

COMMUNICATION 424 Cross-Cultural Communication
Centro de Estudios Interamericanos CEDEI
Fall 2007

Instructor: Bill Johnson, Lecturer Emeritus, Department of Communication University of Wisconsin-Whitewater e-mail: Johnsonb@uww.edu Telephone: 284 0697 Cell: 097 007 211	Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday 3:00-5:00 or by appointment. Class meetings: Wednesday & Thursday 5:00-7:00 p.m.
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Course Description: In the current era of high levels of immigration into the United States and other “developed” countries and increasing globalization, the ability to communicate across cultures has never been more important. As an educated person, you must be able to meet that challenge. While maintaining your own sense of self, you should be able to bridge differences between your own belief system and others so as to minimize misunderstanding and conflict. This course in cross-cultural communication should help you to develop an empathy and sensitivity to those people of cultures different from the one in which you grew up.

To help increase your skill in intercultural communication, this course will provide lectures, readings and exercises. The exercises are designed to test your understanding of intercultural communication principles and your ability to communicate successfully across cultures.

The instructor’s personal experience in cross-cultural communication has been primarily in Latin America. While this course will attempt to give you a broad exposure to world cultures, the instructor hopes to share some of his personal experiences in Latin America. Your own experiences here in Ecuador should give special texture to this course, and will serve as a sort of “laboratory” for testing the insights you will acquire.

Text and Readings:

Samovar, Larry A. and Richard Porter, *Intercultural Communication, A Reader*, Eleventh Edition, Belmont California: Wadsworth 2006.

Supplemental Texts:

There will be additional readings via handouts, videos and Web-based texts.

Course Grading System:

Midterm:	25%	A=90-100
Final:	25	B=80-89
Eight to ten-page Term paper:	20	C=70=79
Class Participation, quizzes and exercises:	30	D=60-69
Total	100%	F= Less than 60

Class Schedule Fall 2007 And Basic Course Outline

Week 1	9/05/07	Orientation and Introduction to Ecuador
Week 2	9/12/07 9/13/07	Approaches to Intercultural Communication Samovar and Porter, Chapter 1 (as assigned)
Week 3	9/19/07 9/20/07	Approaches to Intercultural Communication (continued) Samovar and Porter, Chapter 1 (as assigned)
Week 4	9/26/07 9/27/07	Cultural Identity: Issues of Belonging Samovar and Porter Chapter 2 (as assigned)
Week 5	10/03/07 10/04/07	International Cultures: Understanding Diversity Samovar and Porter Chapter 3 (as assigned)
Week 6	10/10/07 10/10/07	International Cultures: Understanding Diversity (continued) Samovar and Porter Chapter 3 (as assigned) <u>Quiz 1</u>
Week 7	10/17/07 10/18/07	Co-cultures: Living in Two (or more) Cultures Samovar and Porter Chapter 4 (as assigned) (First half ends Friday, Macas trip through Wednesday, 10/24))
Week 8	10/25/07 (Thursday)	<i>(Review and Midterm Exam)</i>
Week 9	10/31/07 11/01/07	Intercultural Messages: Verbal and Non-verbal Communication Samovar and Porter Chapter 5 (as assigned)
Week 10	11/07/07 11/08/07	Intercultural Messages: Verbal and Non-verbal Communication Samovar and Porter Chapter 5 (as assigned) <u>Quiz 2</u>
Week 11	11/14/07 11/15/07	Cultural Contexts: The International Setting Samovar and Porter Chapter 6 (as assigned)
Week 12	11/21/06 11/22/07	Cultural Contexts: The International Setting Samovar and Porter Chapter 6 (as assigned)
Week 13	11/28/07 11/29/07	Communicating Interculturally: Becoming Competent Samovar and Porter Chapter 7 (as assigned) <u>Quiz 3</u>
Week 14	12/05/07 12/06/07	Ethical Considerations: Prospects for the Future Samovar and Porter Chapter 8 (as assigned) <i>Review and Final exam</i>

Attendance is required for all classes. Your grade will be affected by unexcused absences from class. Be sure to call staff if you are ill or have some emergency.