In this course, you will learn:

1. To see culture as a medium in which we live, and which shapes virtually every aspect of our thoughts, beliefs and behavior.
   2. To identify some of the basic cultural tendencies of U.S. Americans, to articulate and experience (through simulations, films and self-tests, for example), some of the basic principles of intercultural communication, and to discover how differences in cultural style and background can lead to cultural misunderstandings.
   3. To reflect on your own readiness to go abroad. In this endeavor, you will be aided by readings, writing assignments, in-class simulations, and discussions with your instructor and other students (those in this class, and those recently returned from study abroad.


Before coming to class for the first time, read *The Art of Crossing Cultures*.

**Week I**  
Storti

**Week II**  
*Intercultural Competence* (IC), Chapter 4

**Week III**  
IC, Chapter 5, visit of Prof. Katherine Verdery

**Week IV**  
*Cultural Misunderstandings*, Raymonde Carroll (Introduction, “The House,” “Parents and Children” (photocopies)

**Week V**  
IC, Chapter 7, and pp. 217-224, film, student presentation on “Conversation”

**ATTEND POSTER SESSION, TUESDAY, APRIL 26, DEWING COMMONS, 11:30-12:30**

**Week VI**  
IC, Chapter 9, student presentation on “Friendship”

**Week VII**  
IC, Chapter 10, student presentation on “The Couple”

**Week VIII**  
Fear and Trembling
Week IX  Wrap-up (reading TBA)

N.B. Schedule will be adjusted to include Poster Session (at which attendance is mandatory), Memorial Day, and the Day of Gracious Living

At the end of this class, you will be given a grade (the Registrar’s Office needs it to be so), but neither the grade nor the unit is official until the second half of the course is completed.

This third of your grade will be determined in the following way:

Attendance and Participation (I may occasionally give you a tiny “quizlet” [e.g., two questions, each of which can be answered in a sentence or two], just to make sure you’re doing/understanding the reading). This includes attendance at Poster Session and possible meeting with students recently returned from Study Abroad 40%

Journaling (ca. 3-4 pp. each week, to be turned in each Wednesday) 40%

Writing 4 paragraphs for the website (see kzoo.edu/cip/kpic for examples) 15%

Writing a “dry run” ICRP prospectus 5%

Finding a contact group ---- “due date” = Seventh Week [This doesn’t “count” unless you don’t do it --- but, of course, everyone will!]