

The University of Puerto Rico  
College of Humanities  
English Department  
Rio Piedras Campus

Syllabus  
INGL 3065 Intercultural Communication  
Spring 2005

Professor Mirerza González,                      Class Meeting: Fridays, 9 - 11:50 am SGG 024  
Office: 8 Sótano PED                              E-mail: [englishmgv@yahoo.com](mailto:englishmgv@yahoo.com)  
Office Hours: T-TH 11:00-12:30 pm      Phone#: Office, 787-764-0000 ext. 3806, 2553

**Course Description:** This course reviews major theoretical approaches to intercultural communication and discusses its role in the mediation of political and ethical tensions that are inherent to multicultural environments .

**Textbook:**

Martin J, and T.K. Nakayama ( 2001) *Intercultural Communication in Context*. 2<sup>nd</sup>.ed.  
Mountain View, CA: Mayfield Publishing Co.

**Objectives of the Course:** Throughout this course, you will ...

- \* review the major theories, concepts, and models of intercultural communication,
- \* learn and develop vocabulary necessary to discuss theories related to intercultural communication,
- \* be exposed to ethical and political issues linked to intercultural communication through a variety of viewpoints and testimonial cases .

**The Student's Responsibilities in this course are:**

1. To attend regularly and to develop critical and active listening skills when not speaking.
2. To prepare assignments, to complete readings and to speak when scheduled.
3. To participate in class discussions, to offer constructive criticism of your classmates as speakers; to complete all written assignments.
4. To confer with your instructor about your progress and problems, if any, in this course.
5. To prepare supplementary assignments and reports as required.
6. All written assignments are to be computer-generated unless specifically exempted by the instructor.

**Grading:**

Your final grade will be composed of:

1. Two written examinations (100 pts. each = 200 pts.)
2. Attendance and QUIZZES (50 pts. + 50 pts.= 100 )
3. A written final project (Due May 13, 100 pts.)

**Grading Scale:**

400-354 pts.	A
353-318 pts.	B
317-280 pts.	C
279-240 pts.	D
Below 239 pts.	F

**STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS WILL BE GRADED ACCORDINGLY**

***Class Attendance and participation (50 pts):***

1. As this is a course in which theoretical knowledge and abilities are being developed, attendance to class is mandatory. Violation of this policy will seriously affect the student's academic standing in the course.
2. The student must speak on the day he/she is scheduled to speak OR make prior arrangements with the instructor OR receive the letter grade of F unless the absence is officially excused. Whenever possible, notify your instructor of any absences in advance. Phoned messages for your instructor may be left at the instructor's voice or email.

***Students Rights & Responsibilities***

A. Special Accommodations (Law 51) : For students who are registered with the Rehabilitation Services Administration or students who are in need of special accommodations, please let me know on the first day of class. Possible arrangements dealing with assistive technology or equipment you may need should be coordinated through the Disability Services Office (OAPI) of the UPR-RRP, Dean of Students Affairs.

B. Grievances

Students with a grievance against another student in this class or students with a conflict with the instructor are referred to the grievance procedures outlined in the Student Handbook. It says, in part, "in academic matters such as a grade complaint, the student should first speak with his or her professor. The normal hierarchy then leads to the department chairperson, dean of the college, and provost".

C. Cheating & Plagiarism

Students are reminded that cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Even one incident of cheating or plagiarism is grounds for failing the course or more serious action by the university. Please study carefully the University policies on cheating and plagiarism that are detailed in the Student Handbook.

Below, you will find the class schedule and assignment due dates. This is SUPERimportant. Do NOT lose this syllabus!

**CLASS SCHEDULE (due to changes)**

<b>Date of Class</b>	<b>Class Topic</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>	<b>Preparation</b>
Week One JAN. 21	Introduction, course description	Introduce yourself to classmates	
Week Two JAN. 28	Intro to the field of Intercultural Communication I	1. Discuss: Why we need to know about IC. What we need to know about IC.	Read Chapter 1 Quiz #1, ( 10 pts.)
Week Three FEB. 4	Intro to the field of Intercultural Communication II	1. Bring to class answers to questions 1, 3-5 (page 69) 2. Activity #1 CLASSROOM	Read Chapter 2
Week Four FEB. 11	Culture and Communication – Context and Power	Communication vs. Culture 1. Bring to class answers to question #4 (page 108) . 2. Do activity #1 at home and present your analysis to class members. Bring copies of the ads you have selected to share with classmates.	Read Chapter 3 Quiz #2 (10 pts.)
Week Five FEB. 18	Theoretical issues: HISTORY	History vs. Histories Bring to class your Family Tree (to the 4 <sup>th</sup> generation)	Read Chapter 4 Identify one family hidden history. (10 pts.)
Week Six FEB. 25	No CLASS	MONDAY CLASSES WILL MEET TODAY, NO FRIDAY CLASSES - REGISTRADOR	
Week Seven MARCH 4	EXAM #1 9:00-10:20 AM  11:00 AM Lena Horn / Video	Lena's identity	CHAPTERS 1-4 (Review notes and class discussions)
Week Eight MARCH 11	Theoretical issues: IDENTITY	Discuss: What is Identity? What is "Whiteness"? What is "Latino"?	Read Chapter 5 Analyze Figure 5-2 (page 178) Analyze J-Lo vs. J. Lopez

Week Nine MARCH 18	Theoretical issues: LANGUAGE	Are language and discourse the same?	Read Chapter 6
Week Ten MARCH 25	<b>NO CLASS/ HOLY FRIDAY</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>	
Week Eleven APRIL 1 <sup>ST</sup>	Theoretical issues: NONVERBAL CODES	Class oral presentations Research on NVC and IC	Read Chapter 7 Class activity
Week Twelve APRIL 8 <sup>TH</sup>	<b>NO CLASS /Conference</b>	Exam #2 TAKE HOME DUE TODAY	INCLUDES Chapters 5-6-7
Week Thirteen APRIL 15	Understanding Intercultural Transitions	Analyze Gloria Anzaldua's Borders. Bring a one page long statement about what it means to live in la frontera...as experienced by Anzaldua. (10 pts.)	Read Chapter 8 Check questions 1-3-6
Week Fourteen APRIL 22	Practical uses of IC: Folk Culture vs. Popular Culture	<b>Activity #2</b> <b>Bring to class your log</b> <b>with all info recorded</b>	Read Chapter 9 Quiz ( 10 pts.)
Week Fifteen APRIL 29	Practical uses of IC: Culture, Communication and Conflict	What do you think about the author's intention with the usage of True Colors as metaphor for PR culture? And its true message?	Read Chapter 11 Read "True Colors"
Week Sixteen MAY 6	Practical uses of IC: Intercultural relationships	Answer questions 1-3 and 5. Bring those to class. In-class activity: Friendship Dialectics	Read Chapter 10
Week Seventeen May 13	Last Day of Classes	Essay Due Today Media coverage of J. Lo's relationships : what we can learn about issues on intercultural relationships in US.	<b>Essay Due today</b> Complete class evaluation form

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