



COURSE OUTLINE: HDG407 - CROSS CULTURE DISC

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Approved: Karen Hudson - Dean

Course Code: Title	HDG407: CROSS CULTURAL DISCUSSIONS
Program Number: Name	1105: GAS - ONE-YEAR 1115: GAS-UNIV TRANSFER
Department:	GENERAL ARTS & SCIENCE
Academic Year:	2025-2026
Course Description:	<p>Premised on the needs of the current globalized world and the multicultural composition of Canada, this course is an introduction to cultural diversity and how people's cultural background affects their behaviours, attitudes, and perception of others and the world around them.</p> <p>Through theoretical discussions, historical facts sharing, film analysis, multicultural group work, personal reflection, and experiential learning activities, the course will also facilitate a critical examination of the barriers to develop intercultural competence and a proactive approach to overcome those barriers.</p> <p>The ultimate goal of the course is to motivate learners to adopt a deeper cultural awareness while they sharpen their ability to work and communicate effectively in multicultural academic, professional, and community settings.</p>
Total Credits:	3
Hours/Week:	3
Total Hours:	42
Prerequisites:	There are no pre-requisites for this course.
Corequisites:	There are no co-requisites for this course.
Vocational Learning Outcomes (VLO's) addressed in this course:	<p>1105 - GAS - ONE-YEAR</p> <p>VLO 1 Develop, through general knowledge gained in a wide range of subjects, insight into both self and society.</p> <p>VLO 3 Understand and utilize critical thinking processes and problem solving techniques.</p> <p>VLO 4 Examine and evaluate various aspects of our changing society to assist in developing a sense of personal and social responsibility as a citizen in society.</p> <p>VLO 5 Employ basic vocational skills drawn from the areas of the Humanities, Social and Behavioural Sciences of Vocational Studies (Business, Technology).</p> <p>1115 - GAS-UNIV TRANSFER</p> <p>VLO 1 Develop, through general knowledge gained in a wide range of subjects, insight into both self and society.</p> <p>VLO 3 Understand and utilize critical thinking processes and problem solving techniques.</p> <p>VLO 4 Examine and evaluate various aspects of our changing society to assist in developing a sense of personal and social responsibility as a citizen in society.</p>
Please refer to program web page for a complete listing of program outcomes where applicable.	



	VLO 5	Employ basic vocational, skills drawn from the areas of the Humanities, Social and Behavioural Sciences of Vocational Studies (Business, Technology).	
Essential Employability Skills (EES) addressed in this course:	EES 1	Communicate clearly, concisely and correctly in the written, spoken, and visual form that fulfills the purpose and meets the needs of the audience.	
	EES 2	Respond to written, spoken, or visual messages in a manner that ensures effective communication.	
	EES 5	Use a variety of thinking skills to anticipate and solve problems.	
	EES 6	Locate, select, organize, and document information using appropriate technology and information systems.	
	EES 7	Analyze, evaluate, and apply relevant information from a variety of sources.	
	EES 8	Show respect for the diverse opinions, values, belief systems, and contributions of others.	
	EES 9	Interact with others in groups or teams that contribute to effective working relationships and the achievement of goals.	
	EES 10	Manage the use of time and other resources to complete projects.	
	EES 11	Take responsibility for ones own actions, decisions, and consequences.	
	General Education Themes:	Personal Understanding	
	Course Evaluation:	Passing Grade: 50%, D A minimum program GPA of 2.0 or higher where program specific standards exist is required for graduation.	
Other Course Evaluation & Assessment Requirements:	Active and regular participation in class discussions/practice and gradual study are essential to succeed in this course.		
Course Outcomes and Learning Objectives:	Course Outcome 1	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 1	
	1. Recognise and apply terminology and concepts related to culture and intercultural/cultural competence.	1.1 Explore how culture informs and influences people`s perception and behaviour. 1.2 Analyse the importance of culture in the construction of one`s identity. 1.3 Identify and discern visible aspects (such as language and clothing) and deeper aspects (such as beliefs and values) of one`s own culture and other cultures. 1.4 Recognise the manifestations of the individual and social construction of cultural identity through cultural orientations. 1.5 Provide examples of the shared and symbolic, collective and relational, conflicting and contradictory, dynamic and in-process character of all cultures. 1.6 Reflect on the types of knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to develop one`s intercultural competence.	
	Course Outcome 2	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 2	
	2. Explore the complexity of the cultural adaptation process.	2.1 Use appropriate terminology to refer to cultures in contact, such as host culture, majority culture, and minority cultures. 2.2 Understand how the power imbalance among cultures can impact the relative social status and the perceived prestige and	

	<p>recognition of different cultures.</p> <p>2.3 Reflect about the need and right to preserve one`s own cultural background by immigrants, refugees, Indigenous peoples, and colonized groups.</p> <p>2.4 Offer examples of cultural assimilation, acculturation, and enculturation and the individual and contextual factors that contribute to expand, force, or limit these processes.</p> <p>2.5 Identify symptoms of culture shock in oneself and others and the stages that this process entails leading to cultural adaptation.</p>
Course Outcome 3	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 3
<p>3. Discern the main barriers to intercultural competence and reflect on how to prevent and overcome them.</p>	<p>3.1 Characterise and differentiate common barriers to intercultural competence such as ethnocentrism, racism, homophobia, heteronormativity, prejudice, homophily, passive xenophobia, and negative cultural stereotypes.</p> <p>3.2 Dissect and analyse situations of intercultural incompetence in the labour force, educational settings and community institutions, understanding its multiple intervenient factors.</p> <p>3.3 Consider, suggest, practise, and assess positive and proactive ways of individual and group interventions to avoid, control, and reduce such intercultural barriers.</p> <p>3.4 Develop awareness of the historical background that justified the concept of race on biological explanations.</p> <p>3.5 Provide evidence to support the idea that the concept of race is a social construction.</p>
Course Outcome 4	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 4
<p>4. Use multicultural groups and experiential learning to plan, implement, and assess a group project.</p>	<p>4.1 Build and nurture a collaborative multicultural group to resolve specific tasks.</p> <p>4.2 Set group`s goals and members` roles and assess performance at the end of an experiential learning cycle.</p> <p>4.3 Identify, implement, and assess the possibilities and limitations of group leadership to conduct and guide effective multicultural task-oriented teams.</p> <p>4.4 Navigate the complexity of multicultural group collaboration while displaying a problem-solving attitude, empathic listening, and active communication.</p> <p>4.5 Keep track of how one`s own decisions and actions in multicultural groups affect communication, time-management, conflict resolution, compromise capacity, and work balance.</p> <p>4.6 Reflect on the group`s experience and results and hypothesise about how to transfer and adapt the lived experience to future multicultural projects.</p>
Course Outcome 5	Learning Objectives for Course Outcome 5
<p>5. Adopt critical thinking to learn about the situation of immigrants, refugees, and the indigenous peoples of Canada.</p>	<p>5.1 Explore and discuss a combination of demographic information (such as natural increase, fertility rate, life expectancy) and economic needs to understand why Canada needs immigrants.</p> <p>5.2 Recognise the contribution of immigrants and refugees to</p>

the Canadian economic growth and the implications of this contribution to the cultural identity of the country.

5.3 Discuss the social and educational needs required by multicultural societies.

5.4 Demystify and confront common negative myths about immigrants and refugees.

5.5 Deconstruct the historical roots and political connotations of commonly used terminology to refer to Indigenous peoples of Canada and learn to use politically-correct and respectful names in the right context.

5.6 Explore and discuss the historical context that supported the Residential School experience in Canada and the social and psychological long-term consequences of these institutions on the survivors, their communities, their descendants, and Canadian citizens in general.

5.7 Understand the roles and mandate of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the responsibilities of Canadians in supporting them.

Evaluation Process and Grading System:

Evaluation Type	Evaluation Weight
Group work	20%
Learning activities	35%
Tests/Exams	45%

Date:

June 23, 2025

Addendum:

Please refer to the course outline addendum on the Learning Management System for further information.

