

SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS & TECHNOLOGY
SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE: Cross Cultural Issues

COURSE NO.: HDG 107-3 SEMESTER: Fall 1993

PROGRAM: Various

INSTRUCTOR: Helen Murdoch

DATE: August 1993 PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED: January 1993

APPROVED.

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Date

Cross Cultural Issues

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TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 48

I PHILOSOPHY/GOALS

This course is an introduction to multi-culturalism and its effect on us as citizens of Canada and the World. Emphasis will be placed on the discovery and investigation of issues related to the concept of cross-cultural interaction. A primary goal is to expand your understanding of the importance of intercultural awareness.

II STUDENT PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate increased awareness of attitudes and beliefs regarding multiculturalism.
2. Demonstrate increased awareness and appreciation of the importance of cross-cultural exchanges.
3. Identify issues relating to cross-cultural conflicts.
- # Define and understand the concept of culture.
5. Experience and process structured small group activities designed to foster an understanding of cross-cultural interaction.
6. Investigate and report cross-cultural issues.
7. Demonstrate skills in delivering information and giving and receiving feedback.

III TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

This course will offer you an opportunity to investigate geographical, cultural, social, and political aspects of many different ethnic groups. You will also have an opportunity to develop knowledge and skills that will help you to appreciate and adjust to cultural differences that otherwise lead to disharmony in intercultural exchange. Historical and contemporary issues will be discussed as well as the political bases of many other societies.

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TOPICS:

- Globalism
- The Meaning of Culture
- Intercultural Communication & Culture Shock
- Prejudice, Discrimination, Racism
- Aboriginal People in Canada

NOTE: The order of the above topics is not fixed. Some of the topics will run concurrent with others. Your instructor will explain the course organization. Also, some of the above topics could change. Your instructor will inform you of any changes.

IV EVALUATION METHODS:

Attendance &. Participation:	20%
Case Study	25%
Analysis Assignment	15%
Chapter Quizzes	20%
Section Tests	20%
TOTAL	100%

V REQUIRED STUDENT RESOURCES:

Cultural Profiles, Sault College Library (Reference Section).

Required Reading

Material on "Reserve" in the Library

Unequal Relations: An Introduction to Race and Ethnic Dynamics in Canada, Prentice-Hall 1992.

ANALYSIS ASSIGNMENT

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A. JOURNAL

Submit a journal with 1 entry for each of the following four areas:

1. Television - movies or sit-coms
2. Newspaper - articles or editorials (include articles)
3. Documentaries - radio, television or videos
4. Personal Situations - observations of or experiences in cross-cultural interactions

There should be a total of four entries. Each entry should be approximately 250 words and will discuss your reaction to a cross-cultural situation or cultural understanding/misunderstanding illustrated in the program, article, documentary or personal situation.

DIRECTIONS:

a. In each journal entry, the following format should be used:

1. First, briefly summarize the program, article or situation (in 1 paragraph).
2. Then, analyze the program, article or situation, and discuss your reaction to it. You could include the following ideas in your discussion:

What cross-cultural interaction was evident?

Was it a "positive" or "negative" interaction (i.e. was it a case of conflict or of understanding)?

Discuss anything new you learned.

Did you see anything from a new perspective? In what way? (Explain).

What was your reaction? (anger, happiness, sadness, indifference, curiosity, hope, despair, etc.)

Why did you feel this way?

Does the topic relate to anything covered in this course or in other courses?

What and how?

Etc., etc., etc.!!!

GRADE VALUE 15%

B BOOK REPORT

A list, identifying books or articles, is available from your instructor.

Directions

You should research the country(ies) that relate to the book you have chosen. Obtain information such as location, social and political situation, and historical data. The book report should be 4 typewritten pages (1000 words, double spaced).

The book report should contain a short (one-page) summary of the book's plot or contents. The majority of the report will be devoted to identifying and explaining your reaction to various cultural aspects revealed in the book. What did you learn about another country or culture through the book? What things would you find hard to deal with? How would you feel if you were in that country/culture and experiencing it first-hand? How would you adapt to the cultural aspects you identify? What new insights do you have regarding this culture or country?

(You do not have to answer all of these questions; they are here only to give you some ideas about how to approach this assignment.)

GRADE VALUE

20%

C CULTURAL PROFILES

You may choose 2 profiles from the content list in Cultural Profiles. A written plan must be submitted 3 days before discussion takes place.

Directions

You will analyze and then lead a class discussion for your country choice. The following should be included in the class discussion.

Comparison with Canadian
history
politics
cultural beliefs
cultural values
cultural norms

Identify possible cultural disharmony that may occur in intercultural exchange

What you would have to change to be able to survive and thrive in such a country.

video file will be produced from each class discussion.