



## EDUC 515: Intercultural Education Fall 2, 2015

**Instructors:** Delores Rice, PhD – Assistant Professor

**Office Location:** Education North/Virtual

**Office Hours:** Virtual Daily

**Office Phone:** 512.900.1913

**Office Fax:** 903.886.5507

**University Email Address:** delores.rice@tamuc.edu

### COURSE INFORMATION

EDUC 515 Intercultural Education - ISBN- 9781121318021.

All course readings will be included in your McGraw-Hill eBook. To access your readings for this course, click on the Course eBook link in the left hand navigation block.

*Optional: Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (5th or 6th ed.). (2001/2009). Washington, DC: APA.*

**Course Description:** This course provides an introduction to intercultural education in a global context. Topics include an overview of culture, communication and interpersonal relationship, nonverbal codes and cultural space. The implications of the 21st century classroom as a global community will be examined along with the process for getting to know another culture. The challenges that are presented in intercultural education will be discussed from the perspective of nurturing and welcoming the changes.

#### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

*Learning outcomes are what you are able to do as a result of the activities, readings, instruction, etc. that have occurred in this course - these are my expectations of you. Assignments/activities related to these outcomes are described in the assignments and assessments portion of the syllabus.*

- *Identify the benefits and challenges to intercultural relationships.*
- *Describe cultural differences in relational development.*
- *Discuss some of the contexts that contribute to social conflict.*
- *Understand how verbal and nonverbal communication differs.*
- *Explain the limitations of some cross-cultural research findings.*
- *Define cultural space.*
- *Explain why it is important to understand cultural spaces in intercultural communication.*

- *Identify some practical strategies that can be used to prepare students to better understand and interact with others around the world so they might prevent or solve problems that are global in nature.*
- *Describe what it means to be an internationally competent individual.*
- *Discuss the type of questions one would use to find out information about another culture relative to the dimension of The Big Picture (the “big” questions cultures answer).*

<b>COURSE REQUIREMENTS</b>
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### **Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments**

A wide variety of instructional methods will be utilized to provide meaningful learning experiences, including group problem-solving activities, self-assessments, independent research, and case studies. It is vital that support material is read prior to class and that you actively participate in class discussion, activities, and case studies.

Each student is to post a journal entry for each module's reading assignment. Summarize the reading in your own words and note any insights you have gained (i.e.; note where you agree or disagree with the author and why). Also, each student will make at least 3 meaningful discussion posts per module interacting with the other students in the class.

Work on your assignments according to the course schedule and submit these in a Word Document to the relevant Dropbox.

### **Participation, Attendance, and Assignments**

**Cross Cultural Inventory:** The purpose of this assessment is to measure student-learning outcomes in the area of diversity over the course of this degree program. The data will be analyzed to improve student learning and evaluate where the program may need reform and enhancement in this area.

**Journal:** Each student is to post a journal entry for each unit's reading assignment. Summarize the reading in your own words and note any insights you have gained (i.e.; note where you agree or disagree with the author and why).

**Discussion Participation:** Students will make at least 3 meaningful discussion posts within the course modules interacting with the other students in the class.

**Webliography:** Every module students will post one submission to the course Webliography. This should be a link to a website which is directly relevant to the module topics of the week. The Webliography is located in the course home section.

Cross – Cultural Project: You will interview an international person or someone who is culturally/ethnically different from you and obtain this person's position on each of the 13 cultural categories using the provided instrument.

Research Paper: Each student will write a research paper directly related to one aspect of the course. The research paper will be between 2,800 - 3,000 words, utilize a minimum of five references within the last five years, and adhere to standard APA format. The research paper should basically constitute a literature review of an aspect of the course that caught your fancy.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

This is an online course and some obvious technological resources will be required.

Access to a computer with

- Internet access (high-speed preferred)
- Microphone
- Speakers so you can hear me and others during audio enhanced assignments throughout the semester.
- Word processing software (Microsoft Word preferred)

As a student enrolled at Texas A&M University-Commerce, you have access to an email account via myLeo - all my emails sent from eCollege (and all other university emails) will go to this account, so please be sure to check it regularly. Conversely, you are to email me via the eCollege email system or your myLeo email as our spam filters will catch yahoo, hotmail, etc. and I will not check for your email in spam.

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

**eCollege Technical Concerns:** Please contact the eCollege HelpDesk, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. by sending an email directly to [helpdesk@online.tamuc.org](mailto:helpdesk@online.tamuc.org). You may also reach the HelpDesk by calling (toll-free) 1-866-656-5511, or through the Online Chat by clicking on the "Live Support" tab within your eCollege course.

**Course Concerns:** If you have questions pertaining to the content of this course (e.g., questions about an exam, about course due dates, etc.), please contact your instructor via email, through the "Ask Your Instructor," or during office hours.

**Other Questions/Concerns:** Contact the appropriate TAMU-C department relating to your questions/concern. If you are unable to reach the appropriate department with questions regarding your course enrollment, billing, advising, or financial aid, please call 903-886-5511 between the hours of 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.)

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

**Interaction with Instructor Statement:**

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**Participation & Communication:** I expect each of you to be active and thoughtful

participants within the learning environment (eCollege) and your learning community. You are to expect the same of me. This includes completing the extensive readings related to course topics, team and/or individual research proposal topics and participation in proposal revision activities (submission of individual draft sections and evaluation of draft sections from other class members).

1. Email is the best way to reach me as I check it daily. A reply will be sent within 12 hours depending upon the time your message was received. Please do not send me panicked last minute emails with the word HELP!!!!!!! in the subject line. **HOWEVER.... in order to avoid duplication of questions and answers I prefer that you post all class related questions in the Virtual Office Course Link. It is likely that your peers will have the same question. Emails of a personal nature should be sent to my email address via eCollege.**

## COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

### Course Specific Procedures:

**Citizenship:** All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Student 92s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

**Late work:** Late work is not accepted. You will have plenty of notification and time to complete course assignments. If you know you are going to be out of town and unable to access a computer, plan ahead. See course semester outline at the bottom of this syllabus.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism **WILL NOT** be tolerated and will result in an automatic **F** in the course. Various versions of your work and final papers will be run through Turnitin software - this is not meant to "catch" you in the act, but rather assist you in seeing possible areas that may be unintentionally plagiarized and allow for editing your work.

**Attendance:** This is an online class therefore attendance is up to you! You will be required to work as a team via various activities. The quality of your contributions and regular participation activities, including attendance via ClassLive sessions, will be considered attendance. It is strongly encouraged that you attempt to log into the course everyday and/or check your email for messages in order to not get behind. The synchronous sessions via ClassLive are not required, but it is in your best interest to attend when available during the semester.

**Scholarly Expectations:** All works submitted for credit must be original works created by the scholar uniquely for the class. It is considered inappropriate and unethical, particularly at the graduate level, to make duplicate submissions of a single work for credit in multiple classes, unless specifically requested by the instructor. Work submitted at the graduate level is expected to demonstrate higher- order thinking skills and be of significantly higher quality than work produced at the undergraduate level.

### University Specific Procedures:

*ADA Statement*

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**  
**Texas A&M University-Commerce**  
**Gee Library 132**  
**Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835**  
**Fax (903) 468-8148**  
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu  
Student Disability Resources & Services

### *Student Conduct*

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See *Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook*).

*A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.*