

# Bemidji State University

## **SOWK 2110: Intercultural Communication**

### **A. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: \*.\*

Lab Hours/Week: \*.\*

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: None

Designed to enable students to develop awareness, knowledge and skills for sensitive and effective intercultural communication on the international scene as well as with core-cultures in America. The course is particularly useful for students who are preparing to work with cultures other than their own, including: the human services field, business, marketing, languages, pre-professional programs and others. Liberal Education Goal Areas 7 & 8

### **B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/25/1997 - Present**

## **C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS**

1. Introduction to the course
  - A. Why intercultural communication
  - B. Communication
2. Culture
  - A. Why cultures differ
  - B. Intercultural communication
3. U.S. Cultural diversity
  - A. Intercultural competence
  - B. Improving intercultural competence
4. Cultural patterns
  - A. Beliefs, values, norms
  - B. Overview of cultural patterns
5. Taxonomies
  - A. Hall
  - B. Hofstede
  - C. GLOBE
6. Cultural identity
  - A. Cultural biases
  - B. Intercultural contact
7. Verbal codes
  - A. Interpretation and translation
  - B. Language, thought & culture
8. Organization of verbal codes
  - A. Cultural variations in persuasion
  - B. Culture and conservation
9. Culture and interpersonal relationships
  - A. Face and facework
  - B. Improving intercultural relationships
10. Intercultural episodes
  - A. Contexts for competence
11. Ethics of intercultural communication
  - A. Perils & prospects for intercultural competence

## **D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)**

1. reflect an applied understanding of one's standpoint including culture, socioeconomic class, gender, orientation, socio-historical roots, etc.
2. demonstrate an understanding of and appreciation for social, cultural and human diversity and the benefits and opportunities provided in a diverse society.
3. understand the relationship between difference, diversity and oppression and marginalization.
4. employ understanding of cultural identity, cultural uniqueness, differences and universals, intercultural communication.
5. understand and employ a cultural competence/responsive framework/model to facilitate communication and connectedness across, between and within diverse groups.
6. understand human diversity as including many dimensions such as race/ethnicity, socioeconomic class, faith/spirituality, age, able/disability, gender, sexual orientation, etc.
7. demonstrate critical insight regarding personal values, perspectives and paradigms related to human and social diversity and the relationship of these to personal & professional ethical systems and congruence.

**E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

None

**F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

**G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted