Bu 3261 Communicating Across Cultures
Summer 2008 /Fisher 127
Instructor Dr. Ciro A. Sandoval
Off. Hours Walker 322/ Tu/ W/ Th/ 10:00-10:55* - and by appointment
Tel/ 487-3257/ E mail/ casandov@mtu.edu

Notes:
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General Objective
To examine intra/inter/cultural communicative assumptions/ experiences while rethinking deeply held views about one's and other's cultures on both national and international levels. We will consider approaches and views to culture and communication across cultures that we consider different from our "own" culture. These approaches involve self-reflection and interpretations about reality and inter/cultural interactions in different contexts (political, ideological, economic, sociological, historical, anthropological, and ethnographical). The instructor of this class expects a "personal commitment to an open dialogue" in dealing with beliefs, values and behaviors within a respectful and critical atmosphere of understanding of diverse cultural views and encourage honest, and open communication among the participants of this course.

Particular Objectives.
To examine basic concepts and elements of culture and intercultural communication that we will encounter as we read, and/or watch videos chosen to illustrate particular aspects and notions of intercultural communication. At the end of the class, it is expected that the students will have developed a cultural empathy and strategies that allow them to become better intercultural communicators. More specifically, this class
The instructor expects that the students will develop the capacity to analyze and evaluate different communication contexts and adapt strategies for understanding and negotiating intercultural situations that might arise in different places, contexts or circumstances.

**Texts and Materials**

1. Blasco, Maribel et al. *Intercultural Alternatives*.
3. Bateson, Mary. *Peripheral Visions. Learning Along the way*

**Student Responsibilities**

1. Attend class regularly. Be advised that faltering attendance will **significantly affect your final grade**. Any excused absence must be accompanied by a written note from either the Dean of Students Office, a physician or other instructor.

2. Complete the readings and assignments for each class and prepare to responsibly and respectfully participate in class discussions or presentations.

**Grading**

Class attendance, participation/short assignments ....50%

Final Exam, or written paper on an intercultural topic...50%

**Grading Scale**

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<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<td>AB</td>
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<td>CD</td>
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**TENTATIVE GENERAL SCHEDULE**


Readings: “Intercultural Alternatives”


Weeks 6/7. Readings: *Peripheral Visions. Learning Along the way*.

We will complement assigned readings with illustrating videos or poems.