I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: COMM 201- Intercultural Communication

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall Year: 2017

D. Effective Term: Fall 2018

E. Sponsoring Department: Communication & Language

F. Semester Credit Hours: 3

G. Weekly Contact Hours: 3
   Lecture: 3
   Laboratory: 0
   Out of class student work per week: 6

H. Prerequisites/Corequisites: None

I. Laboratory Fees: None

J. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Divisional Dean at time of approval: Chair: Sara Banfield, Sara.Banfield@raritanval.edu; Divisional Dean: Patrice Marks, Patrice.Marks@raritanval.edu

II. Catalog Description

Intercultural Communication explores communication theories and skills within a cross-cultural context, particularly how different cultures filter experience through their unique views of institutions, conventions, time and space, verbal and nonverbal communication. The course will also reinforce communication skills needed today to participate effectively in the growing cultural diversity of American society and the global community, especially in business, education, and health care.

III. Statement of Course Need
A. In today’s world everyone will, at one time or another, be in a position where it is necessary to communicate with a person of another culture. This course is a required course in Communication Studies, the International Business program and the International Business Certificate. Intercultural Communication is also a specialization course for Human Services and Emergency Services programs. This course will also serve students in any program who are interested in communicating more effectively with people from other cultures and with fellow citizens of the world.

B. This course generally transfers as a Global and Cultural Awareness general education course. This course generally transfers as a Communication Studies program requirement. This course generally transfers as an International Business program elective.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

A. Free Elective
B. This course serves as a General Education course in Global and Cultural Awareness
This course meets a program requirement for Communication Studies (AA), International Business Option in Business Management (AAS), International Business Option in Business Administration (AS) and International Business – Certificate.
C. This course serves as a program elective for Human Services and Emergency Services. Human Services/Pre-Social Work (AS), Human Services – Certificate of Completion, Emergency Services (AS), and Emergency Services – Fire Science Option (AS).

D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

This course explores the following topics:

A. Communication and Culture
   1. understanding and defining “culture”
   2. deep structure of culture
   3. dominant and diverse cultural patterns
   4. cultural diversity in American society
   5. religion and culture

B. Intercultural Communication
   1. language and culture
   2. nonverbal communication and culture
   3. cultural perceptions of time
   4. cultural perception of space and distance
C. Intercultural Communication Contexts
   1. business
   2. education
   3. health care
   4. culture shock

D. Intercultural Communication Challenges
   1. ethnocentrism
   2. prejudice and stereotyping
   3. racism and sexism
   4. international conflict and terrorism

VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes

A. General Education Learning Outcomes:

   At the completion of the course, students will be able to:
   1. produce written reports and oral presentations that reflect critical thought about
      intercultural communication theories. (GE- 1,*)
   2. research and analyze information related to the impact of culture on
      communication and present the findings. (GE- 1, IL)
   3. recognize, analyze, and evaluate ethical issues related to ethnocentrism, racism,
      and sexism within oneself and within American society. (GE-ER)
   4. understand the commonalities and differences in values, perspectives, and
      communication behaviors of people and groups from other cultures. (GE-8)
      *embedded critical thinking

B. Course Learning Outcomes:

   At the completion of the course, students will be able to:
   1. explain the impact of culture on communication.
   2. develop a more global perspective through international films and media sources,
      and personal interaction with individuals and groups from other cultures.
   3. interpret important theories of intercultural communication.
   4. recognize underlying causes of ethnocentrism, racism, sexism, and other negative
      attitudes within oneself and within American society.
   5. analyze one’s personal and cultural communication style in order to communicate
      more effectively with individuals and groups from other cultures.
   6. anticipate intercultural communication differences and make appropriate
      adjustments in order to communicate more effectively.
   7. present findings for the typical stages of culture shock and strategies for dealing
      with it.
   8. produce a research paper/project on a given intercultural communication topic.
C. **Assessment Instruments**

1. research papers  
2. demonstrations  
3. essays  
4. journals  
5. portfolios  
6. video presentations  
7. oral presentations  
8. projects

**VII. Grade Determinants**

A. essays  
B. projects  
C. tests  
D. presentations  
E. class participation  
F. journals

Given the goals and outcomes described above, LIST the primary formats, modes, and methods for teaching and learning that may be used in the course:

A. lecture/discussion  
B. small-group work  
C. guest speakers  
D. student oral presentations  
E. simulation/role playing  
F. student collaboration

**VIII. Texts and Materials**

B. web sources

Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.

**IX. Resources**
A. documentary and international films
B. international media including newspapers and news sources
C. web resources
D. guest speakers
E. field trips

X. Honors Options: N/A