



IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE



WELCOME TO INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

Teaching Philosophy: As an instructor, my first commitment is to you; I intend to create a vibrant, engaging learning experience. I am accessible to you as a learning resource, confidante, mentor, and guide. Furthermore, I am dedicated to a collaborative and comfortable learning environment, which is a cooperative effort between you and me. This type of atmosphere will serve us well as we experience different types of learning strategies in our courses, such as lectures, discussions, and small group activities. I will ask you to strive toward a greater understanding of this teaching/learning paradigm as we explore communication and communication research together in our course.

PROFESSOR'S MISSION:

To become a more competent, confident public speaker!

To become aware of the dynamics of Human Communication and its impact on society and ourselves.

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2026	Instructor Name:	Rumaldo Marquez
Course Title & #:	INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION COMM. 150	Email:	Rumaldo.marquez@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20726	Webpage (optional):	N/A
Classroom:	2721	Office #:	202

Updated 6/2023



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Semester:	Spring 2026	Instructor Name:	Rumaldo Marquez
Class Dates:	Feb 17-June 12	Office Hours:	TBA please make an appointment
Class Days:	MW	Office Phone #:	760-355-6331
Class Times:	1-225	Emergency Contact:	EMAIL/PRONTO
Units:	3	Class Format/Modality:	Face-to-Face

Course Description

The course provides students with the opportunity to develop intercultural awareness. Patterns of perception and thinking enable us to communicate effectively across cultural boundaries. Topics discussed include the effect of cultural differences regarding styles, personal identities, and various organizational contexts. We live in an era of rapid globalization in which being able to communicate across cultures is imperative to our ability to function in a diverse workplace, family, and ever-changing world.

This class will take us on a journey of perception and impact our foundation as to what we thought was the truth. It will also increase our sensitivity and desire to connect with other cultures. This journey will increase our awareness of our own cultural backgrounds and the contexts (social, cultural, and historical) in which we live and communicate.

This Intercultural Communication course focuses on the study of communication between people of different cultures. The discipline discusses the relationship between culture and communication. An emphasis on social, verbal, and nonverbal language codes, communication breakdowns, and conflict resolution will be examined. This course is critical to the study of all fields that require contact with others and/or awareness of cultural Distinctions, especially those pursuing a career in speech communications, international business, business, education, social sciences, nursing, mass communications, and teaching. (Formerly SPCH 150) (C-ID COMM 150) (CSU, UC).

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

None. Recommended Preparation: ENGL 009 or ENGL 099 or higher.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Evaluate the effectiveness of alternative strategies for communicating in a variety of intercultural interactions. ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5
2. Facilitate group collaboration sessions. ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5
3. Identify intercultural communication situations. ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5
4. Interpret other communication behaviors and shape their own messages to reach work-related goals and objectives. ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5

IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS – 2 5. Demonstrate an intellectual framework (such as cultural patterns and verbal/nonverbal codes) that allows for description and analysis of other cultures and assists in the promotion of understanding between disparate cultures. ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5

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Course Objectives

When you complete the course, you will:

Understand Interpretation and its dynamics. Be aware of the principles of ethics. Sharpen your critical thinking skills. Improve your presentational skills. How different cultures share ideas, concepts, and perspectives.

Understand and describe how the process of persuasion works. The impact of Culture on Cooperation Why people generalize others and their situations, Cultural Perceptions vs. Personal Identities, Master Intercultural Competence: Your unique family culture and its impact on your communication, Gender Roles, and how we use them to fit in with the elderly and their perspectives.

Worldviews and Religions, Cultural History and its impact among Nations, Values and Behaviors, High Context vs. Low Context Communication, and Social Identities.

Explain how culture shapes human perception, communication, and conflict styles, behaviors, and ways of thinking.

Apply knowledge of intercultural communication concepts to analyze intercultural communication scenarios supported by research regarding styles and methods of communication in different cultural settings, appropriate to the examined culture(s).

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

ONLINE READING MATERIAL will be shared

Notecards for speeches

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Required:

Access to several news wires, such as CNN, MSNBC, and FOX, for the analysis of contemporary society.

Reading material will be assigned online.

Office Wear attire

Flashcards!

Notebook for notes (no computer or laptop)

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Class Activity

Mid-Term/Final Exam(s)

Oral Assignments

Problem-Solving Exercise

Quizzes

Skill Demonstration

Written Assignments

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:



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Audio Visual
Computer-Assisted Instruction
Demonstration
Discussion
Group Activity
Individual Assistance
Lecture
Simulation/Case Study
Distance Learning

Out of Class Assignments: *The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.*
View speakers in venues other than class. Rehearse speeches with or without an audience.

Reading and Writing

Introductory speech: Prepare and present a speech of introduction.

Informative speech: Prepare and present a speech that informs the audience about a specific topic.

Visual Aids presentation: Design and present a visual aid presentation to enhance a speech.

Persuasive speech: Prepare and present a persuasive speech utilizing Aristotle's ethos, pathos, and logos appeals.

Peer evaluation and feedback

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Evaluation Procedures

Grading is determined on the following criteria:

Discussion/Participation/homework typed assignments/Journals/Essays/ 30%

Speeches/ 40%

Exams/Final 30%

(Not taking the Final exam can cause you to fail the class!) *The points you EARN determine grades. The total points possible will be determined as the semester concludes. All grades will reflect the level of scholarship, initiative, attitude, cooperation, and individual improvement demonstrated throughout the course.*

Late assignments or tests are rarely accepted and if done so are on a case by case.

More information on the rubric of each assignment will be explained as it is assigned.



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The following percentages illustrate the breakdown.

100-91% = A Superior

90-81% = B Above average

80-71% = C Average

70-65% = D Below Average

64% or > = F

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to me for clarification.

Course Policies

A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See [General Catalog](#) for details.

*Students who add the class late are rarely allowed to make up assignments. Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absence exceeds the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. **Usually, this means more than 2 absences.** Students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.*

- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.*

Academic Honesty



is the advancement of knowledge requiring that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the importance of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- *Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.*
- *Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.*

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Examples of Academic Dishonesty that can occur in an online environment:

- *Copying from others on a quiz, test, examination, or assignment.*
- *Allowing someone else to copy your answers on a quiz, test, exam, or assignment.*
- *Having someone else take an exam or quiz for you.*
- *Conferring with others during a test or quiz (if the instructor didn't explicitly say it was a group project, then he/she expects you to do the work without conferring with others).*
- *Buying or using a term paper or research paper from an internet source or other company or taking any work of another, even with permission, and presenting the work as your own.*
- *Excessive revising or editing by others that substantially alters your final work.*
- *Sharing information that allows other students an advantage on an exam (such as telling a peer what to expect on a makeup exam or prepping a student for a test in another section of the same class).*
- *Taking and using the words, work, or ideas of others and presenting any of these as your work is plagiarism. This applies to all work generated by another, whether it be oral, written, or artistic work. Plagiarism may either be deliberate or unintentional.*

Logging onto Canvas alone is NOT adequate to demonstrate academic attendance by the student.

- *Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class unless otherwise directed by the instructor.*
- *Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.*
- *Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the classroom and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).*



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- *Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, only students enrolled in the class may attend; children are not allowed.*

NETIQUETTE

- *What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.*
- *Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].*

Other Course Information: Work-Based Learning

Work-based learning (WBL) allows students to apply classroom content in professional settings while gaining real-world experiences. These opportunities will provide you (the student) with a deeper, more engaging and relevant learning environment. This semester, I will be offering the following activities to provide you with the opportunity to explore career options in the field of Communication.

Applied and work-based learning (WBL) allows students to apply classroom content in professional settings while gaining real-world experience. WBL exists on a continuum that reflects the progress of experiences from awareness-building to training

Field of study areas of employment include:

Journalism, Electronic Media, TV & Radio Broadcasting, Intercultural and Multi-linguistic Communications, Politics, Administration, Performing Arts, Speech and Rhetoric, Business, Corporate, Marketing, Advertising, Public Relations, among others.

This course complies with the [IVC Regular Effective and Substantive Contact Guidelines](#) by providing the following contact types:

Announcements/Bulletin Boards - Weekly

Email Communication - As needed

Chat Rooms - Weekly or as needed

Scheduled Face-to-Face Meetings - As needed

Orientation at start of the course - Once

Discussion Boards - Weekly or as needed

Online Group Collaboration - As needed

Podcasts - As needed

Virtual Office Hours - Weekly

Other (describe) - As needed to meet course objectives



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This course complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act Section 508 as described in the [IVC Distance Education Handbook](#)

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES:

Saturday, February 28: Late registration for full-term classes ends.

Sunday, March 1: Last day to verify your Census Roster online.

Thursday, March 6: Last day for Virtual Late Add Forms to be accepted.*

Saturday, May 17: Deadline to drop full-term classes.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

[Provide a tentative overview of the readings, assignments, tests, and/or other activities for the duration of the course. A table format, as in the example below, may be used for this purpose.]

Feb	Syllabus & Introduction: perception, Culture and family dynamics, storytelling, artifact project, the study of boys	TBA
March/April	Intercultural field trip, behavior, nonverbal communication, Intercultural relationships, faith/death	TBA
May-June	Conflict, time and space, Listening and connection Final project, Final Exam	TBA

I, the Instructor/Professor, reserve the right to change the above syllabus, as necessary. It is YOUR responsibility to know about, understand, and adapt to any changes that may be made to this syllabus. That includes dropping this course.

WELCOME TO COMM. 150

BE PREPARED TO TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE!



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******Subject to change without prior notice******