Presenters: Prof. Christine Anthonissen (co-ordinator)
Dr. Taryn Bernard, Dr. Lauren Mongie

COURSE DESCRIPTION
The three main themes that will be covered during the course are:

- **Intercultural Communication as a field of academic reflection**: This theme will cover the historical background, and the reasons for scholarly and popular interest in the phenomenon of intercultural communication. It will also give definitions and general features as well as the main research themes currently covered in Intercultural Communication. In the course of introducing this theme, key concept in the field, such as ‘language’, ‘multilingualism’, ‘culture’, ‘communication’, ‘miscommunication’, ‘misunderstanding’, etc. will be introduced.

- **Intercultural Communication in social interaction**: Here two broad themes will be covered, namely (i) Intercultural Communication which involves minority language groups, and (ii) Intercultural Communication in the workplace.
  This theme will be introduced by means of specific case studies which illustrate communicative features that mark multilingual contexts, as well as the linguistic effects of migration related to intercultural, multilingual phenomena and communicative practices in the following five domains:
  - education, including choices of medium of instruction and integration of local (minority) languages
  - public health care, including attention to accommodating minority language speakers in treatment
  - popular culture, including music and lyrics as a form of identity expression - such as hip-hop
  - practicing law, including courtroom communication
  - economic activity and business communication, including intercultural negotiation practices

- **Theoretical approaches to the study of Intercultural Communication phenomena and methods of research in Intercultural Communication**: This theme will, in the course of looking at specific social contexts, introduce a number of theoretical approaches and the associated methodologies within the field.
  These will include the contrastive approach, the interlanguage approach; the interactive-intercultural approach; pragmatic approaches; sociolinguistic approaches; ethnographic approaches, (critical) discourse analysis; linguistic analysis (e.g. structural features of code-switching; pragmatic features such as irony and truism).

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES:

- To provide a comprehensive overview of Intercultural Communication as a contemporary field of linguistic interest;
- To introduce theoretical and methodological approaches to studying currently interesting aspects of multilingualism and intercultural communication;
- To raise awareness of the difference between popular (often over-generalised) conceptions of intercultural difference and real experiences of success and failure in what is described as “intercultural communication”;
- To encourage engagement with selected texts which count as core readings in the field of Intercultural Communication;
- To allow critical reflection on linguistic practices in various multilingual contexts, such as the workplace or public state facilities, in which intercultural communication is the only means of verbal interaction.
Presentation:
The course will take the form of lectures, interactive discussion of texts, as well as participant presentations. Social and linguistic practices highlighted in the course will be investigated and critically discussed with a view to improving understanding of current, evolving multiculturalism and suggestions for improved quality of services in selected contexts.

Evaluation:
Course evaluation will be based on:
- Class participation & presentation: 20%
- An open-book class test: 30%
- A written assignment: 50%

Programme outline:
We will meet for three sessions daily over the course of five days.

Day 1:
Morning b: Case Study I: multilingualism in education considering
(i) global multilingual educational contexts, and
(ii) African and South African policies and practices in bi- and multilingual education.
Afternoon: Methodology: referring to Case Studies I and II, introduction to research methods related to particular theories and research questions
Introduction to set readings, division of topics for case study presentations.

Day 2:
Morning a: Theme 2. Case Study II: multilingualism in public health care considering
(i) the place of language and communication in health care, and
(ii) various strategies in dealing with ‘language discordance’ in multilingual health care
Morning b: (iii) “intercultural communicative competence” illustrated in health care
Afternoon: Practical session: discussion of set readings, applicability of various approaches in given contexts and for particular kinds of questions.

Day 3:
Morning a: Theme 3. Case Study III: multilingualism/multiculturalism in social and community life
- the special case of begging in public spaces
Morning b: Case Study IV: Popular culture in intercultural communication
Afternoon: Guest lecturer on local pop culture in Cape communities

Day 4:
Morning a: Theme 4. Theoretical approaches to studying Intercultural Communication
Morning b: Case Study V: Global economic mobility – migration of the elite vs the destitute
Afternoon: Workshop: Discussion and presentation of readings on Theme 4 content.

Day 5:
Morning a: Theme 5. Case Study VI: Multilingualism in legal settings and courtroom communication.
Morning b: Workshop: Discussion and presentation of readings on Theme 5 content.
Afternoon: Open book class test on selected readings.

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