## Mentor and Teach to Improve Student Cultural Competency

Elizabeth J. Sandell Human Relations in a Multi-cultural Society Minnesota State University, Mankato April 6, 2012

# The Teaching and Learning Setting

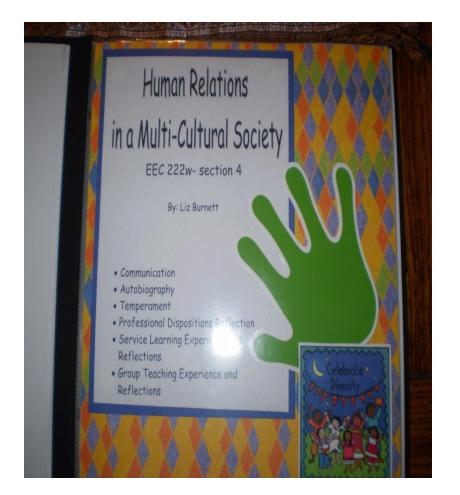
- Who? MSU undergraduate students
- What? Cultural competency
- When? Academic years 2010, 2011, & 2012
- Where? EEC 222w: Human Relations in a Multicultural Society
- How? Campus-based instruction, service learning, and more
- Why? To prepare students for their careers in southern Minnesota and throughout the world

### **Course Objectives**

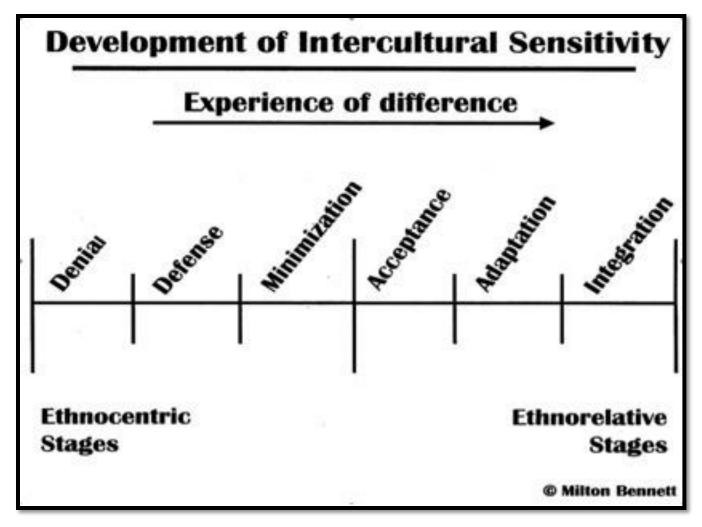
- Increase understanding & appreciation of one's own culture.
- Identify & reflect on personal characteristics, qualities, & experiences with diversity & culture.
- Reflect on personal pre-judgments about other people.
- Learn to accurately perceive & understand other cultures.
- Understand the value of multi-cultural & anti-bias education.
- Know principles of multi-cultural education.
- Understand & reflect on the emotional impact of unfair practices.
- Practice positive and respectful communications.
- Create plans to stand up against discrimination.
- Improve academic writing skills.

### Course Instructional Strategies (from syllabus on file)

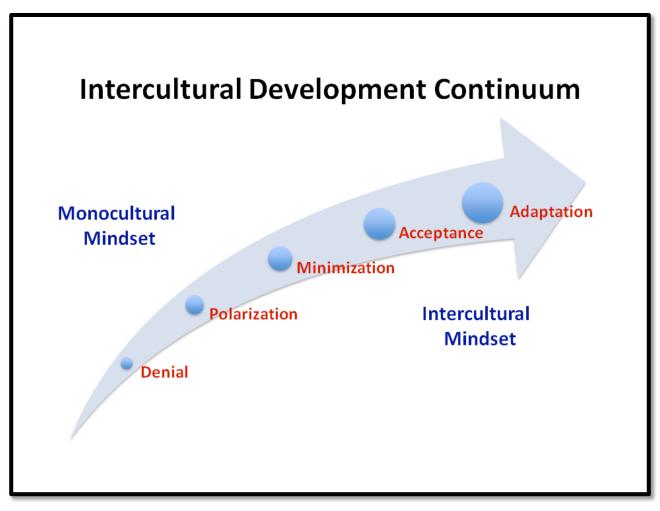
- Campus-based instruction (45 hours)
- Service learning experience (18 hours)
- Team-based research and presentations (10 hours)
- Self-reflection paper on temperament
- Autobiography
- Guest speakers
- Final reflection comment



### Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity (Milton Bennett)



### Measuring Cultural Sensitivity (Mitch Hammer, 2005)

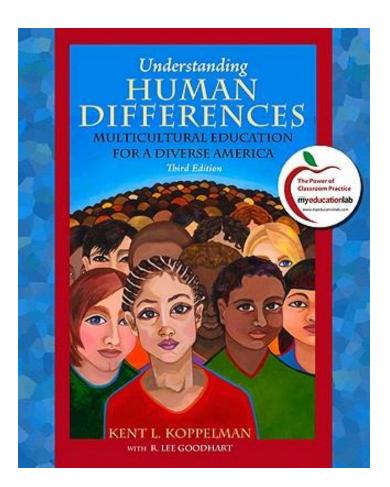


# MSU first- and second-year students start in stages of:

- (1) Cultural disengagement
- (2) Denial/ unawareness
- (3) Polarization/ seeing differences
- (4) Beginning minimization/ seeing similarities



#### Read a new textbook



#### Learn about our own preferences



#### Complete personality assessments



#### Learn about our own cultures.



#### Complete Service Learning at the Mahkato Wacipi



#### **Cultural Partnership Interviews**



### Cultural Partnership / Interview



#### From Remember the Titans

# One-on-one feedback meetings with instructor

# Structured discussion about cultural differences



# MSU first- and second-year students move to stages of:

- (1) Cultural engagement
- (2) Polarization/ seeing differences
- (3) Beginning minimization/ seeing similarities
- (4) Acceptance/ liking the differences

