

Osaka Gakuin University 2017-18 Fall Semester

The Study of Comparative Cultures

Instructor :

Donna Fujimoto

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Lesson: Monday 12:50-14:20, Tuesday 16:10-17:40

Office Hours : N/A

Subject code : 1039

Course Description:

The goal of this course is to understand how culture affects people's behavior and their values. The most effective way to understand this is through examining differences. Points of comparison can be made in areas such as language use, conversational style, verbal and nonverbal behavior, the concept of time and space, ethics, food and others. This course will be based on readings, short talks, videos, and class activities. Understanding comes not only through cognitive work, but also by being aware of emotional reactions. Thus, there will be a strong focus on experiential learning, but students will be expected to complete written assignments and document their experiences through written reflections.

Resources

Handouts will be provided in each class.

Evaluation

Homework and quizzes (50%)

Reflections (30%)

Presentations (20%)

Notes:

Course Schedule:

Class 1: Introduction

Class 2: General principles of intercultural communication

Class 3: Nonverbal communication: face

Class 4: Nonverbal communication: face

Class 5: Nonverbal communication: gestures

Class 6: Class presentations

Class 7: Concept of space

Class 8: Concept of time

Class 9: More on time

Class 10: Language and culture I

Class 11: Language and culture II

Class 12: Cross linguistic cues

Class 13: Stereotypes and prejudice

Class 14: Our sense of values

Class 15: Values orientation

Class 16: Values clarification

Class 17: Class presentations

Class 18: Communication styles

Class 19: Communication styles

Class 20: Food and culture I

Class 21: Food and culture II

Class 22: Contrasting cultures I

Class 23: Contrasting cultures II

Class 24: Case study I

Class 25: Role plays

Class 26: Case study II

Class 27: Intercultural concepts

Class 28: Presentations

Class 29: Invisible rhythms

Class 30: Final review