



## 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 covered will include:

- Multiple icebreaking activities
- The influence of communication styles in teamwork
- The influence of value systems in teamwork
- Multiple activities to actively create and increase team cohesion
- Exploration of motivation drivers in teamwork
- Trust building in teams: Theory + practice
- Layers of diversity in teams and inclusion as a leverage for diverse teams (Gardenswartz + Rowe)
- Challenges and opportunities in multicultural teams: Dilemma reconciliation (Fons Trompenaars)
- Stages of team development (Bruce Tuckman)
- From ethnocentric to ethnorelative team behaviour (Milton Bennett)
- Analysis of team roles based on students' experiences in class (Meredith Belbin)
- Stretching your comfort zone to increase team efficiency (Andy Molinsky)
- Diversity variables that impact teamwork (Gardenswartz + Rowe)
- Combination of interactive workshops, collaborative team activities, self-discovery and research

- Several group presentations, out of which two are evaluated

#### Learning Outcomes:

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

- Recognize the different elements that make up team culture.
- Decode elements of verbal and non-verbal communication correctly and adapt communication styles.
- Demonstrate how national and thus personal cultures are a factor that impact communication and behaviour.
- Respect and reconcile the individual characteristics that improve team efficiency.
- Identify their strengths and points to improve on, as well as their preferred roles in teams.
- Apply principles of team management in a (diverse) team.
- Interact more sensitively within (international) teams.
- Develop a capacity for culturally sensitive critical analysis.
- Analyse critical incidents in teams and manage them appropriately.
- Be able to integrate a team by demonstrating inclusive behaviour.

## 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 | 39 hours        | 13 sessions of 3 hours. |
| Approximate personal work/homework       | 15 hours        |                         |
| Student total workload                   | <b>54 hours</b> |                         |

## EDUCATIONAL METHODS

Lecture, interactive workshops, collaborative teamwork, 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 | Hours      | Comments                           |
|------------------------------------|--------|------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Continuous assessment</b> (50%) | 1      | 20 minutes | Group mark: Team presentation.     |
| <b>Final exam</b> (50%)            | 1      | 30 minutes | Group mark: Team video assignment. |
|                                    |        |            |                                    |

This syllabus is based on information available at the time of publication (October 2025). Changes may occur.

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