Michigan Technological University: Summer 2003

HU 3261

intercultural Communication

Syllabus

Instructor: Dieter Wolfgang Adolphs
Room: Fisher Hall, Room 127
Time: Mo., Tu., We., Th., 8:15 to 9:50 a.m.
Telephone: 487-3259 (work); 482-3182 (home)
E-Mail: dadolph@mtu.edu; 3261-I@mtu.edu
Office: Walker Arts and Humanities Center, Room 308
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 11:45 a.m. to 12:15
(other times by appointment)

Books/Readings:
* Basic Concepts of Intercultural Communication, ed. by Milton Bennett
* Do's and Taboos Around The World (3rd Ed.), ed. by Roger E. Axtell
* Max Frisch, Homo Faber: A Report

Course Description:

This course will use Milton Bennett’s collection of articles, Basic Concepts of Intercultural Communication, and the book, Do’s and Taboos Around The World (3rd Ed.), to introduce students to the question of how we communicate with people from different cultural and social backgrounds. These books pay close attention to cultural patterns, attitudes, values, and nonverbal behaviors.

We will move on with a discussion of specific questions of Intercultural Communication, based on oral reports on articles from various readers. Finally, we will investigate artistic depictions of cross-cultural experiences in Max Frisch’s novel, Homo Faber, as well as a number of movies.

Every member of this course is strongly encouraged to voice her or his personal opinion and to actively participate in small group and general discussions. The course requirements are:

a) regular attendance and active participation (20 points)
b) regular reading assignments (20 points)
c) five reading/film viewing responses ("log sheets;" 25 points)
d) three oral reports (15 points)
e) optional abstract for final paper (5 bonus points)
f) final paper (3 to 5 pages; 20 points)
Grading Scale:

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92-100%</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>72-76.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A/B</td>
<td>87-91.9%</td>
<td>C/D</td>
<td>67-71.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82-86.9%</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>62-66.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B/C</td>
<td>77-81.9%</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-61.5</td>
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This course can be taken for partial fulfillment of the general education distribution requirements, and it can also count towards MTU's Modern Language and Area Study Certificate and Advanced Certificate.

Please note: MTU complies with all federal and state laws regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Associate Dean of Students (487-2212). For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office (487-3310).

Also: this course description and all schedules are tentative and may be changed. If any such changes are made, you will receive a printed update during our regular class meetings.

Tentative Schedule

Week 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday, 19 May</th>
<th>Tuesday, 20 May</th>
<th>Wednesday, 21 May</th>
<th>Thursday, 22 May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to HU3252</td>
<td>Basic Concepts, pp. ix-xii and 1-34</td>
<td>Further viewing and discussion of the film, The Emigrants</td>
<td>Conclusion and discussion of the film, The Emigrants</td>
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<td>Beginning of the film, The Emigrants</td>
<td>Basic Concepts, pp. 35-52</td>
<td>Basic Concepts, pp. 1-52</td>
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<td>Reading/viewing response I due on Tuesday (27 May):</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1. The Emigrants;</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>2. At least one essay from Basic Concepts</td>
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Week 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday, 27 May</th>
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<td>Basic Concepts, pp. 53-68</td>
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Wednesday, 28 May  
Beginning of the film, *The New Land*

*Do's and Taboos*, pp. v-viii and 3-38

Thursday, 29 May  
*Basic Concepts*, pp. 69-84

- Report A3, *Samovar/Porter*
- Report A5, Essay from part one of *Samovar/Porter*’s readers

Reading/viewing response II due on Monday (2 June):

1. At least one essay from *Basic Concepts and/or Do's and Taboos*

2. *The New Land* or one more chapter from *Basic Concepts*

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**Week 3**

Monday, 2 June  
*Basic Concepts*, pp. 85-110

Continuation of the film, *The New Land*

Tuesday, 3 June  
*Basic Concepts*, pp. 111-130

*Do's and Taboos*, pp. v-viii and 39-50

- Report A6a/b/c etc., *Do's and Taboos*, pp. 51-112
  (pick three countries from different parts of the world)

- Report B1, Essay from part two of *Samovar/Porter*’s reader

Wednesday, 4 June  
Conclusion of the film, *The New Land*

*Basic Concepts*, pp. 130-56

*Do's and Taboos*, pp. 113-46

- Report B2

Thursday, 5 June  
*Basic Concepts*, pp. 157-172

*Do's and Taboos*, pp. 147-72

- Report B3
- Report B4

Reading/viewing response III due on Monday (9 June):

5. At least one essay from *Basic Concepts*

6. *The New Land* and/or one chapter from *Do's and Taboos*

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**Week 4**

Monday, 9 June  
*Basic Concepts*, pp. 173-190

*Do's and Taboos*, pp. 173-80

Tuesday, 10 June  
*Basic Concepts*, pp. 191-214

Introduction to Max Frisch’s novel, *Homo Faber*

- Report B5, from *Samovar/Porter*

Wednesday, 11 June  
Report B6, from *Samovar/Porter*

*Homo Faber*, pp. 1-48

Thursday, 12 June  
*Homo Faber*, pp. 48-101

- Report C1
- Report C2

Optional paper abstract due at noon, tomorrow, 15 June

Two reading/viewing response IV due on Monday, 16 June
7. Basic Concepts and/or Do's and Taboos
8. Homo Faber

Week 5

Monday, 16 June  Homo Faber, pp. 101-166
    Report C3, Heilbut, chapter 3
    Mann, pp. 185-225
    Beginning of film, Mario und der Zaubrerer

Tuesday, 17 June  Beginning of film, Voyager
    Report C4
    Report C5

Wednesday, 18 June  Homo Faber, pp. 167-214
    (at my house, 304 Harris Ave., Hancock)

Thursday, 19 June  Conclusion of the film, Voyager
    Report C6
    Report D1
    Term paper due on Monday, 23 June

Week 6

Monday, 23 June  Basic Concepts, pp. 215-224
    Report D2
    Report D3
    Report D4

Tuesday, 24 June  Basic Concepts, pp. 225-246
    Kristeva (handout), “Bulgaria, My Suffering”
    Report D5
    Report D6
    Reading/viewing response due at 4 p.m. today:
    9. Film Voyager and end of Homo Faber

Wednesday, 25 June  Beginning of film, Mario and the Magician
    Report D7, Heilbut, chapter 14

Thursday, 26 June  Film (Conclusion): Mario and the Magician
HU 3261 (INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION) LOG SHEET I: Name: 

For Week One, I have read pp. _______ of Bennett's reader, Basic Concepts of Intercultural Communication.

Comments:

Questions:

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HU 3261 (INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION) LOG SHEET: Name: __________________________

For Week One, I have viewed the film, The Emigrants.

Comments:

Questions: