

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION  
for the Chinese Language, Culture and Mission Program  
**Syllabus**  
Fall Semester, 2009

**Instructor:** G. David Rath, Ph.D.

**Required Textbook:** *Creating Understanding*, Donald K. Smith: Zondervan Press, 1992.

**Course Description:** This course is a foundational course in the area of cross-cultural communication. In this course students will study the basic values of human nature and how these values differ from culture to culture. They will do a self-analysis in order to come to a better understanding of themselves and the culture they live in. They will study the communication skills needed to be able to function effectively in a cross-cultural setting. And they will reflect on how Christianity adapts to the world's cultures without altering the gospel message.

Assignments	Value	Description
<i>Group Activities</i>	<b>20%</b>	Each student will work with others as assigned to simulate cultural conflicts, discuss issues, solve problems and present their results. The purpose of the activities is to apply theory and develop successful strategies.
<i>Study Guides and Class Discussion</i>	<b>20%</b>	Each student will complete and submit answers to the study guides on Moodle before class-time. Late study guides will not be accepted. Study guide preparation will be necessary for successful participation in class discussion.
<i>Project</i>	<b>20%</b>	Each student will present a research project in class along with a 5-10 page paper, analyzing the student's culture and Chinese culture. The student will also provide a strategy for communicating and evangelizing within Chinese culture.
<i>Tests</i>	<b>20%</b>	Each student will be expected to complete two tests, one halfway to the midterm and one halfway to the final.
<i>Exams</i>	<b>20%</b>	Each student will be expected to complete the midterm and final exams as scheduled.

**Course Policies:**

1. Attend class regularly and on time. Missing 1/3 or more of the scheduled classes will prevent a student from taking the final exam.
2. Complete assignments on time. Without a valid excuse, late work will not be accepted.

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<b>Day</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading &amp; Study Guide</b>	<b>Presentation Due</b>
<b>Sept.</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>September</b>
7M	Course Introduction	N/A	
9W	Proposition 21-22	pp. 303-335; 337-357	
11F	Proposition 23	pp. 337-357	
14M	Values Survey	Handout <i>(read before class)</i>	
<b>16W</b>	<b>Test 1</b>	<b>Test 1</b>	<b>Test 1</b>
18F	Chinese students join		Introductions
21M	Proposition 1-2	pp. 15-49; SG1	
23W	Activity 1: Similarities & Differences	Handout	
25F	Activity 1 Results		Activity 1 Results
28M	Proposition 3-4	pp. 50-81; SG2	
30W	Activity 2: What Do You See?	Handout	
<b>Oct.</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>October</b>
2F	Activity 2 Results		Activity 2 Results
5M	Proposition 5-6	pp. 82-103; SG3	
7W	Activity 3: It's a Puzzle.	Handout	
9F	Activity 3 Results		Activity 3 Results
<b>12M</b>	<b>Test 2</b>	<b>Test 2</b>	<b>Test 2</b>
14W	Proposition 7-8	pp. 104-124; SG4	
16F	Activity 4: What is the Message?	Handout	
19M	Activity 4 Results		Activity 4 Results
21W	Proposition 9-10	pp. 125-143; SG5	
23F	Activity 5: Top Two Values	Handout	
26M	Activity 5 Results		Activity 5 Results
28W	Proposition 11-12	pp. 144-165; SG6	
30F	Activity 6: Four Case Studies	Handout <i>(read before class)</i>	
<b>Nov.</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>November</b>

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2M	Activity 6 Results		Activity 6 Results
4W	Proposition 13-14	pp. 166-196; SG7	
6F	<b>Sports Day—No Class</b>	<b>Sports Day—No Class</b>	<b>Sports Day—No Class</b>
9M	Activity 7: ISMS	Handout	
11W	Activity 7 Results		Activity 7 Results
13F	Review	Review	Review
16M-19Th	<b>Midterms</b>	<b>Midterms</b>	<b>Midterms</b>
20F	<b>Sports Day Off</b>	<b>Sports Day Off</b>	<b>Sports Day Off</b>
23M	Proposition 15-16	pp. 197-233; SG8	
25W	Activity 8: Moonshot	Handout	
27F	Activity 8 Results		Activity 8 Results
30M	Proposition 17-18	pp. 234-267; SG9	
<b>Dec.</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>December</b>
2W	Activity 9: Rockets & Sparklers	Handout <i>(read before class)</i>	
4F	Activity 9 Results		Activity 9 Results
7M	<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>Final Exam</b>
9W	Proposition 19-20	pp. 268-302; SG10	<b>Project Paper Due</b>
11F	<b>Founder's Day Prep</b>	<b>Founder's Day Prep</b>	<b>Founder's Day Prep</b>