Intercultural Competence

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES
This seminar is designed to introduce students to the main topic topics of intercultural communication, competence, working in multi-national teams and appreciating cultural diversity.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Professor</th>
<th>Collet Wanjugu Döppner M.A</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Workload:</td>
<td>ECTS Points: 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>60 hours</td>
<td>Study semester: Summer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frequency of offer:</td>
<td>Duration: 1</td>
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<td>Winter and summer</td>
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<td>Type: Elective</td>
<td>Level: Bachelor or Master</td>
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<td>Applicability of the module:</td>
<td>This is a free-standing international education abroad program in Germany. Students will arrange with their home institutions to determine how the credits fit into their course of study.</td>
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1 Qualification goals
At the end of the course the students will be able to:
- Discuss and reflect on the main theories of culture and intercultural communication.
- Students will also examine the issues of prejudice, stereotypes, discrimination and how to become interculturally competent in a global world.
- They will learn through theories, discussions, group work, simulations and experiential activities to become more competent in an intercultural team.
- They will also learn how to deal with intercultural conflicts in a constructive way.
- Students will learn to live, create and appreciate intercultural diversity.

2 Contents of the module:
- What is culture? Different models of culture will be introduced and discussed.
- Cultural differences and Dimensions of culture and how relevant they still are today.
- Stereotypes, prejudices, Discrimination- exploring where they come from and how to deal with them in order to become more interculturally competent.
- Cultural perception and cultural values and how they affect our behaviour.
- Creating awareness and appreciation for intercultural diversity.

3 Teaching and Learning Methods:
Teacher will offer theories of culture and intercultural communication through lectures, videos and experiential activities. Students will be required to reflect on and participate in discussions, in group work, do their homework and give a critical and academic view of culture through observation of their environment and their own behaviour.

4 Language: English

5 Prerequisites for participation in the module:
No prerequisite knowledge required.
| 6 | **Form of examination:**  
Students will prepare and do an Intercultural exercise/experiment with the group and after that hand in a written summary with their own reflection. |
| 7 | **Evaluation methods:**  
Graded |
| 8 | **Prerequisites for the award of ECTS credits:**  
Grade of D or higher |
| 9 | **Remarks:**  
Open-mindedness and curiosity are important traits to have in this class. Class discussion is also very important as this is the only way students will be able to put the theory into practice. Class participation will be evaluated based on level of participation and attendance in class. Working with class material outside of class and actively participating in class will help students develop their ability to express opinions, form questions, and develop interpretations about the material we are studying. Because students must be present to participate, frequent absences will negatively affect this portion of their grade. |