Course Title:
Cross-Cultural Communication: Theory and Research

Course Number:
COMM 5253-104

Course Description:
This course offers a survey of the issues, theories, concepts, and research findings that compare cultural communication codes and practices and inform the nature of communication between individuals of differing cultural and subcultural backgrounds. This course proceeds in a seminar format, in which the primary in-class activities are open discussions and individual and/or small group presentations. All participants are expected to make active and informed contributions to the seminar proceedings.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: October 5-11, 2015
Hours: Mon-Fri 6:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.; Sat 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sun 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: September 6, 2015

Site Director:
Christopher Della Valle. Assistant: Sasha Ramdeen. 2189 Crystal Plaza Arcade, Arlington, VA, 22202. Phone: 703-418-4800; Fax: 703-418-2730; E-mail: apwashington@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: Young Y. Kim, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: University of Oklahoma
Department of Communications
Burton Hall #132
Norman, OK 73019
Telephone Number: (405) 325-1587
Fax Number: (405) 325-7625
E-mail Address: youngkim@ou.edu
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail 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 Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK, and can be ordered online, by phone, by email, or by fax. Ordering online at http://www.bkstr.com/oklahomastore/home is strongly recommended – students can track the status of their order within 48 hours. If an order has not been shipped within three days, students can contact the Follett textbook manager by phone (405) 325-3511, (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or email 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com. Phone orders (ask for the textbook manager and identify yourself as an Advanced Programs student) can be placed 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). Fax orders can be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Text prices are available online.

2. Additional required reading materials are posted on the Electronic Reserve System: Access the OU Electronic Reserves Page at [http://libraries.ou.edu/eresources/reserves/](http://libraries.ou.edu/eresources/reserves/); enter OU NetID and password, and select course and access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

Note: Follett is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through Follett.

**Course Objectives:**

By successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

- define culture, communication, and the relationship between them;
- utilize major theories to explain cross-cultural differences in belief systems, values, and norms;
- utilize major theories to explain cross-cultural differences in message decoding patterns;
- utilize major theories to explain cross-cultural differences in verbal and nonverbal message encoding patterns;
- apply the above-described theoretical knowledge to exploring issues of effectiveness in intercultural communication;
- apply additional major theories to explaining intercultural conflict, cooperation, and personal relationship building;
- apply additional major theories to explaining the process of adapting to a new and unfamiliar cultural environment; and
- apply all relevant theories and concepts to exploring issues of building a community of diversity.

**Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:**

**Readings:**

All readings of the textbooks must have been completed **before** the first day of the seminar. Students should attend the first class session prepared to describe, critique, and apply the ideas presented in any of the required readings.

**Preparation Guide:**

Approximately three weeks prior to the first day of class, a preparation guide will be emailed to all enrolled students using their OU email addresses. This guide will include information on the readings that are scheduled to be discussed in class each day. Those students who do not check their OU emails regularly are responsible for sending an alternative email address to youngkim@ou.edu as soon as they enroll in this course.

**Examination (40%):**

A comprehensive examination will be given on the last day of the seminar. Multiple-choice questions and essay-type questions will be derived from the readings and in-class activities.

**In-Class Performance (30%):**

The level of preparedness and the quality of contribution each student makes to in-class seminar activities will be assessed. In-class activities include informed contributions to open discussions, active participation in exercises, and, depending on the class size, the quality of performance in a 60-minute group presentation in the form of a symposium or a debate. (Detailed instructions on group presentations
will be provided during the first class session.)

**Post-Seminar Review-Synthesis Paper (30%)**:  
An individual paper must be submitted as an e-mail attachment by no more than two weeks from the last day of the seminar. Thoroughly review and reflect on the entire course readings and notes from in-class activities, write a review-synthesis essay of 5000+ words (typed and double-spaced, all-inclusive). Additional readings are neither necessary nor recommended.

The paper should address two main objectives: (a) to identify, describe, and explain 10 most important ideas that you have learned from this course about intercultural communication; and (b) to present a well-considered assessment of these ideas in terms of their significance in advancing your intellectual understanding as well as the utility thereof for enhancing the quality of your communication experience involving culturally dissimilar others.

The paper must be written in your own voice and your own words throughout. Direct quotes from the readings should be used only when necessary. Write clearly and organize the paper logically using section and subsection headings in accordance with the APA Manual (5th or 6th ed.).

In addition to the basic criteria for evaluation suggested in these guidelines, each paper will be assessed in terms of the quality of writing (clarity, organization, and integration), the relevance and originality of ideas, and the depth of insights offered.

**Grading:**

This is a letter graded course: A, B, C, D, or F. Based on the cumulative total percentile score, a letter grade will be assigned according to the following scale: A = 90-100; B = 80-89; C – 70-79; D = 60-69; F = Less than 60.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examination</td>
<td>Last class session</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-class performance</td>
<td>During class sessions</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-Seminar Paper</td>
<td>2 weeks from the last class session, October 25, 2015</td>
<td>30%</td>
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**Procedures for return of exam/paper:**

To those students who provide a self-addressed, stamped envelope when submitting the exam, the graded exam will be returned.

**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 make 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.

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
Young Yun Kim, Ph.D.

Education
Ph.D. in Communication, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

Current Positions
- Professor, Department of Communication, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK since 1988
- Advanced Programs Professor since 1992

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses
- COMM 6414 Interethnic Communication
- COMM 6433 Intercultural Communication
- COMM 5253 Cross-Cultural Communication

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest
- Cross-Cultural Adaptation of Immigrants and Sojourners
- Intercultural, Interethnic, and Interracial Communication
- History of Ideas and Communication Theory

Representative Publications and Presentations
- http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ijintrel.2015.03.018

Major Professional Affiliations
- International Communication Association (Life member; Fellow)
- National Communication Association (Life member)
- International Academy for Intercultural Research (Charter Fellow; Vice President 2011-13; President 2013-15)
- International Association of Language and Social Psychology (Charter Member)