

Course ID:	Course Title:	Winter 2020	
ICS 205	Intercultural Competence	Prerequisite:	No
		Credits:	3

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Days:	W, F	Instructor:	Professor Singh	First day of classes:	Wed, Jan 8, 2020
Time:	11:15 – 12:30pm	Email:	Jennifer.Singh@ambrose.edu	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun, Jan 19, 2020
Room:	A-1085 Airhart 1	Phone:	(403) 410 2000 ext. 6922	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon, Mar 9, 2020
Lab/Tutorial	No	Office:	A2050	Last day to withdraw from course:	Fri, Mar 20, 2020
		Office Hours:	W, F 12:30pm - 2:30pm	Last day to apply for coursework extension:	Mon, Mar 30, 2020
Final Take-Home Exam Due:	Thurs, April 9, 2020 11:59pm			Last day of classes:	Wed, April 3, 2020

Course Description

Foundational principles and necessary skills for effective communication between people based on an understanding of culture and worldview. Attention will be given to the impact of culture shaping worldview, communication, thinking, values and verbal and non-verbal behaviour and the important role of social, cultural and historical contexts in human interactions.

Expected Learning Outcomes

By the end of this class, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. **Understand** some the theoretical frameworks, and have familiarity with some of the major scholars that inform the intercultural competency discourse.
2. **Recognize** how they reflect their own culture and the ways in which one's cultural self-perception intersects with those population groups operating on the margins of a dominant culture.
3. **Develop** appropriate skills to interact both verbally and non-verbally with populations from outside of their own culture, and to have increased their capacity to form appropriate relationships with populations from a variety of cultures.

4. **Discern** how intercultural competency is an operating principle in Christian Scripture and seek to emulate this in their interactions with a wide variety of populations moving forward.

Textbooks

Ekblad, Bob, *Reading the Bible with the Damned*, (Louisville: John Knox Press, 2005)

Lustig, Myron W. and Jolene Koester, *Intercultural Competence: Interpersonal Communication Across Cultures, Seventh Edition*, (Boston: Pearson Education Inc., 2013)

Please bring a modern translation of the Bible to every class such as NIV, NASB, NRSV, ESV, or NKJV (no paraphrases such as the Living Bible or the Message).

Course Schedule

The following is an outline of the units that this course will cover. At the beginning of each unit, the instructor will post on the class Moodle site a detailed ‘unit forecast’ of the topics that will be covered, required readings, and assignments due during that unit.

Date	Unit
Wednesday January 8 – Friday February 14	<p>UNIT 1: Establishing a Firm Foundation</p> <p>This unit will seek to define some of the basic principles required for becoming an interculturally competent person through exploring various theories, concepts, and exemplars.</p>
Monday February 17 – Friday February 21	<p>READING WEEK – no classes</p>
Wednesday February 26 – Friday April 3	<p>UNIT 2: Recognizing the Need for Intercultural Competence within Relationships and Contemporary Issues</p> <p>This unit will survey some of the essential components required for intercultural effectiveness when engaging with people, organizations, and complex situations that represent unique cultures.</p>

Submission of Assignments

Unless otherwise indicated, all assignments must be handed-in on the class Moodle site. Please submit assignments in **Word format only (NO pdfs)** electronically through Moodle on or before the due date (no later than midnight on due date). **INCLUDE your LAST NAME and FIRST NAME at the BEGINNING of the file name** – e.g.

SmithBevDayofDialogueReading1.doc

Use 12pt Times New Roman, Garamond, or Calibri. Use 1.5 spacing with standard margins, headers and footers (if required by the assignment). Please always use page numbers on the bottom right of the page. **Marking rubrics for each assignment will be posted on Moodle** in order that students are aware of how each assignment will be assessed.

Late Policy

Due dates are valuable for several reasons. Here are three reasons: 1) They allow me, the instructor, to plan my schedule to grade and return your work in a timely and thoughtful manner; 2) They mimic reality, in that most of life involves hard deadlines – student loan payments, project assignments, work schedules; 3) They create a level playing field. It is simply unfair to your classmates if they submit their work on time and you receive an extension without penalty. Therefore, only under extraordinary circumstances (i.e. a life or family crisis, a severe and prolonged illness, etc.; poor time management does not count as a life crisis) will I grant an extension. All requests for an extension must be submitted to me in writing on or before the assignment's due date. Otherwise, any submissions received later than midnight on the due date will be deemed late. Late assignments will be deducted **one letter grade per every day that the assignment is late** i.e. an A would become an A- if it was turned in one day late, a B- would become a C+ and so on. There will be assignments given in this class where late submissions will not be accepted, and those assignments will be clearly indicated in this syllabus. For these assignments, the late policy will not apply and an automatic zero on the assignment will be given.

PLEASE DO NOT ASK FOR AN EXCEPTION TO THIS POLICY

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance and Participation in Class and Ambrose-Wide Events

DUE: Friday March 27, 2020 (5% of final grade)

Class Attendance throughout the Term: Attendance and active participation in class are vital components of success in this course. Students will be allowed up to two unexcused absences for the term, **except on the following days: State of the World Presentations, Reading the Bible with the Damned Discussion Days, and guest-speakers.** After two unexcused absences, students will be deducted 1% from their overall participation grade, per unexcused absence. If a student is unable to attend a class, this must be discussed **in person (not by email)** beforehand with the professor (if it is due to illness or unforeseen circumstances, the student is responsible to speak with the instructor once the illness/crisis has passed). In addition, students are expected to attend several campus-wide events happening in the Winter Term, outlined below. All of these events provide opportunities for students to develop as university students as they engage with people and activities that represent a diversity of voices on particular topics. The participation grade will be entirely based on self-reporting by the student; therefore, this is an integrity mark that each student will assign themselves on a form that is available on Moodle and due by **Friday March 27, 2020.**

Program Day (Thursday January 30, 2020) (1%): There are no classes on this day, as students are expected to attend the events that have been planned in for your respective program. Whether you are a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Theology Student, Program Day is run for all students so please plan on attending. Program Day is a time set-aside to connect with others in your program and to participate in activities related to your program.

One REACH Event (1%): REACH is a student-led group at Ambrose who seek to bring awareness to cross-cultural mission work that is happening in various parts of the world, and locally, and to invite students to learn more about what is happening in the world. REACH will host three 'dinner and conversation' events this term where a speaker engaged in cross-cultural mission work will share and a free dinner is served. Dates will be made available at the beginning of the term and also posted on the student-club poster board on the first floor. REACH will also hold two chapels throughout the term, as well as weekly, half-hour, prayer meetings in the Atrium on either Tuesdays or Thursdays right after chapel (12:05pm) and would welcome your presence as they intercede for many of the pressing issues in our world today. Students can either attend a 'Dinner and Conversation' event, one of the REACH-led chapels, or one weekly prayer meeting before the end of the term.

Ambrose Research Conference (ARC, Wednesday March 25, 2020) (1%): The Ambrose Research Conference is an annual event where students, faculty, staff and alumni participate by presenting research related to the theme of the conference and is an important event in the life of the community. Classes are cancelled that day with the expectation that all students will attend at least one session throughout the day.

2. State of the World Group Assignment

DUE: Friday February 7, Friday February 28, and Friday March 13, 2020 (15% of final grade)

In a world where 'fake-news' has become a byword and the international media are increasingly scrutinized for the way in which they are covering world events, this assignment will give students the opportunity to report on a current, major event happening in the world. The event students choose to cover must be something happening **outside of North America (Canada and the United States of America)** i.e. a major event happening in Africa, Asia (which includes East Asia, Southeast Asia, Central Asia), the Middle East, South America, Europe, Australia/Oceania, or Antarctica. The goal of this assignment is for students to gain an appreciation for what is happening in our world, and how these topics are being covered and communicated from non-North American and non-Western perspectives; therefore, students will have to utilize **non-Canadian, non-American, and non-Western European** credible news outlets, to research their chosen topic. For example:

<http://www.aljazeera.com/>

<http://www.latinamericanpost.com/>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/>

<http://english.cctv.com/>

<https://www.africannewsagency.com/>

<http://www.nation.co.ke/>

<http://www.jpost.com/>

<https://www.arabnews.com/>

<https://themoscowtimes.com/>

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/>

<http://thenationonlineng.net/>

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/>

<https://english.kyodonews.net/>

<https://riotimesonline.com/>

<https://mexiconewsdaily.com/>

Students will be responsible to present a 15-minute news bulletin that provides the class with: context on the issue being covered, a summary of the major points of the event as represented by the media sources chosen, an interactive component for the class, and a written prayer that challenges and motivates Canadian Christians to intercede on behalf of the chosen issue. Students will need follow the written guidelines for the presentation that are provided on Moodle.

Students will work in groups of **3 people** and sign-up on the second day of class for one of the three presentation dates throughout the term. Each group must choose a current event being covered in the news and **there can be no duplicate presentations i.e. if a group presents about the measles outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo on Friday February 7, then no other group can cover this topic on February 28 or March 13.** Therefore, it is to your advantage to sign-up for an earlier presentation date in the term. **Each group is required to briefly meet with Professor Singh to**

discuss the event they have chosen on either January 22, 23, 24, or 27 and can sign-up as a group on a sheet that will be on her office door. Detailed instructions for this assignment and a marking rubric are posted to the class Moodle site.

3. Days of Reading the Bible with the Damned: Learning to Read the Bible Alongside of those on the Margins

DUE: Tuesday January 28, 2020 and Tuesday March 3, 2020

NO LATE SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT (15% x 2 assignments = 30% of final grade)

Reading the Bible with the Damned by Bob Ekblad has been selected as one of the course texts because of its emphasis on reading Christian Scripture alongside of non-dominant and marginalized populations in society. It is vital within the context of an intercultural competency course that students become exposed to the voices of the marginalized and the socio-cultural factors that influence their interpretation of the Bible. This assignment will expose students to a variety of marginalized voices wrestling with various portions of Christian Scripture that highlight some of the challenges, injustices, frustrations, fears, hopes and aspirations that they hold.

Each Day of Reading the Bible with the Damned will require that the student have completed the written portion of the assignment prior to the start of class (hence the due date for the written portion one day before the class), **and to be present in class on the Day of Reading The Bible with the Damned (Wed Jan 29 and Wed Mar 4, 2020)** and to actively engage in the discussion. Because the written portion is essential to the student's participation in the Day of Reading the Bible with the Damned, **LATE WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** The required readings for each of the Days of Reading the Bible with the Damned can be found on Moodle. Students must complete the required readings for each Day of Reading the Bible with the Damned and a 1200-word document that fulfils the criteria for the written portion of the assignment. Detailed instructions for the written assignment and a marking rubric are posted to the class Moodle site.

4. Intercultural Competence Surrounding Death and Dying Assignment

DUE: Wednesday February 27, 2020 (25% of final grade)

Students will be required to connect with someone **outside** of the Ambrose community **and** their church community, and to have a conversation with that person regarding the practices, traditions, and rites that are associated with the dying and death of a loved one. The person selected cannot be an evangelical Christian or represent other streams of the Christian tradition: Catholic, Orthodox, or Protestant. The person you have a conversation with must have a different worldview to your own (therefore not even a 'cultural' Christian) and does not necessarily need to be a devout follower of another religion/worldview i.e. atheist/ agnostic, Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim, Zoroastrian, Confucian, African or Indigenous traditional beliefs. For the purposes of this assignment, it is just important to have a conversation with someone who makes sense of the world, and particularly death, outside of a Christian worldview. Through this assignment, students may discover that they share more similarities than differences, regarding death, with those who hold a different worldview.

Students will hold a minimum of one conversation with a selected person in the community, with an approved discussion guide (students must bring this to their State of the World group appointment with Professor Singh on January 22, 23, 24, or 27) and then write a 1200 – 1500 word paper that answers the following thesis question:

Based on my conversation with X, I will seek to answer the question of, if asked, how would I walk faithfully/be faithful presence to a family like X's when dealing with dying and death in their family?

Detailed instructions for this assignment and a marking rubric are posted to the class Moodle site.

5. Morley On-Site Learning Saturday January 25, 2020

DUE: Participation in Morley expected on Saturday January 25, 2020 (10% of final grade)

Short Reflection Paper Due: Thursday February 13, 2020

Our class will travel by chartered school bus on Saturday January 25, 2020 to the community of Morley (just west of Calgary), home to several Indigenous people groups including the Stoney Nakoda, Wesley, and Chiniki First Nations. All students are expected to attend and participate in this unique learning opportunity where our class will have the opportunity to interact with community members. Recognizing that students have work, family, voluntary, church, and social commitments on the weekend, Professor Singh would like to ask each of you to do your utmost to be available from 8:30 am – 3:00 pm on that day. We will depart promptly from Ambrose at 8:30am and arrive back at Ambrose before 3:00pm. Professor Singh will discuss this assignment in more detail during the first class. The short reflection paper criteria and marking rubric will be posted to the class Moodle site before January 25.

6. Take Home Final Exam

DUE: Thursday April 9 (15% of final grade)

A comprehensive exam will be distributed to students in class on Wednesday April 1, 2020 that evaluates the student's understanding of the main principles and themes that have been explored throughout the semester and tests the student's ability to critically reflect on what they have learned. Further instructions will be given by the instructor during the last week of March.

Assessment Summary

Attendance and Participation	5%
State of the World Group Assignment	15%
Reading the Bible with the Damned Discussions	30% (2 x 15%)
Intercultural Competency Surrounding Dying and Death	25%
Morley On-Site Learning Sat Jan 25	10%
Final Take-Home Exam	15%

Grade Summary

Letter Grade	Numerical Equivalents	Description
A+	95-100	Excellent
A	90-94	
A-	86-89	
B+	80-85	Good
B	76-79	
B-	73-75	
C+	70-72	Satisfactory
C	66-69	
C-	63-65	
D+	60-62	

D	55-59	Minimal Pass
D-	50-54	
F	0-49	Failure

Ambrose Electronic Etiquette Policy Appropriated for ICS 205

In accordance with the Ambrose Electronic Etiquette Policy outlined on page 9 of this syllabus, the professor of record for this class, **Professor Singh, will not permit the use of laptops, phones, tablets etc. for any purposes during classes, or give permission for students to use a recording device in any classes.** Hand-written notes will be the primary way in which students may be able to record what they are hearing and learning. If a student requires an electronic device for notetaking due to an academic accommodation, this must be clearly stated on the academic accommodation form issued by the Ambrose Accessibility Office.

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student’s responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor’s instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a “Request to Withdraw from a Course” form or by sending an email to the Registrar’s Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of “W” will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade

earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar’s Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future

lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for

academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.