



COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/psyc.html>

Ω Please note: the College electronically stores this outline for five (5) years only.
It is **strongly recommended** you keep a copy of this outline with your academic records.
You will need this outline for any future application/s for transfer credit/s to other colleges/universities.

Psyc 257 Intercultural Communication

Dr. R.G. Tonks



Camosun College

Office: Fisher 308A

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Office Hours: Tues / Thurs 2:30-3:20

Course Description

The course explores relevant concepts, attitudes and skills. Students develop an awareness and competence ineffective communication in culturally diverse settings. The topics include theories of culture and diversity, verbal and non-verbal intercultural communication, prejudice, discrimination, ethnocentrism, and adapting to new cultures. Competence and practice in intercultural communication skills are emphasized.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

- Demonstrate the verbal and nonverbal communications skills for effectively interacting with individuals of different cultures
- Develop awareness of different cultural practices
- Detect forms of social prejudice and discrimination
- Apply psychological knowledge to resolve intercultural conflicts

- Understand communication challenges faced by individuals who speak English as a second language
- Acquire competence to work in culturally diverse settings

Learning the basics of communication and the nature of culture, we will look at the nature of personhood within cultural contexts. We will also examine the role of communication in the development and maintenance of selves and communities. This will involve a consideration of mythology in art, literature and everyday life. As such we will consider culture and communication within various contexts including migration and adjustment, health, business, music, traditions and rituals, media, commerce and the marketplace.

Textbook:

Martin, J. N. & Nakayama, T. (2010) *Intercultural Communication in Contexts* 5th Edition). McGraw-Hill Education: NY.

Supplemental Readings: *to be made available through [d2l](#). [References](#)*

Course Content:

Each week, there will be one lecture and one in-class or on-line activity. The activities will include group discussions, presentations, library research, interviews, observations. The class activities are aimed at facilitating awareness and skills of intercultural communication, including some d2l activities. The lecture material will be posted sometime prior to the lecture and is designed to help students understand and interact with the material. Readings from the textbook will support the lecture material, but will at times vary from the material covered in the lecture. At times there will be supplemental readings that will be covered in class.

Class Activities	15%	Weekly
Culture Log	15 %	Submit for review at midterm & end of course
Research Project	30 %	Involves paper and presentation
Midterm Exam	20 %	Week 8
Final Exam	20 %	Final Exam period

Readings: See [Syllabus](#) Psychology 257 Intercultural Communication Winter 09

Course Syllabus

Overview: The what & The Why of Communication & Culture	Week 1 Jan (4)	Intro & Background	Ch 1 Ch 3
Sciences of Culture & Communication	Week 2 Jan 11	Methods & History	Ch 2
Histories of self and identity	Week 3 Jan 18	History, Power & Identity	Ch4
Self & Cultural Worldviews	Week 4 Jan 25	Cultural Selves & Identity	Ch 5
Language -Structure & Style	Week 5 Feb 1	Language form and meaning	Ch 6
Actions & Behaviours	Week 6 Feb 8	Non-verbal	Ch 7
Applications: Culture & Contact: Acculturation	Week 7 Feb 15	Cultural adjustment	Ch 8
Review & Midterm	Week 8 Feb 22		

Applications: Health Care	Week 9 Mar 1	Health & Relationships	online reading
Commerce	Week 10 Mar 8	sources & solutions	Ch 10
Prejudice	Week 11 Mar 15	Sources & Solutions	Ch 10
Politics, Power	Week 12 Mar 22	Conflict	Ch 11
Culture & Expression Art & Music	Week 13 Mar 29	Pop & your musical culture	listening
Overview & Looking Ahead	Week 14 Apr 5	Getting there	Ch 12
Final Exam	Exam Period April 12-23		

Class Activities: Group discussions and thought exercises will be carried out through the semester. These will be done in class and online as ways to support or share information on culture and communication. Some will be done in small groups while others will involve the entire class. At times students will be expected to lead discussion on specific topics covered.

Exams: will be constituted by developing short essay style answers to [study questions](#) that will be examined throughout the course. The midterm and Final exams will contain a subset of the course study questions and the students will answer two questions and definitional statements.

Culture Log: You will maintain a log of your inter-cultural communication experiences over the semester. This will include your participation in at least three cultural activities whether through formal organisations or through everyday cultural experiences. You will submit your log around midterm time for non-graded review and will submit the final log by the time of final exam.

Research Project: The research project will involve your investigation into a topic in inter-cultural communication that draws from one or more areas of the course material. The project may involve a review of past research or theory on your topic of choice or it may involve the implementation of an applied project. You will be expected to produce a short essay in APA style of about 6-8 pages typed double space (1500 -2000 words) in 12 point font. The research project will begin with handing in an outline of the topic that will be approved before the paper is written. A short (10 minute) presentation will be made during the last month of classes by each student.

Grading Scheme: (Camosun Standards)

A+ 90- 100

B 73-76

D 50 - 59

A 85 - 89

B- 70 - 72

F 0 - 49

A- 80-84

C+ 65 - 69

I = Incomplete*

B+ 77 -79

C 60 - 64

*(If the missing work is not completed within 6 weeks from the semester end, the grade will become F).

~ This course has been designed for use with Martin & Nakayama (2007). An earlier version of this course as designed around Samovar & Porter (2004) and may be used with the most recent edition of that text. See [references](#) for other sources cited in these course materials.