

The University of Texas at El Paso
University Connect
Department of Communication
COMM 3353: Intercultural Communication CRN:10765

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Samantha Dena, MA

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REQUIRED MATERIALS

An Introduction to Intercultural Communication: Identities in a Global Community (10th Edition)

Author: Fred E. Jandt

Year: 2021

Publisher: Sage

COURSE CONTENT

Course Description:

The goal of this course is to increase the understanding of basic concepts and principles regarding communication between people from different racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds, especially within the United States. This course will introduce you to the theory and research in intercultural communication, and will help you apply this knowledge in understanding and improving human interaction in both domestic and international contexts. It will improve your communication skills in managing cultural diversity in the United States by focusing upon a study of social, societal, structural, and historical dimensions of relations between and among racial, ethnic, and gender groups in contemporary United States society. This course draws from multiple perspectives including historical, social scientific, humanistic, rhetorical, and critical perspectives.

Course Learning Objectives:

- Become familiar with the study of intercultural communication and develop a working vocabulary of terms and concepts that relate to intercultural communication studies.
- Become more sensitive to the complexity of intercultural interactions.
- Recognize the influence of your own cultural group on intercultural communication interactions.
- Become more willing, self-reflexive, flexible, and open in communication in intercultural interactions.
- Discover the importance of the roles of history and context in studying intercultural communication.

Technology Requirements

This course is presented in the Blackboard learning management system.

To ensure your success in accessing your course materials and completing your assignments, it is recommended that you ensure your computer setup for this class meets the following minimum requirements:

1. Broadband Internet connection, such as cable or DSL
2. A modern computer (PC or Mac), no more than four years old, with the following minimum configuration:
 - Processor: Dual-core or better, at least 2 GHZ
 - RAM: 2 GB or better
 - Operating System: Windows 7 or 8, or Mac OS X 10.6.8 or better
 - A computer headset is recommended (microphone and earphone set).
 - The hands-free option for your telephone will work in most cases.

Tech Support:

The University of Texas at El Paso offers complete technical information and online help desk support at <https://www.utep.edu/technologysupport>

METHOD OF EVALUATION

Assessment Items	Value	Points
Module Quizzes	70%	7 quizzes @ 100 points each 700 points total
Discussion Questions	21%	7 @ 30 points each 210 points total
Assignments	9%	1 @ 90 points each 90 points total
Total		1000 points

GRADING SCALE

This course is ambitious and requires your active participation. Students can earn up to 1000 points. Grades will be based on the following scale:

- A= 1000-900 points
- B= 899-800 points
- C= 799-700 points
- D= 600-699 points
- F= 599 points and below

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE INSTRUCTOR

The best way to communicate with your instructor is via email. Always include in the subject of your email "Online COMM 3353" When sending an email and your name. All emails will be answered within 48 hrs. Graded assignments will be posted a week after the submission date.

Participation

Your active participation extremely important! There will be an opportunity to discuss and interact with classmates through *discussion questions* and *assignments*, which will be graded. Please refer to the "Assignments and Grading" sections for discussion questions and assignments' points and value.

Academic Dishonesty Statement

Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion.

- *Cheating* may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports.
- *Plagiarism* occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents another person's words or ideas as his or her own.
- *Collusion* involves unauthorized collaboration with another person or group to commit any academically dishonest act.

Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be taken seriously and will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions. You can find more information in the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures by visiting, <https://www.utep.edu/vpba/hoop/>

Late Policy

Deadlines for all quizzes, discussion questions and written assignments will be strictly enforced. No quizzes, discussion questions or written assignments will be accepted after deadline. Missing a deadline is equivalent of not doing the assignment.

Library Information

Access the UTEP Library by visiting <https://www.utep.edu/library/>

Disability Statement

If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email at cass@utep.edu, or visit the office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass>

Responsible, Ethical and Effective Electronic Communication

It is important to share a word of caution so we can become wiser about interpersonal distance learning communications. In an online environment, many of the feelings or impressions that are transmitted via body language in face-to-face communications are lost. Consequently, interpreting emotions and innuendos can be difficult. Only what is written, or drawn, carries the message. Often, excitement can be misinterpreted as anger or insult. We all need to keep this in mind as we communicate.

Words in print may seem harmless, but they can injure us emotionally when working at a distance. Hence, we must be conscious of how we communicate while working at a distance and use good *netiquette*, that is, online communication etiquette. For example, your classmates may not know who is posting a comment, so clearly identify yourself when posting to a discussion board. Furthermore, avoid using all capital letters in electronic communication, as all caps come across as shouting.

The standard netiquette for participation in networked discussion requires that all comments focus on the topic at hand, without becoming personalized, and be substantive in nature. **In other words, you certainly may disagree with others, but you must do so respectfully.** You may express strong beliefs or emotions, but you may not get so carried away that you lose all perspective on the course itself.

You can find more information on netiquette, the etiquette of Internet communication, at www.albion.com/netiquette.

**Welcome to COMM 3353: Intercultural Communication!
Have a great learning experience!**