



EXTENDED CAMPUS

COLLEGE *of* PROFESSIONAL
and CONTINUING STUDIES

COMM 5253-101: Cross Cultural Communication: Theory and Research

Course Description:

Studies the essential, which is to say, non-contingent aspects of culture in general. Examines the literature on cultural studies including but not limited to the positivistic approach. Examines traditionally defined communication variables as they function in various cultures and subcultures; includes examination of nonverbal as well as verbal coding systems. Considers problems, barriers, and patterns of communication, that occur across cultural boundaries. Three general objectives govern this course: (a) to study essential aspects of culture in general and the necessary conditions for communication to occur across-cultures, (b) to study the reciprocal relationship of communication and culture, and (c) to examine the problems of communication research in a cross-cultural context. The specific communicative contexts and settings that will be covered in this class include: conflicts, business, health and illness, identity management, interpersonal communication, language perspectives, and nonverbal communication

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: April 5 – 7 & 12 – 14, 2019

Location: College of Allied Health, OU Health Sciences Center, 1200 N. Stonewall, Oklahoma City, OK 73117-1215

Hours: Friday 5:30-9:30 p.m.; Saturday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sunday 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: March 7, 2019

Site Director:

Email: apokc@ou.edu. Phone: 405-271-4522.

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Eric Mark Kramer, Ph D.

Mailing Address: University of Oklahoma
Department of Communication
Burton Hall #101
Norman, OK 73019

Telephone Number: (405) 325 3311

Fax Number: (405) 325 7625

Email Address: kramer@ou.edu

Professor availability: The professor will be available via email to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:

Student materials are available at the OU Bookstore Website at <https://ou.textbookx.com/institutional/index.php>. There is no longer a physical bookstore, the store will remain, but textbooks will not be stocked. The website has book selling, renting, buying, returning, and order tracking capabilities. If

you need help with an order, or if you have any questions contact the toll-free phone at 1-(855)-790-6637, agents are available from 9a – 5p (EST) Monday – Friday. For more information or questions about textbooks, feel free to contact apsyllabi@ou.edu. Text prices are available online

1. Levine, R.N. (1998) *Geography of time: On tempo, culture and pace of life*. New York: Basic Books. ISBN 9780465026425.
2. Morris, D. (1996) *The human zoo*. New York: Kodansha. ISBN 9781568361048
3. Kramer, E. M. (1997) *Modern/postmodern: Off the beaten path of antimodernsim*. Westport, CT: Greenwood. ISBN 978027595782.
4. Materials posted on the OU Canvas learning management system: Access Canvas at <https://canvas.ou.edu>, enter your OU NetID and password, and select course to access material. If you require assistance with Canvas, please click on the Help icon. You can search the Canvas guides, chat with Canvas support, or contact OU IT.

Course Objectives:

After taking this course, the student should be able to identify and apply concepts of cross-cultural communication to various contexts (e.g., conflicts, business, health care, identify management). Additionally, the student should come away with new insights about cross-culturally shared behaviors.

Course Outline:

The course will consist of lectures and discussion of the texts and other materials provided by the professor, the presentation and group analysis of case studies by the class, and a written examination. The following overview identifies the major topics to be addressed:

- Course orientation and introduction to communication study.
- Approaches to the study of cross-cultural communication.
- Worldview, philosophical diversity, and communication behaviors.
- Value analysis and intercultural studies.
- Social change strategies and tactics.
- cross-cultural communication in applied settings.
- Methodological problems in cross-cultural studies

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

Read all of the books and Chapters Intro, 2, 3, and 4 in the Modern/Postmodern book only.

Prior to the seminar, each student should prepare (a) one case study of intercultural conflict/miscommunication/ relations. The case study should carefully delineate the problem areas. The analysis should draw upon the reading and any other materials and experiences. The case study should be written up in 4-6 pages in text (typed, double space, Times New Roman 12 font, 1 inch margin, APA style). You will present this to class. The emphasis of the case study should be upon personal experience rather than an extended discussion that features technical knowledge. In other words, the case study should highlight your reflection and critical analysis of the intercultural interaction based on the insights you gained through the reading rather than a review or a summary of the readings. The assignment is both an intellectual exercise and a diagnostic tool for the professor. **Turn in the case study on the first day of class.**

The reflection essay should be 12-15 pages (typed, double space, Times New Roman 12 font, 1 inch margin, APA style). You should apply the theoretical concepts in the readings to critically analyze an issue in international/intercultural relations. The objective of the paper is to demonstrate that you can provide critical analysis of a given situation. Unlike International Communication, we do not emphasize technology. You can explore the causes for conflicts, discuss the perspectives from different

cultures/individuals/values, or explore possible solutions for these conflicts. This will constitute your final.

Assignment	Due Date	Percent of Grade
Case Study	See above instructions	20%
Reflection Essay	Last class session	80%

Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

A= 100-90; B= 89-80; C= 79-70; D=69-60; F= below 60

Notice: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.

POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution's policy regarding "I" (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any "I" (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on "financial aid probation." If the "I" grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student's Financial Aid may be suspended making the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student's academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc...in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc...; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student's Guide to Academic Integrity at http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at <http://studentconduct.ou.edu/>

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Adjustment for Pregnancy/Childbirth-Related Issues

Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to accommodations based on temporary disability. Please see <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html>.

Title IX Resources

For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking, or intimate partner violence, the University offers a variety of resources, including advocates on-call 24/7, counseling services, mutual no-contact orders, scheduling adjustments, and disciplinary sanctions against the perpetrator. Please contact the Sexual Misconduct Office at smo@ou.edu or (405) 325-2215 (8-5), or the Sexual Assault Response Team at (405) 615 -0013 (24/7) to report an incident. To learn more about Title IX, please visit the Institutional Equity Office's website at <http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo.html>

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: <http://www.goou.ou.edu/>

INSTRUCTOR VITA

Eric Kramer, Ph.D.

Education

1988 Ph.D. in Telecommunications, Ohio University

Current Positions

- Advanced Programs Professor since 1990
- Associate Professor, Department of Communication, University of Oklahoma

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

COMM 5222	Historical Development of Communication Theory
COMM 5012	Introduction to Graduate Study
COMM 6322	International Communication
COMM 5970	Seminar in Mass Media Ethics

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- International Communication
- Intercultural Communication
- Cross-Cultural Communications
- Human/Technology Interface
- Technological Convergence
- Mass Communications Monopoly

Representative Publications and Presentations

- Modern/Postmodern: Off the Beaten Path of Antimodernism, Postmodernism and Race, 1997
- The Search for Ground: Critical Knowledge and Relativism
- Media Images and Phenomenology: Gibser's Hermeneutic for Modern Myth
- Dr. Kramer has written many articles and book chapters.

Representative Honors and Awards Received

- First exchange student between Ohio University and Feng Chia University, Republic of China, 1983
- Invited by, and given financial support from, The Institute for Advanced Phenomenological Research, for Collegium Phaenomenologicum, Perugia, Italy
- Fulbright Scholar, 1992-93