

## Syllabus – Elective Course

Course title:

**International Teamwork and Communication**

Credits:

6 ECTS credits

Teaching language:

English

Target students:

Students in Communication, Humanities, Social Sciences, Business

Teacher in charge of the course:

Heide Hartmann (Clarife – *Centre de Langues et Interculturel, Université Catholique de Lille*)

### COURSE PRESENTATION

Prerequisite:

Students undertaking this course should have successfully completed at least one semester at university, or have equivalent experience. They must have some ability to work as a group and be able to communicate easily in English at a standard university level. In other respects, the course is intended to serve a mix of profiles and learning backgrounds for a more diverse international learning experience.

Content:

This course is intended to provide an introduction to a wide range of issues concerning teamwork and communication in an international and intercultural environment. Topics to be covered in course sessions will include:

- Icebreaking activity
- Several activities to actively increase team cohesion
- What motivates you in teamwork
- What are the challenges and opportunities in multicultural teams
- Layers of diversity in teams and inclusion as a leverage for diverse teams
- Obstacles in team building and how to work around them
- Building trust in international teams
- Stages of team development (Bruce Tuckman)
- From ethnocentric to ethnorelative (Milton Bennett)
- Management and leadership: The specificities of international teams
- Team roles and team models (Meredith Belbin)
- The role of values in team building
- The influence of communication styles in teams

- Trompenaars's 4-R model: Reconciling differences and building a team culture
- Molinsky's Global Dexterity model: Diagnosis of differences and customization of behaviour (stretching your comfort zone)
- The role of corporate culture in teams
- Diverse teams at work: The model of Gardenschwartz and Rowe
- Combination of interactive workshops, collaborative team activities, self-discovery tools and research
- Two group presentations

#### Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course, the students should be able to:

- Recognize the different elements that make up team culture
- Demonstrate the role culture plays on general and professional communication and behaviour
- Suggest ways to respect and reconcile the individual characteristics that make a difference
- Evaluate the relative importance of different elements in communication situations
- Apply different cultural orientations to correctly analyse situations
- Understand their strengths, weaknesses and preferred role as team players
- Apply principles of team management in a diverse team
- Interact more sensitively within international teams
- Develop a capacity for culturally sensitive critical analysis
- Interpret different elements of verbal and non-verbal communication and adapt communication styles
- Analyse critical incidents in teams and start to provide solutions
- Be able to integrate a new team showing flexible and inclusive behavior

#### **WORKLOAD**

*French contact hours = 60 minutes (in some countries/institutions, 1 contact hour = 45-50 minutes)*

| Form                                     | Number of hours | Comments               |
|--|-----------------|------------------------|
| Face-to-face, in-class, on-site learning | <b>39 hours</b> | 13 sessions of 3 hours |
| Approximate personal work / homework     | 15 hours        |                        |
| Student total workload                   | 54 hours        |                        |

#### **EDUCATIONAL METHODS**

Lecture, interactive workshops, collaborative team work, field research and project work, debates, case studies, and team presentations.

#### **RESOURCES**

All course materials will be supplied in class. Students will need their computer for the course.

## ASSESSMENT

| Form                        | Number | Duration   | Comments  |
|-----------------------------|--------|------------|---|
| Continuous assessment (25%) | 1      | 20 min.    | Group mark: Team presentation                                       |
| Final exam (50%)            | 1      | 30 minutes | Group mark: Team video assignment                                   |
| Active participation (25%)  | 1      |            | Attendance, active participation, contribution to group discussions |

*This syllabus is based on information available at the time of publication (January 2024). Changes may occur.*

*For updated information about course content, please contact us: [lilleprograms@univ-catholille.fr](mailto:lilleprograms@univ-catholille.fr)*