

## **Intercultural Communication (ICS/COMM 7)**

**Ms. M. Ebrat**

**Section 50Z & 61Z : ONLINE / Asynchronous except when announced otherwise**

Zoom Info: TBA in CANVAS ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Office Hours: I am available for phone appointments; **please email me to set up a time.**

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Dear Students,

Welcome to COMM / ICS 7! I am excited to have you in my online class this quarter. I am here to help your growth as a student. While I will do everything in my power to advocate for your needs as a student and help you succeed, I will also challenge you to apply the course concepts to the assignments and ESPECIALLY to your own life experiences! I want all my students to do well in this class and so I expect you to keep up with the course daily / regularly, since DISCUSSIONS & REFLECTIONS will be a big part of this course, please be prepared to participate. **\*\*\*I WILL HAVE AN INTRODUCTORY ZOOM MEETING FOR THE CLASS TO ACCOMPLISH GOALS FOR THE COURSE AND COURSE STRUCTURE; PLEASE SEE THE MODULES SECTION FOR MORE INFO.\*\*\***

If you have outside responsibilities or other potential barriers to completing the work for this course, please email or set up a phone appointment with me as soon as possible. Don't wait until it's too late to get help. If you have any disability, either temporary or permanent, which might affect your ability to participate fully in the course, please let me know right away. We can figure out what accommodations will be necessary to provide for equitable participation.

I love getting to know my students and invite you to fill out the student info questionnaire with as much detail as possible. And if you are struggling with anything in the class or need assistance with any resources, please don't hesitate to contact me. I want to work with you to help you succeed in this course. I look forward to getting to know you this quarter. I want to emphasize that ALL students are welcome in the course, regardless of national origin, religious affiliation, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical challenge, socioeconomic status, or cultural background. Never be afraid to share your ideas with others. Your ideas are as important as everyone else's. There may be times we disagree, but I hope that together we can all create a classroom environment that is respectful and appreciative of differences so we can all learn from one another. I'm looking forward to a great quarter!

Ms. Ebrat

**"NEVER STOP LEARNING."**

## **Intercultural Communication - What is this course about?**

The purpose of this class is to understand how culture and communication intersect in the context of globalization. Communication across cultural groups is complex and challenging and often leads to misunderstanding and conflict in our global world. Intercultural communication is also informing and creative and can lead to personal, local and global change, growth and innovation. While both difficult and rewarding, intercultural communication is central to all our lives in the global context. In this course, you will have the chance to gain knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will increase your intercultural communication competence.

Specifically, throughout the quarter, you will have the opportunity to:

-Explore cultural self-awareness, other-culture awareness, and the dynamics that arise in interactions between people from different cultures.

-Understand how communication processes differ among cultures and to acquire knowledge and skills that increase intercultural competence.

-Understand that socially constructed systems of exploitation and exclusion--racism, sexism, and classism, for example--are historically based; to recognize how privilege, disadvantage and discrimination are perpetuated today and to develop alternative attitudes and actions to challenge and dismantle these systems of exclusion and oppression.

-Make critical connections between local and global issues as well as the past and the present by examining the historical, political and economic dimensions of intercultural communication in the context of globalization.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

The Intercultural Studies Department has the following official learning outcomes for ICS/COMM 7:

By the end of this course, the student will be able to:

- Explain and analyze culture and communication as both affect intercultural interactions, particularly stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination.
- Evaluate and assess his/her own culture-specific verbal and nonverbal communication, through self-reflection and shared feedback.
- Demonstrate increased ability to competently interact with and adapt to persons of different cultural backgrounds, by applying intercultural communication concepts and skills to intercultural interactions.

## Textbook & Readings

There is **one textbook** for the course and there will be **supplemental readings and videos** assigned. You can purchase or rent copies of the textbook in the Campus Bookstore or another online book retailer. You can also rent an e-text version through [www.vitalsource.com](http://www.vitalsource.com) (e-text ISBN: 9781506315133).

1. James, Neuliep (2018). *Intercultural communication: A Contextual Approach* (7th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE. ISBN: 9781506315133
2. A dictionary is also recommended.

### Class Participation

Active participation in DISCUSSION threads that complement the textbook material is essential to the learning process. I do observe your participation and expect professionalism in this class which includes behaviors such as: showing respect for the instructor and other class members, being open/tolerant of the different opinions of classmates, being prepared for class discussions and simulations, actively engaging, and being “present”(i.e. not consumed by your electronic gadgets).

### Attendance and Late Arrivals

I will take attendance mainly in order to track those who fully participate in activities/exercises. I hope that you will WANT to CHECK IN / LOG IN to class so you can further your learning. Be mindful that when you miss class, it is harder to make progress and succeed in earning the grade you desire. Also, so I don't worry about you, keep me informed if something is going on that makes attending class a challenge. Call or email me if you have missed class to find out what you missed so I can advise you on what to do so you don't fall behind.

### Assignments, Projects, & Exams

Course requirements for your grade will consist of weekly discussion questions and reflective writings, participation, FINAL course project, and midterm. Guidelines for each assignment will be given ONLINE.

### **\*\*TENTATIVE\*\***

Category	Assignment Name	Point Total
FINAL Project / Presentation - Written & Oral	A. MINIMALISM COMM. CAMPAIGN B. ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY COMM. CAMPAIGN	150
MIDTERM		75
Weekly Reflection Papers	Reflection Essays (5)	25 each
Participation	Weekly Discussion Threads	35 each
Homework Assignments	<b>TBA</b>	<b>TBA (150~)</b>
Extra Credit *	Research Paper 5-7 pages	75

	<b>Total</b>	<b>510 ~</b>

### **Grading**

**The total amount of points for this course = .** Final grades are determined by the final point total and assigned according to the following scale:

93-100%=A	77-79%=C+
90-92%=A-	70-76%= C
87-89%=B+	67-69%=D+
83-86%=B	63-66%=D
80-82%=B-	60-62%=D-
<60%=F	

\*Scores that fall between grades will be rounded to the nearest percentage point (i.e. 92.6% would be rounded to 93% for an A).

### **Grades**

If grades are important to you, here's some advice based on Dr. Khanna's over 20 years of teaching experience:

To reach your goal of an "A" in the course, you should cultivate the following habits:

1. **Check your e-mail and CANVAS regularly**
2. Read the assigned reading each time it is assigned
3. Submit reflection/applied reports on time.
4. LOG INTO CLASS every week.
5. Do the on-line discussions and responses on time
6. Take good notes on your readings and lectures
7. Meet with instructor regarding each project BEFORE the project is due (especially when uncertain about criteria and requirements)
8. Meet with instructor with draft of your project BEFORE it is due if you want feedback to improve
9. Meet with instructor if you are running into any challenges that prevent you from participating in class or in online activities.

Practices that will make it more difficult for you to pass our class:

1. Not doing the reading
2. Not participating in weekly discussions
3. Not consistently submitting the weekly reports or taking advantage of exam study guides
4. Logging into class late
5. Not Logging in
6. Not checking e-mail or CANVAS
7. Not turning in any parts or all of any of the projects
8. LOGGING INTO CLASS but not doing the assigned work or not turning work in

9. Not submitting the final PROJECT

## Course Policies

### Technology: CANVAS

**Contacting the Instructor:** I am accessible via e-mail, or by phone. And I try to be as responsive as I can to students. Please keep the following in mind:

- Putting your name, the course, and course meeting time in the subject line helps me address your e-mail faster (e.g. Jane Doe – ICS 7 – 10:30am). I receive a high volume of e-mails per day, and a specific subject line helps me to prioritize my emails.
- Make use of office hours; if the times listed don't work for you, we can try to set up an alternate time.
- I will usually respond to emails sent during the week within 24 hours. If you don't hear from me, please forward it again. Emails sent on weekends may take up to 48 hours to receive a response.

### Submitting Assignments:

**Late Work/Make-up Work - Assignments are due by the due date. There is a 59 minute grace period to account for any technology-related issues before the assignment will be marked late or closed. EXAMS close on their respective due dates and will not be opened up once they close.**

**Late submissions will be accepted for written work or discussion forums, but will receive a 10% penalty for each weekday that it is late. Project/papers and discussion forum posts will not be accepted one week after the due date has passed.** Save your work frequently, make sure that your computer is using an updated virus-protection program, and if requested, print your papers ahead of time. I cannot reasonably accept computer-related excuses for late work. **Late work will be accepted without penalty only if arrangements have been made with me before the assignment is due.**

**Academic Dishonesty: Don't cheat.** It's unethical and unnecessary. **Plagiarism will not be tolerated.** Any evidence of plagiarizing (representing somebody else's work as your own, whether another student's work or a published source) in your written assignments will result in 0 points for the assignment. All cases of academic dishonesty will also be reported to the appropriate college officials. If you aren't clear about what cheating is, check the DeAnza College website on the pages entitled "College/District Policies and Guidelines", under the heading Academic Integrity or chat with me for more info.

**Accommodations:** Please notify me as early as possible in the term to discuss course accommodations needed due to medical or other conditions.

De Anza College views disability as an important aspect of diversity, and is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. **Disability Support Services (DSS)** is the campus office that collaborates with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations

## Additional Resources

Writing and Reading and Tutorial Skills Center, ATC 309, 864-5840

Math/Science Tutorial Center, S43, 864-8683

Counseling Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Student & Community Services Bldg., 864-5400

Transfer Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Student & Community Services Bldg., 864-8841

Career Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Student & Community Services Bldg., 864-5711

Disability Support Services, 1<sup>st</sup> floor Student & Community Services Bldg., 864-8753

Financial Aid, Baldwin Winery Building, 864-8718

Health Services, Lower level Campus Center, 864-8732

Child Development Center, 864-8822

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services, Lower level Campus Center, 864-8950

**Need tutoring help but can't make it to campus?** Use the free online tutoring available to all De Anza students. Just login to [MyPortal](#), go to the Students tab, and find the Smarthinking link. For more information, go to [deanza.edu/studentsuccess/onlinetutoring/](http://deanza.edu/studentsuccess/onlinetutoring/)

- If you have, or think you have, a disability in any area such as, mental health, attention, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical, please contact DSS to arrange a confidential discussion regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations.
- If you are registered with DSS and have accommodations set by a DSS counselor, please be sure that your instructor has received your accommodation letter from **Clockwork** early in the quarter to review how the accommodations will be applied in the course.

Students who need accommodated test proctoring must meet appointment booking deadlines at the Testing Center.

- **Exams** must be booked at least **five (5) business days in advance** of the instructor approved exam date/time.
  - **Finals exams** must be scheduled **seven (7) business days/weekday**s in advance of the instructor approved exam date/time.
  - Failure to meet appointment booking deadlines will result in the forfeit of testing accommodations and you will be required to take your exam in class.
  - [Contact the DSS](#) if you cannot find or utilize your [MyPortal](#) Clockwork Portal.
- DSS strives to provide accommodations in a reasonable and timely manner, some accommodations may take additional time to arrange. We encourage you to work with DSS and your faculty as early in the quarter as possible so that we may ensure that your learning experience is accessible and successful.

DSS Location: RSS Building, Suite 141  
Phone: 408-864-8753

On the web: <http://www.deanza.edu/DSS/>  
[Email: DSS@deanza.edu](mailto:DSS@deanza.edu)