



CIEE Beijing, China

Course name:	Intercultural Communication and Leadership
Course number:	COMM 3301 BJCH
Programs offering course:	Beijing Intensive Chinese Language
Language of instruction:	English
U.S. Semester Credits:	3
Contact Hours:	45
Term:	Fall 2019

Course Description

In this class, students will develop skills, knowledge, and understanding that will help them communicate and engage more appropriately and effectively in Beijing as well as in other intercultural contexts. Students will explore various topics in intercultural communication in the context of the student experience abroad, and will practice intercultural learning processes that they can apply when working across difference in a wide variety of contexts. Students will increase their own cultural self-awareness and develop personal leadership skills to help them become more effective in an interdependent world.

Learning Objectives

By participating in this course, students will:

- Increase their own self-awareness, particularly their cultural self-awareness.
- Develop a deeper understanding of the field of intercultural communication and intercultural concepts/theories and their relevance to their own experience in the Chinese culture.
- Increase their ability to recognize and bridge cultural gaps.
- Develop an intercultural leadership practice that helps them translate their culture-specific and culture-general knowledge into moment-to-moment competence.

Course Prerequisites

None, apart from an open mind and a sincere interest in exploring things intercultural, which will involve a deep level of self-reflection.

Methods of Instruction

Learning will involve in-class exercises, active reflection, discussion, readings, field reports, short lectures, and out-of-class activities that help students engage in the local culture on a deeper level.

Assessment and Final Grade

Grading will be based on the following:

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| 1. Journal (6 entries): | 20% |
| 2. Mid-semester cultural comparison project: | 20% |



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| 3. Homework & Cultural Partner activities: | 20% |
| 4. Final Digital Storytelling project: | 20% |
| 5. Attendance and class participation: | 20% |

Course Requirements

Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) Pre and Post-Assessment

The IDI is an online assessment tool that measures our intercultural development. It contains 50 questions and takes about 20 minutes to complete. All ICL students take the IDI at the beginning and the end of the course. The student's final grade will not be based on the results of the IDI, but they must complete it twice in order to pass the course. The instructor will provide students with the login information. The results allow CIEE to analyze the effectiveness of the ICL curriculum and measure the overall intercultural learning of our students.

Journal Entries

Students will be asked to complete six different reflective journal entries over the course of the semester. Students are free to write about whatever is on their mind at the moment *as long as it is relevant to the course*; students will be provided with ideas and suggestions for possible topics to address throughout the course of the semester. The goal of the journal entries is to give students a chance to reflect on their intercultural experience in a personally-relevant way.

As outlined in the schedule, two entries each are due at three different points throughout the semester. The journal entries should be typed and no more than 500 words each. They will be graded on the depth of reflection and application of course concepts to their personal experience.

Mid-Semester Cultural Comparison Project

The mid-semester Cultural Comparison Project involves writing a paper and doing a short in-class presentation. For this project, students are asked to examine a theme within the local Chinese culture in comparison to their home culture(s) (as defined by the student). Themes may be any topic that is of interest and relevant both in the local context and in the student's home culture, and should be relatively specific rather than sweepingly general. Examples of possible themes include: food and eating habits; attitudes and practices around alcohol consumption; displaying affection; parenting; inequality and difference (based on religion, sexuality, race, etc.); expectations in higher education; exercise or sport; news consumption; advertising; etc. The chosen topic/theme should be something the student has experienced or has had close contact within both Chinese and the home cultures. Students should discuss the similarities and differences between Chinese vs. home cultures with regards to the student's topic of choice, particularly with respect to two or three of the cultural value patterns discussed in class. Students should aim to integrate personal experience with concepts learned in class.

The paper should be typed, double-spaced with a word count of 1000-1250. It may be written in the first person. Students should cite at least three academic sources (from the course readings or other). It is also highly recommended students consult with at least two locals (such as their Cultural Partners) about this topic and incorporate any useful insight they offer into the paper (although be careful not to present anyone's opinions as fact).



Students should address the following:

- What similarities and differences have you noticed and/or experienced between (as well as within) Chinese culture and your home culture(s) with regards to your chosen theme?
- To what extent and how do cultural value patterns help you understand these similarities and differences?

In addition to the paper, students should be prepared to present to the class on their topic in class 14. The presentation may take any form and creativity is encouraged.

Homework & Cultural Partner Activities

Homework will include assigned readings and activities to complete outside of class. Students are responsible for completing the homework outlined in the syllabus and asking for clarification when needed. Students should bring copies of any readings due that day to each class, as we may need the readings in class. As part of this course, students are required to identify a Cultural Partner—someone who has been a resident of the Chinese culture for many years—with whom students will need to complete several activities throughout the semester. More information about choosing a Cultural Partner will be provided in class.

Final Digital Storytelling Project

As a final capstone for this course, students will create their own Digital Story. Digital Storytelling involves short (three- to five-minute) first-person stories embedded with images, videos, and any other visual means. Students will share their own narrative of the study abroad experience via video by using iMovie (Apple), Apple Clips, Microsoft Photos, Shotcut (all free to download), or another video editing app.

Weekly Schedule

Following is the course schedule for the semester, subject to change.

Class	Topic	Assignment/Reading Due
Week 1: Introduction		
Class 1	What is this class about?	
Class 2	Perception and Suspending Judgment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bennett, 'Intercultural communication: A current perspective' (pp. 1-34)
Week 2: Who am I in the context of this experience?		
Class 3	How do I learn?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI)• Name Game with Cultural Partner
Class 4	Identity in Context	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yep• Paige



Week 3: Cultural Value Patterns

Class 5	Introduction to Cultural Value Patterns and Discussion of Digital Storytelling Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ting-Toomey & Chung, 'What is intercultural communication flexibility?' and 'What are the essential cultural value patterns?' (pp. 22-37 & 38-63)• Porter
Class 6	Host Culture Value Patterns	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'I am...' activity with CP• Hofstede et al., 'The rules of the social game' (pp. 3-26)• Hofstede et al., 'I, we, and they' (pp. 89-134)

Week 4: Introduction to Intercultural Communication: How do we interact?

Class 7	Culture & Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ting-Toomey & Chung, 'What is the connection between verbal communication and culture?' (pp. 110-129)• Deutscher• Topic for Cultural Comparison Project
Class 8	How do we interact non-verbally?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ting-Toomey & Chung, 'What are the different ways to communicate nonverbally across cultures?' (pp. 130-153)• Journal entries 1 & 2

Week 5: Stereotypes

Class 9	Stereotypes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plous, 'Understanding prejudice and discrimination' (pp. 3-48)• Zemach-Bersin, T. American students abroad can't be 'global citizens.'
Class 10	Perceptions of Us	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Li, Jing (2011). China's America: The Chinese View the United States, 1900-2000.

Week 6: Engagement in the Host Culture

Class 11	Cultural Engagement Activity	
Class 12	Culture Shock and Intercultural Adjustment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ting-Toomey & Chung, 'What is culture shock?' (pp. 91-109)

Week 7: Examining Our Personal Values

Class 13	What do I value?	
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| Class 14 | Cultural Comparison Project Presentations | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cultural Comparison Projects! |
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Week 8: Practicing Intercultural Competence

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| Class 15 | Intercultural Competence | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trompenaars & Hampden-Turner, 'Relationships and rules' and 'Reconciling cultural dilemmas' (pp. 29-50 & 200-217)• Hammer |
| Class 16 | Cultural Detective | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Journal entries 3 & 4• Personal Values activity with CP |

Week 9: Practicing Personal Leadership

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| Class 17 | Introduction to Personal Leadership | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Schaetti et al., Parts I & II (pp. xxi-118) |
| Class 18 | Aligning with Vision | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recognizing Something's Up activity |

Week 10: Digital Storytelling and Cultural Engagement

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| Class 19 | Digital Storytelling: Story Circles | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft of script for final project |
| Class 20 | Cultural Engagement Activity | |

Week 11: Practicing Personal Leadership: The Critical Moment Dialogue

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| Class 21 | Practicing with the Critical Moment Dialogue | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Schaetti, et al., Part III (pp. 119-151)• Come to class having identified a Something's Up you wish to discuss |
| Class 22 | Practicing with the Critical Moment Dialogue (continued) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solo Challenge activity |

Week 12: Practicing Cultural Detective and Personal Leadership Together

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| Class 23 | Personal Leadership + Cultural Detective = EPIC | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Long-form personal CMD |
| Class 24 | Partner Work outside of class (no official class meeting) | |

Week 13: Debriefing this Experience

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| Class 25 | Debrief EPIC application | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EPIC Flow |
| Class 26 | How can we articulate and use what we've learned? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Journal entries 5 & 6• British Council et al.• Matherly |



Week 14: Re-Entry and Wrap-Up

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| Class 27 | Re-Entry | • Storti |
| Class 28 | Digital Storytelling Viewing Party | • Digital Stories! |

Course Materials

Copyright and Fair Use Statement:

Copyright laws and fair use policies protect the rights of authors. Copyrighted materials may be used in this class, including articles, music, art work, etc. These materials are provided for private study, scholarship, or research and adhere to the copyright law of the U.S. (Title 17, U.S. Code). Students may copy or download from the course website one copy of the materials on any single computer for non-commercial, personal, or educational purposes only, provided that it is not modified and used only for the duration of this course. Beyond this use, no material from the course or website may be copied, reproduced, re-published, uploaded, posted, transmitted, or distributed in any way without the permission of the original copyright holder. Neither the instructor nor CIEE assumes any responsibility for individuals who improperly use copyrighted material.

Readings and Online Resources

Week 1:

Bennett, M.J. (1998). Intercultural communication: A current perspective. In M.J. Bennett (Ed.), *Basic concepts of intercultural communication: Selected readings* (pp. 1-34). Boston, MA: Intercultural Press.

Week 2:

Yep, G.A. (1998). My three cultures: Navigating the multicultural identity landscape. In J.N. Martin, T.K. Nakayama & L.A. Flores (Eds.), *Readings in cultural contexts* (pp. 79-85). Mountain View, CA: Mayfield Publishing.

Paige, R.M. (1993). On the nature of intercultural experiences and intercultural education. In Paige, R.M. (Ed.), *Education for the intercultural experience* (pp. 1-13 only). Yarmouth, ME: Intercultural Press.



Week 3:

Ting-Toomey, S. & Chung, L.C. (2012). 'What is intercultural communication flexibility?' and 'What are the essential cultural value patterns?' In S. Ting-Toomey & L.C. Chung, *Understanding intercultural communication* (pp. 22-63). New York: Oxford University Press.

Porter, B. (n.d.) The art of Digital Storytelling: Becoming 21st-century storykeepers. In *The Creative Educator* (pp. 2-4). Available online at http://www.digitales.us/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Digital_Storytelling_in_the_Classroom.pdf.

Hofstede, G., Hofstede, G.J. & Minkov, M. (2010). The rules of the social game. In G. Hofstede, G.J. Hofstede, & M. Minkov, *Cultures and organizations: Software of the mind: Intercultural cooperation and its importance for survival*, 3rd ed. (pp. 3-26). New York: McGraw-Hill.

Hofstede, G., Hofstede, G.J. & Minkov, M. (2010). I, we, and they. In G. Hofstede, G.J. Hofstede, & M. Minkov, *Cultures and organizations: Software of the mind: Intercultural cooperation and its importance for survival*, 3rd ed. (pp. 89-134). New York: McGraw-Hill.
(Individualism/Collectivism)

Optional reading:

Hofstede, G., Hofstede, G.J. & Minkov, M. (2010). Yesterday, now, or later? In G. Hofstede, G.J. Hofstede, & M. Minkov, *Cultures and organizations: Software of the mind: Intercultural cooperation and its importance for survival*, 3rd ed. (pp. 235-276). New York: McGraw-Hill. (Long-Term Orientation)

Week 4:

Ting-Toomey, S. & Chung, L.C. (2012). What is the connection between verbal communication and culture? In S. Ting-Toomey & L.C. Chung, *Understanding intercultural communication* (pp. 110-129). New York: Oxford University Press.

Deutscher, G. (2010). Does language shape how you think? *The New York Times* (August 26). Available online at <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/08/29/magazine/29language-t.html?pagewanted=all&r=1&#>.

Ting-Toomey, S. & Chung, L.C. (2012). What are the different ways to communicate non-verbally across cultures? In S. Ting-Toomey & L.C. Chung, *Understanding intercultural communication* (pp. 130-153). New York: Oxford University Press.

Week 5:

Plous, S. (2003). The psychology of prejudice, stereotyping, and discrimination: An overview. In S. Plous (Ed.), *Understanding prejudice and discrimination* (pp. 3-48). New York: McGraw-Hill. Available online at <http://www.understandingprejudice.org/apa/english/>.



Li, Jing (2011). *China's America: The Chinese View the United States, 1900-2000*. New York: State University of New York Press.

Zemach-Bersin, T. (2008). American students abroad can't be 'global citizens.' *Chronicle of Higher Education*, 54(26), A34.

Week 6:

Ting-Toomey, S. & Chung, L.C. (2012). What is culture shock? In S. Ting-Toomey & L.C. Chung, *Understanding intercultural communication* (pp.91-109). New York: Oxford University Press.

Week 8:

Trompenaars, F. & Hampden-Turner, C. (1998). 'Relationships and rules' and 'Reconciling cultural dilemmas.' In F. Trompenaars & C. Hampden-Turner, *Riding the waves of culture: Understanding diversity in global business*, 2nd ed. (pp.29-50 & 200-217). New York: McGraw-Hill.

Hammer, M.R. (2008). The Intercultural Development Inventory: An approach for assessing and building intercultural competence. In Moodian, M.A., *Contemporary leadership and intercultural competence: Exploring the cross-cultural dynamics within organizations* (pp. 203-217). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Week 9:

Schaetti, B.F., Ramsey, S.J., & Watanabe, G.C. (2008). *Personal Leadership: Making a world of difference: A methodology of two principles and six practices*. Seattle, WA: FlyingKite Publications. Introduction, Parts I & II (pp. xxi-118).

Week 11:

Schaetti, B.F., Ramsey, S.J., & Watanabe, G.C. (2008). *Personal Leadership: Making a world of difference: A methodology of two principles and six practices*. Seattle, WA: FlyingKite Publications. Part III (pp. 119-151).

Week 13:

British Council, Ipsos Public Affairs, & Booz Allen Hamilton (2013). *Culture at work: The value of intercultural skills in the workplace*. Available online at <http://www.britishcouncil.org/sites/britishcouncil.uk2/files/culture-at-work-report-v2.pdf>.



Matherly, C. (n.d.) Effective marketing of international experiences to employers. Available online at http://www.aifsabroad.com/advisors/pdf/Impact_of_Education_AbroadI.pdf (pages 9-10).

Week 14:

Storti, C. (2003). Introduction; The stages of reentry. In C. Storti, *The art of coming home* (pp. xii-xxi & 45-65). Boston, MA: Intercultural Press.