Hu 3261 Communicating Across Cultures  
Summer 2010 / 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:  
1. "MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disability 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 at 487-2212. For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department head/chair, of the Affirmative Action Office at 487-3310."  

2. The instructor of this course reserves the right to change the content and schedule of the present syllabus, if pedagogical reasons or special circumstances call for a change.  

3. Academic Integrity. Students who cheat, plagiarize, or fabricate information as well as students who help others cheat, plagiarize, or fabricate information, can receive sanctions ranging from warning to special failing grade to expulsion from the University, depending on the severity of the offense. See the MTU Student Handbook or the Academic Integrity Policy: www.admin.mtu.edu/usenate/propose/02/18-02.htm  

4. Absolutely, no lap tops allowed in class.  
5. Absolutely, no cell phones set to ring in class.  

6. Any personal issues or problems of any kind should be discussed by prior appointment in my office. Please, no emails asking to solve personal issues online.  

7. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed in class by contacting either other classmates or me personally. I will not answer this information by email.  

General Objective  
We will consider approaches and views to culture/s and communication within and across them. We will consider/discuss why and how cultures are different among them and from our "own" culture. We will approach our ideas, concepts and discussions about culture/s and communication within and among them through self-reflection and interpretation/s of their/our perception of reality and their world views. Accordingly, we may talk of inter/cultural interactions/encounters that might/take place in different contexts (political, ideological, economic, sociological, historical, aesthetic, anthropological, and ethnographical).  
A personal commitment to and open dialogue conducted in a
respected and critical manner is expected when dealing with beliefs, values and behaviors which might not correspond to those that have been instilled in us through a process of our own socialization and cultural production.

**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 this course, it is expected that the students will have developed a cultural empathy/sensitivity as well as strategies that allow them to become better/conscientious, intercultural communicators. More specifically, it is expected that the students in this course 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- Bennet, Milton J. Basic Concepts of Intercultural Communication. Selected Readings

2- Blasco, Maribel et al. Intercultural Alternatives.

3- Binde, Jérôme. The Future of Values. 21st-Century Talks

**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.

3- Complete either final exam OR final paper (to be decided in class by majority vote). If a final paper is to be submitted to complete grade requirements (instead of final exam), you MUST submit EITHER a written proposal or prospectus of paper topic (at least two weeks prior to final deadline) OR MEET WITH ME PERSONALLY IN MY OFFICE to discuss the topic of your paper.

REMINDER: PAPER TOPIC and references must be generated from class readings, videos and discussions, not from internet or any other sources.

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

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

Grading Scale

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grade Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94-100</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>3.7-4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>85-93</td>
<td>AB</td>
<td>3.4-3.7</td>
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<td>80-84</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>74-79</td>
<td>BC</td>
<td>2.96-3.16</td>
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<td>69-73</td>
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<td>65-68</td>
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<td>2.6-2.72</td>
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<td>60-64</td>
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TENTATIVE GENERAL SCHEDULE

Assigned readings from Basic Concepts of Intercultural Communication

Weeks 4/5- Readings: Intercultural Alternatives

Weeks 6/7- Readings/presentations from The Future of Values

We will complement assigned readings with illustrating videos, short stories, or poems.