

FAS2882G: Cross-Cultural Dialogue: A Global Perspective
FASStrack 2024

Schedule: AM Session (10am-1pm, Singapore Time)
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday

Course Description

Embark on an exhilarating intellectual odyssey with "Cross-Cultural Dialogue: A Global Perspective," a meticulously crafted course that intertwines sociological and anthropological insights with cross-disciplinary approaches. Immerse yourself in a thought-provoking exploration of our multifaceted global society, where every topic serves as a window into the rich tapestry of human experience. From unraveling the enigmatic complexities of happiness to dissecting the seismic impact of the digital revolution, and from delving into the pulsating heartbeat of the Korean Wave to scrutinizing the emergence of vibrant subcultures, this course offers an all-encompassing journey through the diverse dimensions shaping our contemporary world.

Guided by an unwavering commitment to rigorous critical analysis and spirited discussions, students will not only unearth profound insights into the intricate nuances of human existence but also cultivate invaluable skills to challenge preconceptions and broaden perspectives. As active participants in this transformative odyssey, students will not only deepen their appreciation for cultural diversity but also emerge as empowered agents poised to catalyze positive social change.

Join us in this captivating exploration of "Cross-Cultural Dialogue: A Global Perspective" and prepare yourself for an enriching journey towards enhanced cultural awareness and impactful global engagement.

Preclusion/ Prerequisite

Nil

Lecturer

Associate Professor, Tenzin Jinba, socdj@nus.edu.sg

Course Assessment

Assessments		Assessment deadlines
Attendance and Participation	20%	Each lecture/tutorial
Field Trip and Report	20%	Tentatively scheduled Week 2 (subject to coordination with the intended museum)
Term Project	40%	July 18 th
Semester Review	20%	July 24
Total for CA:	100%	

- Attendance and Participation (20%)
Attendance is compulsory for all lectures and tutorials. Failure to attend without valid justification will result in a deduction of one letter grade for each absence. Valid justifications include the submission of official documents, such as medical certificates, to justify unavoidable absences. Additionally, students must complete all assigned readings and tasks before each class and actively engage in class discussions on the Canvas-Discussions platform to enhance their learning experience.
- Field Trip and Report (20%)
We will organize a field trip to the NUS Baba House or an alternative museum, and students are required to submit a field report of 800-1,000 words based on the assigned task. Concrete instructions can be found in the Canvas/Files/General Guidelines.
- Term Project (40%)
The term project can be undertaken individually or collaboratively and may take various forms, such as a traditional essay, research proposal, documentary/film, podcast, cultural preservation project, social development program, tourism design, or other approved projects. Regardless of the format chosen, the project must demonstrate critical engagement with the course themes, readings, and assignments. The Guide to Term Project can be found in the Canvas/Files/General Guidelines.
- Semester Review (20%)
The semester review of 800-1,000 words is a self-evaluation of your learning process, performance, and outcome. Concrete instructions can be found in the Canvas/Files/General Guidelines.

Course Topics

Week	Meeting	Topic	Session Activities
1	#1	Cultural Relativism: A Window to Cross-Cultural Dialogue	Introduction & Lecture
	#2	Lifestyle Choices: Decoding Preferences and Tastes	Lecture & Discussion
	#3	The Pursuit of Happiness Across Cultures	Lecture & Discussion
2	#4	The Art of Cultural Invention	Lecture & Discussion
	#5	The Institution of Cultural Invention	Field trip to the NUS Baba House & Field Report

	#6	Spirituality in the Age of Consumerism	Lecture & Discussion
3	#7	Social media and Digital Technology	Lecture & Discussion
	#8	Globalization and Cultural Flow	Lecture & Discussion
	#9	Beyond Normative Practices	Lecture & Discussion
4	#10	Cultural Resistance (1)	Lecture & Discussion
	#11	Cultural Resistance (2)	Film & Discussion
	#12	Rethinking Cross-Cultural Dialogue: Challenges and Opportunities	Final Review & Discussion