come to class. Reading and homework activities should be completed before class so you can fully participate in class. All assignments must be turned in on time. Bring your student workbook to class every day.

Extra Credit – total 100 points possible

➤ You can write a second Cultural Analysis paper. Choose one of the options that you did not choose for the class assignment. For example if you did a video review for the Cultural Analysis Assignment, for extra credit you cannot watch and review another video, you must read a book or attend a cultural event. **Maximum 75 points.** Go to the schedule page to find the due date.

➤ You can also get extra credit for reporting on current events related to a cross-cultural encounter. Bring in a current article from a newspaper, magazine, journal or website and give a 1 to 2 minute summarization of the message for the class. Be prepared to explain the event, the cultures involved along with your opinion and/or analysis. You will get 5 points of extra credit for every current event report. **Maximum 25 points.**

Grading Criteria

There is a maximum of 1000 points. And there is a potential of receiving 100 extra credit points. You should save a copy of all papers before turning them in and you should also save and record returned papers. You can click on the gradebook button on the navigation bar to check on your grades. Please let me know ASAP if there are any discrepancies.

A grade = over 900 points

B grade = over 800 points

C grade = over 700 points

D grade = over 600 points

F grade = less than 599 points

Students are expected to follow Santa Rosa Junior College "Standards of Conduct" Go to the following link for more information. [Santa Rosa Junior College Standards of Conduct](#)