COMM 7 – Intercultural Communication
T – PC, SP 2020
Santa Rosa College
Professor John D. Perez
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COMM – 7 CRN 6566 (Hybrid)
1:00 – 3:00 PM, Room PC-696

Required Text: Ting-Toomey, S., & Chung, L. C. (2017) Understanding Intercultural Communication (2nd ed.). New York, NY: Oxford University Publishing.
ISBN: 978-0-19-97379-0

Course description: This survey course introduces students to the influence of culture on identity, perception, social organization, language and nonverbal messages in intercultural experiences in the United States. The course examines variations and commonalities in communication patterns across cultures.

Transfer Credit: CSU (CSU GE DSI), UC (IGETC Area 4)
C-ID: COMM 150
Student Learning Outcome's (SLO's *verified 1/27/20*):
1. Identify and analyze essential aspects of personal cultural identity.
2. Apply appropriate theories to analyze intercultural communication in the United States.
3. Communicate more effectively in intercultural communication situations.

Hybrid Course: This course is offered in multiple formats. It requires physical attendance in the classroom 2 hours per week and an additional 1.75 hours per week of required online class time for 14 weeks. Students must have regular access to the internet and be able to complete extensive assignments online. We will meet Tuesday afternoons in-person.

Electronic resources: It is imperative that you have access to reliable high-speed internet access and a laptop or computer. All assignments must be submitted online and you need access for research.

Canvas: In this section of COMM-7 grades and attendance will be tracked online in Canvas. To access your information, login to Canvas and enter your credentials. This will give you direct access to your assignments, discussion boards, as well as your cumulative grade for the semester. Do not email me attachments, these emails are deleted.

Speech anxiety: We will explore the types of reactions, how to manage this anxiety, and what to look for when identifying stressors. At the end of this course, you will have learned several techniques to help manage this anxiety and make you a better speaker. The key to being successful in this area is to try, push yourself, and not give up. It may be a bit uncomfortable, but you will get through it.

Instructional philosophy: This course will be highly interactive and you will be exposed to many different opinions with which you may or may not agree. We will learn from our commonalities as well as our differences. I invite you to learn together in a safe environment that respects other people's ideas, beliefs, values, and experiences. Let's expect the unexpected and enjoy the possibilities.

Office hours: Tuesday, Petaluma Campus 3:00 – 3:30 PM and online Thursdays, from 2:30-3:00 PM Please email me at jperez@santarosa.edu to request a meeting time.

ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE VIA CANVAS. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Instructor absence: If I have an unplanned absence and Core speeches are due that day, those scheduled speeches will be due the next class session. Core speeches originally assigned for that next class session will be moved forward one class session. I also send an email from Canvas.

Communication: Please contact me via email for the most efficient response. When contacting me via email, please include the basic information: Subject – Class time and section, formal greeting (Dear Mr. Perez), formal closure (Sincerely, Thank you, etc.). The best way to contact me is via Canvas mail. This tool connects your name, course, section number with your email. Please allow 48 hours for a response. Generally speaking, I do not reply to emails on Sunday. If you do not receive a response after 48 hours, please try sending me a note to my college email.

Methods: We will use a variety of tools to solicit feedback and measure performance; including quizzes, group activities, rehearsals, and final polished performances. It is important to stay current on the weekly readings as well as attend class. **You are responsible for the content in your text book!**

Participation: It is important to be an active participant throughout this course. During presentations, it is expected that all students will listen to the speech and be prepared to discuss topics, areas of improvement, as well as areas that worked well. This type of behavior will help you become a refined communicator. Points are awarded based on individual feedback, participation in class and group discussions and confidential peer critiques (these are required and part of your course final). Merely being present during class is not the same as participating in class activities, discussions, and the learning process. Whispering, studying, texting, snoring, social media/Facebooking, and/or blankly staring at me (and your classmates) will certainly result in losing points for the class. I will give you a warning, publicly or privately as the situation warrants, when your behavior becomes distractive and/or disengaged. Continued behavior will result in -3 points for each/every incident.

Class Etiquette/Netiquette: Be respectful of yourself and others by being polite. This being respectful online during discussions and speech critiques. You will be expected to use proper English, and critique performance behaviors and arguments, not individuals. Do not post offensive language, or threaten students online. If you are unsure, send me an email. If you fail to be respectful you will be given a warning, if you do not improve you will be referred to the Vice President of Student Services. Online communication is not restricted to discussion boards. There will be times you will need to work "offline" with a peer. These electronic interactions that are class based are subject to the course Netiquette rules. Remember, there is a person behind the screen reading your comments. Be nice, and have fun!

Electronic Recording Devices (ERDs): Students are not permitted to make recordings in class or in any campus meetings without the approval of the instructors involved. This includes online courses. Exceptions shall be made for students with disabilities who have permission from the Disabled Student Programs and Services.

ADA accommodations and accessibility: The College has an excellent Disabilities Services and Accommodation program. Students have the right to request reasonable modifications to college requirements, services, facilities or programs if their documented disability imposes an educational limitation or impedes access to such requirements, services, facilities or programs. A student with a disability who requests a modification, accommodation, or adjustment is responsible for identifying himself/herself to the instructor and, if desired, to the Disability Services Department (DSD) office. Students who consult or request assistance from DSD regarding specific modifications, accommodations, adjustments or use of auxiliary aids will be required to meet timelines and procedural requirements established by the DRD office. DRD website: https://drd.santarosa.edu/

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Due dates and times

Abstracts, Video Projects, and Research preparation assignments are due Sunday before 11:59 PM. If you submit at 11:59 PM you will receive a "late" stamp from Canvas and you will receive a substantial penalty (usually a 0). Canvas is the official time keeper for our class, if Canvas records your assignment as late, you receive the 0 grade. This is an automatic process.

Discussions and assignments due on class days are due 1 hour before class. NO EXCEPTIONS, please review the course schedule and plan your time accordingly.

Quizzes that are online are due before 11:59 PM on the respective due date. Do not take a quiz until you have been instructed to do so. Failure to read the instructions in Canvas will yield a 0 on the quiz. Read each quiz questions carefully. Do not cheat. It is not worth the penalty (see plagiarism for full details).

Speech performances- All four of our in-person speeches are assigned performance dates. You are empowered to take control of your performance date. You will have the option to select which date(s) and in what order you will perform. If you miss your performance date you will be placed at the end of the performance list. There is a 30% penalty for any missed performance. If you have a medical or family emergency, contact me via email as soon as you know. Sending an email after your missed performance time will result in a 30% penalty. If you know of a conflict, select a date that doesn't overlap with our performances. The final performance cannot be rescheduled as we will not have time.

Visual Aids- Also known as V.A.'s are any items used to assist in your speech performance. There are no V.A.'s permitted in the impromptu or oral interpretation of literature performances. V.A.'s are required for the persuasive speech and encouraged for the informative speech. While performance dates are broken over multiple classes, all V.A.'s are due one hour before the first speech day. If you miss uploading your V.A. you will receive a 25-point deduction. Late V.A.'s will receive a 10-point penalty.

General guidelines- As a reminder, you do not have to wait until the last minute to submit an assignment, most assignments are open for several days and weeks. DO NOT SUBMIT AT THE LAST MINUTE. If there is a time difference in Canvas, please notify me immediately, sometimes dates move around, but the above is a detailed description of due dates. If you are unsure, then ask me. Never assume I meant to give you "extra" time!

Missed/Late Assignments, Quizzes and Presentations: Any assignment submitted late will automatically be assigned a 0 by Canvas. If an assignment is turned in late (within 24 hours), I will grade the assignment with a 30-35% late penalty. For example, an assignment that is worth 5 points will only receive a 3 (assuming no other errors). A 10-point assignment will receive no more than a 7/10. Be proactive, plan ahead, and **COMMUNICATE** problems you foresee. Yes, life happens, but never assume I know what's going on in your personal life. If you are consistently asking for extensions there is a good chance something else is going on. This course has an assignment due every week (some weeks have multiple assignments, see Canvas for a complete and detailed list of assignments and due dates).

Research: In order to build your credibility, your speeches must be researched utilizing academic articles along with credible news sources. **I do not accept Wikipedia** as a source for speeches. Together we will examine the components of different types of interpersonal communication, and review how to support your thoughts and arguments through research.

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Editorial Style, Citations, and Modifications

Editorial style: In this section we will use **APA format for all references and citations**. This will be discussed in class, along with expectations and resources. Failure to submit documents without the required references and format will yield a failing grade.

Writing: There will be a fair amount of writing involved. In order to develop a speech, an outline is required, followed by a typed draft of your speech. The outline varies by speech type, and we will discuss in class when and how to use. ***Prior to performing any speech, you are required to submit your typed outline and final draft of your speech.***

APA format: In this section we will use APA format. It is expected that all of your formal submissions include a title page, abstract, reference page and appendix (when images are used). References should be in hanging text, sentence case and follow the APA guidelines. There are a few sources for help, and these are located under the pages and module sections in Canvas.

Modified APA: Some assignments use a modified version of APA. This is to save paper and help you meet the course requirements. There are a handful of assignments that are limited to one page, make sure you read the assignment guidelines carefully. All speech outlines are limited to one-page max. Other assignments that use modified APA include the library assignment and the California Propositions assignments. When in doubt, read the full description in Canvas. APA is a guide for publishing and since we are creating work for oral performances you will see more modifications throughout the semester.

Citations: In this section we will use APA format for all references and citations. This will be discussed in class, along with expectations and resources. Failure to submit documents without the required references and format will yield a failing grade. There is a detailed module in Canvas dedicated to APA citations. Please review this prior to asking questions. After reviewing this section in Canvas, bring questions to class and I will answer them.

Research: In order to build your credibility, your speeches must be researched utilizing academic articles along with credible news sources. I do not accept Wikipedia as a source for speeches. Together we will examine the components of different types of interpersonal communication, and review how to support your thoughts and arguments through research.

Earning points: You receive points for most items you submit and class participation. It is imperative that you check-in with me when you are late or miss a class. Here are some ways to earn points:

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Rubrics: There are two types of rubrics used in this course: Performance and non-performance rubrics. Performance rubrics are broken down into 15 to 20 areas of focus. These areas are customized for each performance and you are encouraged to review these PRIOR to performing. All performances focus on audience adaptation, memorization, structure, entertainment value, verbal and non-verbal delivery. In addition to these items, you are also graded on your ability to meet the speech performance times. All speech performances should be 5:15 – 5:45 in length.

Non-performance rubrics are customized for each assignment and are attached to the assignment within Canvas. These rubrics grade your submissions on structure, correct answer responses, and formatting. All typed work is reviewed for formatting, in many cases formatting is worth 40 – 50% of the assignment grade. All assignments have detailed instructions in Canvas and you are encouraged to read these instructions prior to submitting work.

Submission details: Generally, each assignment will have a detailed description of the expectations; follow these points to avoid point deductions. If something isn't clear in regards to submission details, here are some tips:
- All submitted assignments MUST be typed
- Modified APA or Full APA (extra credit for some assignments)
- Arial font, 12-point font only
- Proofread, grammar check
- Submitted only via Canvas only (any assignment sent via email receives a 0)
- Multiple submission for the same assignment will default to a 0 grade (this will not be reversed)

In the rare case something is submitted by hand, make sure multiple pages are stapled together. Papers without staples will not be accepted. **Save trees, submit online!** Additional assignment details are located in Canvas and ordered by due date.

In this course you will have access to documents that are formatted for screen readers and provided in MS Word and PDF formats. All of our videos are captioned and available for you to watch and re-watch at your leisure. If you need any additional support, you may contact our Disability Services office or send me an email for more guidance.

Feedback: In general, you will receive feedback for assignments that are worth 10 points of less within 72 hours. Assignments worth 15 to 150 points may take up to 9 days to grade. If you haven't received a grade after two weeks, please send me an email.

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Course assignments and descriptions:

THERE ARE FOUR MAIN PROJECTS IN THIS CLASS; FAILURE TO COMPLETE ANY OF THE FOUR "CORE" PROJECTS WILL RESULT IN A COURSE GRADE OF "F".

Chapter presentations- are short (performances) speeches that are based off of textbook content. These are designed to reinforce what you have read with your understanding of the content. You and your group will then present the information to the class using key terms, images, and anything else to help make your points. You will be required to perform four of these presentations with different partners.

My Big Fat Greek Wedding paper- are well-researched papers based on the concepts in the film *My Big Fat Greek Weeding*. We will view this film in class, discuss the characters and connect their behavior with the concepts and terms from the course text. This film focuses on intercultural communication, ethnocentrism, and family. These are themes we see in the news and in many intercultural relationships. Some of the content in this film focuses on stereo-types and will address how these stereotypes impact communication. You will be required to submit a paper that identifies text terms with the character behavior(s) from the film. See detailed description under the *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* assignment in Canvas. More information on *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0259446/

Babel paper- are well-researched papers based on the concepts in the film *Babel (2006)*. We will view this film at the end of the semester in class. Similar to the *My Big Fat Greek Weeding* paper, we will discuss the characters and connect their behavior with the concepts and terms from the latter part of the course text. This film focuses on discrimination, tragedy, and violence and cultural differences. These are themes we see in the news and in many intercultural relationships. The focus in this film is on conflict within intercultural relationships and the long-term effects. Some of the concepts, scenes and language used in this film is crude and vulgar, and to some offensive. This film is an excellent example of conflict, relationship dynamics and management. You will be required to submit a paper that identifies text terms with the character behavior(s) from the film. See detailed description under *Babel* Paper assignment in Canvas. Film details: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0449467/?ref_=nv_sr_1

Abstracts- You will be assigned 10 abstracts from your text. There is a module in Canvas with a template on how to complete the abstracts. If you do not follow the instructions you will receive a max grade of 70%. If you have questions, please ask. At the end of the semester you may submit an additional abstract for up to 10 points of extra credit. If you do not submit your abstracts you will have a difficult time passing this course with any grade above a C.

Out of class visit- You will be asked to visit a museum, show, performance or similar "culture" related event. You will be asked to type a synopsis of your experience and your connection with the course text. An example of this type of activity is viewing Shen Yun. See Canvas for complete details.

Peer review- You will be asked to type a two-paragraph summary of your specific interactions with your partners from this semester. This assignment is designed to help you identify differences in communication styles and ways to improve your own behavior. This assignment is a confidential way to express your honest opinions about your peers.

Occasionally, there will be group work in-class, and groups are always randomized.
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Grading: Your final grade will be determined by using the following percentage breakdown:

Letter Grade	Point Total	Percentage Total
A	630 – 700	90-100%
B	560 – 629	80-89%
C	490 – 559	70-79%
D	420 – 489	60-69%
F	> 419	0-59%

I do not round up, if you receive **629 points**, your final grade will be a B. I do not use +/- when reporting final grades. DO NOT EMAIL THE LAST WEEK OF CLASS ASKING FOR A HIGHER GRADE.

You are responsible for your own grades and tracking; I use Canvas to track your grades and progress. You have access to these same grades, and you should be monitoring weekly to ensure accuracy. Mistakes happen, and can be corrected. However, if you approach me within the last two classes of the semester for incorrect grades that occurred during the semester start, no changes will be made. Email me as soon as you notice a grade problem, I try to respond to grade concerns as they occur. Performance grades are final, if you receive a grade you do not like, review the feedback, and make adjustments for the next speech. The easiest way to prevent performance deductions is to practice your speech!

Earning points: You receive points for most items you submit and class participation. It is imperative that you check-in with me when you are late or miss a class. Here are some ways to earn points:

Activity	Value
Research assignments	50 points
Abstracts	100 points
Outlines and Papers	200 points
Presentations	200 points
Quizzes	150 points
Misc. activities	Up to 10 points per assignment

Extra credit: There will be several opportunities for extra credit in this course. Extra credit assignments may include attending Speech Night and writing a paper, participating in the on-campus speech tournament, or helping out with the on-campus speech tournament. Extra credit is not required, but encouraged.

Activity	Value
Dress (interview attire, law firm)	5 points per speech (20/semester)
Visual Aid (Informative)	2 points
Full APA (final draft only)	2 points per speech (max 4 points)
Misc. activities	Up to 5 points

Final Grade Calculation: Your final grade is a comprehensive summary of your semester performance. You will be able to track and predict your grade throughout the semester through Canvas under the grades tab. Throughout the semester there will be 700 points available for you to earn. These points are acquired through participation, quizzes, outlines and performances. Each point is worth the same value, grades are not weighted. More points are assigned to performances as this is a performance-based course.

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Information for Students – Rights and Responsibilities
Title IX, Sexual Misconduct, Harassment and Assault: The Sonoma County Junior College District does not discriminate on the basis of race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, ethnic group identification, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic condition, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gen-der expression, genetic information or sexual orientation in any of its policies, procedures or practices; nor does the District discriminate against any employees or applicants for employment on the basis of their age. This nondiscrimination policy covers admission, access and treatment in District programs and activities including but not limited to academic admissions, financial aid, educational services and athletics and application for District employment.

The Sonoma County Junior College District is an equal opportunity employer: https://titleix.santarosa.edu/

Emergency preparedness: There are many things that may occur during a class or a semester. It is important to stay alert and be aware of your surroundings. If you see something, say something. We are all responsible for safety, and this may include fire, floods, natural disasters and anything outside of normal operations. Our section meets at night, find a buddy, never walk alone to your vehicle or around campus after hours. Know your emergency exits, phone numbers for emergency contacts and be prepared. Campus police may be reached at (707) 527-1000. For emergencies, please use 911, for more information please check out our campus police website https://police.santarosa.edu/

Schedule: The schedule is subject to change based on class needs. **Check Canvas** for the most up to date information. If you subscribe to notifications in Canvas, you will receive an email or text with any assignment updates.

Key dates: (subject to change)

Event	Date	Note
Semester begins	January 13	
Holiday	January 20	Campus closed
Holiday	February 14 – 17	Campus closed
Last day to drop a course without a "W"	February 18	
Priority California Financial Aid Deadline	March 2	
Spring break	March 16 – 22	Campus closed
Last day to drop with a "W	April 13	
Last day of instruction	May 5	Online
Final exam	May 6	6:00 – 8:50 PM
Holiday	May 25	Campus closed

Full calendar located at https://admissions.santarosa.edu/academic-calendar

First Day Assignments:
- Course understanding complete prior to next class (submission)
- Introductory video posted in Canvas by end of the week (submission)
- Class life-line/contact for content (no submission)
- Group members for the first presentation (group project) (submission date discussed in class)
- News articles specific to intercultural communication
  - These will be discussed in class prior to lecture material

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