
Intercultural Communications Syllabus

**College of Foreign Languages
University of Shanghai for Science and Technology**

Intercultural Communications

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Background Information

Introduction

Students specializing in English linguistics and literature are offered Intercultural Communications as a 2 credit degree course. The course focuses on the discussions relevant to the study of values, orientations and behavior patterns in different cultures. Through learning the intercultural communications theories, students should be expected to use them as a tool in their understanding and analysis of cultural phenomena and are required to participate in group projects of empirical investigation.

Syllabus Content

1. General Module Aims

This module aims to:

- Enable students to be familiar with the latest development in intercultural communications study.
- Acquire knowledge and develop understanding relevant to effective intercultural communications.
- Develop understanding of cultural identity and appropriate cultural attitudes in intercultural communications.

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2. Specific Learning Outcomes

On completion of this module students will be able to:

LO1: Understand the main theories in intercultural communications as discussed in the designated textbook.

LO2: Understand the relationship of the subject with its relevant disciplines.

LO3: Learn and master some basic research methods used in intercultural communications study.

LO4: Gather, describe and analyze data in relation to intercultural exchanges.

LO5: Develop research experience and demonstrate effective communication and presentation skills.

LO6: Work out a course paper on a research topic based on the theories learned.

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3. Programme of Study

The following provides a suggested programme of study. The topics identified in the schedule below are indicative content and should be covered throughout the duration of the module. (Flexibility in the delivery pattern should be applied at the discretion of the Module Tutor to allow opportunities to meet the needs of students where possible to incorporate visits and guest speakers.)

Week Number	Content to be covered	32 Hours
Week 1	Introduction and Intercultural communications competence	2
Week 2	Cultural differences	2
Week 3	Cultural differences and blocks in IC	2
Week 4	Definition of culture and communication	2
Week 5	Cultural diversity--- different value orientations1	2
Week 6	Cultural diversity--- different value orientations2	2
Week 7	Qingming Festival (no class)	2
Week 8	Mid-term quiz	2
Week 9	Language and Culture 1	2
Week 10	Language and Culture 2	2
Week 11	verbal communication styles in different cultures 1	2
Week 12	verbal communication styles in different cultures 2	2
Week 13	Time and space across cultures	2
Week 14	Group presentation	2
Week 15	Duanwu Festival (no class)	2
Week 16	Due day of final essay	2

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4. Learning Strategy

This module will be delivered through lectures, seminars and class presentations. Formal lectures will be used to transfer knowledge of the subject material, seminars will be used to allow students to discuss ideas and evaluate material and presentations will give students the opportunity of sharing with others the results of research projects.

Learning will be supported by current texts and other library and website resources.

5. Assessment

There will be two elements of assessment for this module: Presentation and Written Test. Further details are provided below.

1) Presentation: This will take place throughout the course and is weighted at 20% of the total marks for this module. The presentation will be 10-15 minutes in length allowing 5-8 minutes for questions and discussions.

This assessment will address the following learning outcomes: LO1; LO2; LO3; and LO4.

2) Written test: This will take place after 36 hours' class work. The test, taking up 60% of the total marks, to be completed within two weeks, consists of open questions relevant to the textbook, the discussions in the classroom and reports of research work conducted throughout the course.

Note:

- 1) Attendance accounts for 10% of the total marks and 10 % for class participation.
- 2) For international students, the assessment is focused on research work, including organization of the research team and implantation of the assigned research projects.

Appendices

Reading Lists / Material

Core Reading

Foundations of Intercultural Communication. Chen & Starosta (2007): Shanghai Foreign Language Education Press

Intercultural Competence: Interpersonal Communication Across Cultures, Myron W. Lustig & Jolene Koester (2007): Shanghai Foreign Language Education Press

Recommended Reading

跨语言研究的跨文化视野, 2006, 上海外语教育出版社

Culturally Speaking: Managing Rapport Through Talk Across Cultures, Helen Spencer-Oatey, 2007, 上海外语教育出版社

SFLEP (Shanghai Foreign Language Education Press) Intercultural Communication Series:
Communicating With Strangers: An Approach To Intercultural Communication, William B. Gudykunst, Young Yun Kim, 2007, 上海外语教育出版社 SFLEP 1

Intercultural Communication: A Reader (10th Edition), Larry A. Samovar & Richard E. Porter, 2007, SFLEP 2

Cross-cultural and Intercultural Communication, William B. Gudykunst 2007 SFLEP 7

Intercultural Communication in the Global Workplace (3rd Edition), Iris Varner & Linda Beamer, 2006, SFLEP 3

Dynamics of Intercultural Communication (5th Edition), Carley H. Dodd 2006, SFLEP 4

Culturally Speaking : Managing Rapport through Talk across Cultures, Helen Spencer-Oatey, 2007, SFLEP 5

Communicating across Cultures, Stella Ting-Toomey, 2007, SFLEP 6