

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

COMS 624

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Analysis of theories and research of communication between people from various generational, racial, ethnic, regional, and international cultures.

RATIONALE

This course provides an overview of both cross-cultural communication (the study of how communication practices vary among cultures) and intercultural communication (the study of variables and barriers affecting communication between individuals from different cultures).

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- A. Exhibit familiarity with major theories, models, concepts, and principles of cross-cultural and intercultural communication.
- B. Identify and analyze specific aspects of culture and integrate the study of intercultural communication with a Christian worldview.
- C. Explain how cultural variables affect intercultural communication and articulate ways to overcome barriers to effective intercultural communication.
- D. Demonstrate written and oral communication skills on a graduate level.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (2)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be at least 400 words, demonstrate course-related knowledge, and include at least 3 citations in current APA format. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 250 words.

D. Worldview Survey

The student will read the first chapter of *The Universe Next Door* (provided in PDF format) and answer the Seven Basic Questions at the end of the chapter.

E. Common Thread Essay

The student will write an essay of at least 1,000 words in current APA format that focuses on identifying the shared or common thread(s) between himself/herself and 1 of the authors of the assigned readings. The student will pay special attention to how the author has invited growth in his/her life. The paper must include at least 5 references from the course readings, the Bible, and pertinent outside sources.

F. Cultural Interaction Preparation

The student will submit a 1-page summary in current APA format of what he/she is hoping to accomplish by completing the Cultural Interaction Conversation. This summary will also include whom the student plans to interview as well as what topics may be covered. The student must also submit a signed statement from the interviewee giving permission to be consulted for the project. Although outside sources are not required, any sources used must be correctly cited.

G. Cultural Interaction Conversation

The student will spend 3–4 hours with an individual from a culture other than his/her own. The student must investigate the culture and formulate questions to pose to the individual as part of his/her preparation for the actual meeting. The student will then submit a 3–4-page reflection paper in current APA format.

H. Group Book Project

The student will be placed in a group to read and critique a book (from the recommended resources list) that depicts intercultural communication and/or cross-cultural variability in communication. This project will be completed in 2 parts. The assignment must adhere to current APA format.

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VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (2 at 100 pts ea)	200
Worldview Survey	150
Common Thread Essay	150
Cultural Interaction Preparation	50
Cultural Interaction Conversation	175
Group Book Project – Preparation	75
Group Book Project – Final	200
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
D- = 680–699 F = 0–679

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

COMS 624

Textbook: Sire, *Naming the Elephant* (2015).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Sire: Preface and ch. 1 2 presentations 1 website	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Worldview Survey	10 0 150
2	Sire: ch. 2 2 presentations 1 website	DB Forum 1 Thread Self-Enroll Groups	75 0
3	Sire: ch. 3 2 presentations	DB Forum 1 Replies	25
4	Sire: ch. 4 1 presentation 2 websites	Common Thread Essay	150
5	Sire: ch. 5 1 presentation 1 website	DB Forum 2 Cultural Interaction Preparation	100 50
6	Sire: ch. 6 1 presentation 1 website	Cultural Interaction Conversation	175
7	Sire: ch. 7 2 presentations	Group Book Project – Preparation	75
8	Sire: ch. 8 1 presentation	Group Book Project – Final	200
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.