Course Code: ICS001A
Course Name: Intercultural Studies
Semester: Semester 1, 2015
Program: Certificate IV Tertiary Preparation Program
Credit Points: 10
Course Coordinator: Melanie Lynch
Document modified: 12 Dec 2014 12:06:19

Teaching Team

Your lecturer/tutor can be contacted via the email system on the portal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cara Margaret Nunez</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cara.nunez@staff.qibt.qld.edu.au">cara.nunez@staff.qibt.qld.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr Princess Habiba</td>
<td><a href="mailto:princess.habiba@staff.qibt.qld.edu.au">princess.habiba@staff.qibt.qld.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melanie Lynch</td>
<td><a href="mailto:melanie.lynch@staff.qibt.qld.edu.au">melanie.lynch@staff.qibt.qld.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staff Consultation

Your lecturer/tutor is available each week for consultation outside of normal class times. Times that your lecturer/tutor will be available for consultation will be given in the first week of lectures. A list of times and rooms will be published on the QIBT Portal under the “myTimetable” link.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course

Brief Course Description

This course is designed to present students with a variety of socio-cultural topics that will increase their confidence in living and studying in the Australian multicultural environment. Students will be asked to investigate and reflect on their own culture, as well as contemporary issues in Australian culture. Topics include: Ways of Learning; Health Matters; Religion, Faith and Belief; Politics, Law, and Government; Human Rights; and, the Arts. The implications of living and studying in a multicultural society are explored along with dimensions of non-Indigenous Australian and Indigenous Australian culture.

Rationale

This course is designed to enhance students knowledge of their own culture in order to reflect on how they formed their perceptions, value and beliefs. Students will also gain knowledge and skills about living in the multicultural Australian environment, so that they are able to effectively communicate in the contexts of educational, health, legal, political, religion/faith, and human rights. Students will identify the differences between these contexts in their own culture and those in the Australian culture, in order to come to a better understanding of their position in both.

Aims

The purpose of this module is to provide students with an understanding of cultural diversity and its value in contemporary multicultural societies in order to effectively interact, participate and communicate in an increasingly global environment. Students will develop an understanding of the influence and role that cultural background plays in the development and maintenance of different institutions in society. Emphasis will be placed on providing students with opportunities to understand their own cultures through developing empathy with other cultures and insight into how they relate to each other. Through an exploration of culture, students will have the opportunity to reflect on their cultural identity and role in a rapidly changing world. Students will also have the opportunity to examine and compare the customs and traditions, strategies and practices from their own culture to other cultures in order to gain an understanding and appreciation of culturally diverse environments.

Upon completion of this module students will be able to demonstrate respect and sensitivity through the development of knowledge, understanding and intercultural skills that allow them to participate effectively in a range of personal and professional contexts, and to relate to and work efficiently with people of other cultures.

Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Describe the concepts of culture and the role that individuals and groups in society play within cultures.
2. Give at least three examples of how values and attitudes about different cultures are formed.
3. Describe the role that power and inequality play within cultures.
4. Explain the importance of communication and thinking and processes of reasoning and problem solving across cultures.
5. Describe the role that power and inequality play within cultures.
6. Explain and give an example of acculturation, enculturation, assimilation, White Australia policy, multiculturalism, and culture shock.
7. Identify the various elements of cultural universal systems.
8. Explain how historical events impact on cultural practices.

Texts and Supporting Materials

**Required Resources**

While there is no set textbook required for this course, you will be required to purchase a workbook containing the weekly homework readings and associated activities. The workbook is available from the Mt. Gravatt and Gold Coast Bookstore. This workbook will form the basis for your Weekly Activities and Participation assessment (10%) throughout the semester (refer to the Assessment Details section below for further information).

You will also need to purchase a lined writing book (sheets of loose paper will not suffice) and bring this to class each week as it will be used during class time for note taking.

**Organisation and Teaching Strategies**

Classes are held for four (4) hours each week with a variety of opportunities to interact and learn.

During weekly class time (4 hours) you will be presented with the course content through the use of powerpoint presentations, videos and the use of internet sites. There will also be opportunities for you to reflect on and participate in discussion with your teacher and class mates about the content presented during classes. These discussions will provide you with the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of the basic foundations and concepts relevant to various cultures and apply these in order to fulfill the aims and objectives of the course. It is expected that you devote another 5 - 6 hours of private study each week, which will include weekly homework reading and exercises, and preparation of assessment items. A 10-credit point subject at University constitutes approximately 10 hours of work towards that subject each week.

Classes will also provide an opportunity for you to learn through experiencing interactive student debates and group discussions that are related to course content. During these sessions you are expected to participate in an active way - through debate and discussion - that will provide the types of experiences useful for developing a deeper understanding of the course concepts.

You will also have the chance to (a) reflect upon your individual experiences, (b) interpret those experiences in terms of the relevant theories and concepts, and (c) plan to improve the quality of your intercultural interaction and communication.

There will be a field trip to the Queensland Museum and the Gallery of Modern Art during the course, so that you may experience and interact with art and artefacts first hand.

All classes aim to enhance your ability to complete assessment, interact with other students and your teacher as well as provide you with additional opportunities to experience culture in a variety of communication contexts.

**Class Contact Summary**

**Attendance:**
Your attendance in class will be marked twice during a four hour class. To receive full attendance, you must be present in the classroom on both occasions. Therefore, you are encouraged to attend and participate in all classes throughout the semester.

**Participation in Class:**
During classes each week you are expected to actively and enthusiastically participate in exercises, activities and discussions related to the current topic. Active participation is encouraged as the course content is open for reflection and discussion during class.

**Consultation Times:**
Attendance during consultation times is optional but you are encouraged to use this extra help to improve your learning outcomes.

**Course Materials:**
Lecture notes will be made available to you on the Learning@QIBT site on the student portal and you are advised to print these out before each class to help guide you in your study program. You are expected to bring a lined notebook and pens and pencils to class in order to take notes. You are also expected to attend classes having completed the weekly readings and homework activities in order to be able to participate in the interactive group activities.

**Independent Learning:**
You are expected to reinforce your learning from class time by undertaking sufficient independent study (approximately 6 hours per week outside of class time) so that you can achieve the learning outcomes of the course. This independent learning will involve reading and preparing for classes and completing assignments and other assessment tasks.

**Program Progression:**
You are reminded that satisfactory Program Progression requires that attendance in classes is maintained at equal to or greater than 80%, and that GPA is maintained at equal to or greater than 3.5 [please see QIBT Policy Library - Program Progression Policy - for more information].

**Content Schedule**

**Weekly Teaching Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction to Course</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Powerpoint Presentation available on portal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Culture and Culture Shock</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Powerpoint Presentation available on portal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Where do we all come from?</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Google Earth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Demographics of Multicultural Australia</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Powerpoint Presentation available on portal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Class Activities</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Assessment - from Workbook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Debating Skills</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Summary of Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Relevant Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mid-Semester Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>1,2,4,5,6,8.</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Great Debate</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>1,3,4,5,7,8</td>
<td>8, 9, 10, 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Weekly Activities and Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8</td>
<td>2-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>1,3,4,5,7,8,9,10</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Assessment Details

There are four (4) items of assessment in the course. To give yourself the best chance of success in this course you are encouraged to submit all four (4) pieces of assessment.

1. **Mid-Semester Exam**
   - Which will cover topics presented from weeks 1 - 5.
   - By completing the mid-semester exam, you will be provided with an opportunity to demonstrate achievement of learning objectives 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8.

2. **Weekly Activities and Participation**
   - From week 2 of semester, you will be required to complete homework readings and associated activity sheets and bring these to class the following week. It is essential that you complete the homework readings and activities prior to each class as this information will be used to participate in and complete class activities. Marks for this assessment item will be awarded for the completion of your activity sheets as well as your level of participation in the class activities. Completion of the weekly activities and participation provides a comprehensive demonstration of achievement across learning objectives 1 - 8.

3. **The Great Debates**
   - Debating teams of 3 will be formed. During weeks 8 - 12 a debate will be held with one team of 3 representing a FOR argument and one team representing an AGAINST
argument. Topics will be chosen in week 4. Students will work as a team to undertake research to present their argument FOR or AGAINST to the class. By completing the great debate, you will be provided with an opportunity to demonstrate achievement of learning objectives from 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8.

You are required to submit a paper copy of your Assignment at the beginning of class in the week of you debate (8, 9, 10, or 11). You will also be required to submit your essay electronically via QIBT’s collusion detection tool [Turn It In].

4. Final Exam:
The final exam will cover topics presented from weeks 5-12 and will assess learning objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8.

Submission and Return of Assessment Items

Normally you will be able to access your results within fourteen [14] days of the due date for submission of the assignment. ALL assessment submitted in this course must be retained by QIBT as directed by the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) made under section 28 (1) of the National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Act 2011.

Retention of Originals

You must be able to produce a copy of all work submitted if so requested. Copies should be retained until after the release of final results for the course.

Extensions

To apply for an extension of time for an assessment item you must submit a written request to your lecturer via the Student Website at least 48 hours before the date the assessment item is due. Grounds for extensions are usually serious illness, accident, disability, bereavement or other compassionate circumstances and must be able to be substantiated with relevant documentation [e.g. medical certificate]. Please refer to the QIBT website - Policy Library - for guidelines regarding extensions and deferred assessment.

Penalties for late submission without an approved extension

Penalties apply to assignments that are submitted after the due date without an approved extension. Assessment submitted after the due date will be penalised 10% of the TOTAL marks available for assessment (not the mark awarded) for each day the assessment is late. Assessment submitted more than five days late will be awarded a mark of zero (0) For example:

- > 5 minutes and <= 24 hours 10%
- > 24 hours and <= 48 hours 20%
- > 48 hours and <= 72 hours 30%
- > 72 hours and <= 96 hours 40%
- > 96 hours and <= 120 hours 50%
- > 120 hours 100%

Note:

- Two day weekends will count as one day in the calculation of a penalty for late submission.
- When a public holiday falls immediately before or after a weekend, the three days will count as one day in the calculation of a penalty for late submission.
- When two public holidays (e.g. Easter), fall immediately before or after, or one day either side of a weekend, the four days will count as two days in calculating the penalty for late submission.
- When a single public holiday falls mid-week, the day will not be counted towards the calculation of a penalty.

Please refer to the QIBT website - Policy Library > Assessment Policy for guidelines and penalties for late submission.

Assessment Feedback

Marks awarded for assessment items will also be available on the on-line grades system on the Student Website within fourteen [14] days of the due date.

Generic Skills

QIBT aims to develop graduates who have an open and critical approach to learning and a capacity for lifelong learning. Through engagement in their studies, students are provided with opportunities to begin the development of these and other generic skills.

Studies in this course will give you opportunities to begin to develop the following skills:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Generic Skills</th>
<th>Taught</th>
<th>Practised</th>
<th>Assessed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Written Communication</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Communication</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Literacy</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary Research</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical and Innovative Thinking</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Integrity</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Directed Learning</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team Work</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Intelligence</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Language Proficiency</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Additional Course Generic Skills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific Skills</th>
<th>Taught</th>
<th>Practised</th>
<th>Assessed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethical &amp; Social Understanding</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independence &amp; Creativity</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Additional Course Information

In addition to formal contact hours, you are provided with extra support through individual consultation with teaching staff, tutorials in English language, and self-access computer laboratories. You are encouraged to take full advantage of these support services to enhance your learning and possibility of success in the course.

### Teacher and Course Evaluations

Your feedback is respected and valued by your lecturers and tutors. You are encouraged to provide your thoughts on the course and teaching, both positive and critical, directly to your lecturer and tutor or by completing course and lecturer evaluations on the QIBT portal whenever these are available.

### Academic Integrity

QIBT is committed to maintaining high academic standards to protect the value of its qualifications. Academic integrity means acting with the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility in learning, teaching and research. It is important for students, teachers, researchers and all staff to act in an honest way, be responsible for their actions, and show fairness in every part of their work. Academic integrity is important for an individual’s and the College’s reputation.

All staff and students of the College are responsible for academic integrity. As a student, you are expected to conduct your studies honestly, ethically and in accordance with accepted standards of academic conduct. Any form of academic conduct that is contrary to these standards is considered a breach of academic integrity and is unacceptable.

Some students deliberately breach academic integrity standards with intent to deceive. This conscious, pre-meditated form of cheating is considered to be one of the most serious forms of fraudulent academic behaviour, for which the College has zero tolerance and for which penalties, including exclusion from the College, will be applied.

However, QIBT also recognises many students breach academic integrity standards without intent to deceive. In these cases, students may be required to undertake additional educational activities to remediate their behaviour and may also be provided appropriate advice by academic staff.

As you undertake your studies at QIBT, your lecturers, tutors and academic advisors will provide you with guidance to understand and maintain academic integrity, however, it is also your responsibility to seek out guidance if and when you are unsure about appropriate academic conduct.

Please ensure that you are familiar with the [QIBT Academic Integrity Policy](#); this policy provides an overview of some of the behaviours that are considered breaches of academic integrity, as well as the penalties and processes involved when a breach is identified.

For further information please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy on the QIBT website – Policy Library.

### Risk Assessment Statement

There are no out of the ordinary risks associated with this course.

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