

ENGE2710 Language and Intercultural Communication

Term-2, 2021-22

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Course Description

This course introduces the fundamentals of intercultural communication with the aim of helping students interact more appropriately and effectively with people who have a different linguistic and cultural background. Through exposure to current intercultural communication theory and research, students develop a deeper understanding of what it means to be an interculturally competent communicator and are encouraged to become more open-minded and actively engaged in intercultural interactions. Topics include: the concept of culture; language & cultural socialization; cultural variations in verbal and non-verbal communication; language, culture, and identity; identity formation and development; intercultural relationships; prejudice and stereotypes; intercultural transition and adjustment; study/residence abroad; and language, interculturality & global citizenship. This interactive course will consist of lectures, readings, discussions, intercultural reflections exercises, a language and cultural identity narrative, a midterm examination, and an intercultural-global citizenship video project. This course should be of interest and use to both local and international students.

Topics/Fundamental Concepts

1. Introduction to course/ Defining communication and culture
2. The dimensions of intercultural communication
3. Cultural patterns and communication: beliefs, values, and worldview
4. Language, cultural, and ethnic identities, cultural biases and intercultural contact
5. Verbal communication in intercultural interactions
6. Non-verbal communication (body language, time and space) in intercultural interactions
7. Constructive intercultural conflict management
8. Language (re)socialization and identity (re)construction during study/residence abroad
9. Intercultural adjustment and adaptation
10. Intercultural competence in interpersonal relationships
11. Language and intercultural communication in the global workplace
12. The development of intercultural, global citizenship

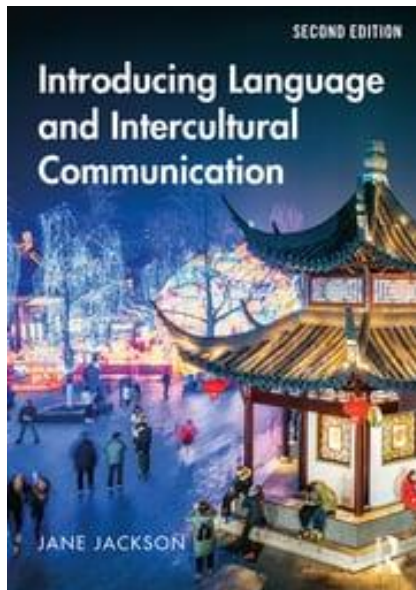
Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- describe core elements in intercultural communication and theories of intercultural (communicative) competence, intercultural adjustment, and identity construction/negotiation;
- explain how culture influences their own life (e.g., values, beliefs, communication style);
- discuss cultural diversity and identify constructive ways to meet the challenges of intercultural communication;
- recognize diverse ways of communicating in different cultural situations;
- assess their cultural self-awareness and communication style and set realistic goals to enhance their intercultural communicative competence (e.g., ability to communicate effectively and appropriately with people from other cultures) and global citizenship identity;
- explain why intercultural competence development is best viewed as a lifelong process.

Required Text

Jackson, J. (2020). *Introducing language and intercultural communication* (2nd ed.). Routledge. (Available in the CUHK bookstore and through Amazon.com)



*Additional readings and supplementary materials will be provided (e.g., PPT files summarizing the main ideas in the assigned chapters, links to selected YouTube videos, intercultural narrative excerpts).

Assessment Scheme (Subject to Change)

	Assessment	Task nature	Weight
1	Contribution in class and online	Participation	10%
2	Language & cultural identity narrative	Essay	15%
3	In-class midterm examination	Examination	40%
4	Intercultural-global citizenship project	Project	35%

Feedback for Course Enhancement

In the middle and end of the semester, you will be invited to provide feedback on the course via a questionnaire. Your feedback is highly valued and will be used to revise the course. You may also offer suggestions at any time.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Attention is drawn to University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and to the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations. Details may be found at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>. Your essay **must** be submitted to VeriGuide.

Grading Criteria

A (Excellent)	Your work is excellent and shows exceptional command of the material. Thus, it considerably exceeds the criteria for a 'B'. You present an original, comprehensive and critical analysis that shows a thorough understanding of the subject and makes significant use of sources in addition to the required course readings. There is ample evidence of reflection, analysis, and creativity. Both the organization of your work and your writing style are outstanding and reveal considerable insight into the relation between form and content. This grade honors an excellent piece of work that goes well beyond expectations. It recognizes that you have made a special effort and that this effort has succeeded.
B (Good)	Your work is good and demonstrates a good understanding of the material but lacks the depth and outstanding quality of an 'A'. It is generally well organized and shows some originality. Both the content and the form display an effort in avoiding errors, though there are some minor ones. You combine a good and critical understanding of the subject with evidence that you did some research beyond the required readings. This grade recognizes your effort in doing a job that exceeds the minimum requirements and includes some original, independent thought.
C (Fair)	Your work reveals a sufficient understanding of the material. Rather than presenting original ideas, it does little more than summarize the material and provides little evidence of reflection and analysis. Content and form don't go beyond basic expectations and/or display some substantial errors. Usually, this grade is given for acceptable and non-exceptional work that doesn't show much effort to do more than meet the minimum requirements. This grade also covers work that is done well in some respects but very weak in others.
D (Pass)	Your work is barely sufficient and may reveal less than adequate understanding of the material, or it may be fairly incoherent and misapply most of the relevant material. Content and/or form do not adequately meet basic expectations. This grade is assigned when your work shows serious problems in one or more areas.
F (Fail)	Your work does not meet the most minimal standards. It reveals no understanding of the material, lack of basic academic skills and knowledge, or completely incomprehensible writing. All in all, your work is not acceptable.