

Cultures in Contact:
Intercultural Communication in Chile

Hours of Instruction: 46
Semester Credit Units: 3 (Includes 20 hours of volunteer work)

I. Course Description.

The purpose of this course is to introduce International and Chilean students to the principal topics in intercultural communication, focusing on similarities and differences in communication behaviors. This course will help students build intercultural communication skills and discover how culture influences communication between individuals from different cultures, specifically in Chile.

II. General Objective.

To create an environment where both International and Chilean students can learn about each other's cultures, improve their acquisition of the Spanish or English language and build intercultural communication skills. This course will be taught in English and in Spanish.

III. Specific Objectives.

Upon completion of this course, the student should:

- Learn how culture (Chilean or International) affects the student as an intercultural communicator in Chile
- Identify aspects of culture as it relates to self and others.
- Develop a better understanding of cultural diversity.
- Identify causes of intercultural misunderstanding
- Demonstrate confidence in working with people from different cultures.
- Improve acquisition of Spanish or English language by conversations and projects with native speakers.

III. Grades.

Grades for this course will be based on presentations, volunteer work, projects, "Hermano UVM Journal" and active, productive participation in class. The following is how grades will be determined.

A. International Students grading system

International Students

- 2 credits will be rewarded for this class
- 1 credit will be rewarded for

international students who complete 20 volunteer hours and completed a final paper.

- The Chilean grading system will be used
- Attendance: 90%

B. Grading comparison:

Chilean Grading System/US System

A+: 6.7 – 7.0	B+: 5.3 – 5.5	C+: 4.4 - 4.5
A: 6.0 – 6.6	B: 5.0 - 5.2	C: 4.2 - 4.3
A-: 5.6 – 5.9	B-: 4.6 – 4.9	C-: 4.0 - 4.1

C. Class grading system:

- A) Student's Country Presentation: 20%
- B) Cultural Comparison Essay: 10%
- C) Braille Test: 10%
- D) Cultural Reflection Essay: 10%
- E) "Hermano UVM" Journal: 20%
- F) Final Exam: 30%

IV. Intercultural Activities

- Trip to National Congress
- Trip to Museo Naval
- Trip to Isla Negra
- Thanksgiving Dinner

IV. Materials

Bibliography:

- Bennett J. Milton, Basic Concepts of Intercultural Communication, Intercultural Press, 1998
- Carley H. Dodd, Dynamics of Intercultural Communication, Fifth Edition. McGraw-Hill, 1998
- Rosinski Philippe, Coaching Across Cultures, Nicolas Brealey Publishing, 2003

Hand-outs:

- Darke, Brenda, Aislados en Medio de Todos.
- Wong, Tony, Quién es más capacitado?
