## Muna Almesafri

Intercultural Studies

## Culture Context

## High and Low Context Cultures

## High Gontext

- Less verbally explicit communication, less written/formal information
- Long term relationships
- Knowledge is situational, relational.
- Decisions and activities focus around personal face-to-face relationships, often around a central person who has authority.


## Low Gontext

More knowledge is codified, pubilic, external, and accessible.

- Separation of
time, space, activities, an d relationships
- Knowledge is more often transferable
- Decisions and activities focus around what needs to be done, division of responsibilities.



## High and Low Context Cultures



## High context culture

Strong sense of insiders and outsiders

Informal

Team and family activities preferred

A lot of confidential information

Public criticism insulting

Close personal relationships

## General information

"Have a go at it" philosophy

Individual responsibility
Elders/authoritative figures in control
Expertise valued

## Concerned about 'losing’

Emphasis on words and text
Who you know is important
What you know is important
Focus on task
Individual freedom valued

## Strong sense of family

- Polite people admired

Privacy (even when dealing with
one's own family) highly valued

## Reserved

## Gender roles less fixed

## Strong sense of honor

- Process more important than product


## Public admission of wrongdoing

expected.

## Strong sense of fairness

## Values logic over feeling

## Clear division of responsibilities at

work

Strong sense of respect

Better response to visual information

No direct eye contact

## Verbal agreements

- Very rare marriage with outsiders



## High and Low Context Culture <br> Examples

- Very rare marriage with outsiders: I do not prefer marriage from other nationality because I think it is difficult to stay away from parents and relatives while, the culture and traditions will be different and the rights might be lost. Thus, will have more barriers to have real vacation while the airplane tickets are expensive.
- Polite people admired: polite
 people respect themselves before respect others. Moreover, I admired polite people because They make us feel comfortable, feel respected and valuable. I would love to be more like
tions, thus increases the work productivity. I prefer work in team work because it is one of the main benefits team environment is the ability to share ideas between the group

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