

## What is Intercultural Competence Course?

The Intercultural Competence Course offered by DMU Global gives DMU students the opportunity to have an internationally-themed experience on campus. This programme of activity will develop knowledge, skills and values helping you to become informed, engaged and responsive global citizens. The course aims to increase intercultural competence by providing the necessary knowledge and skills that bring the understanding of the mechanisms of intercultural relations into focus. It aims to deliver an insight into the theories of intercultural communication and relations through personal experiences by which students will be able to develop civic-mindedness, a sense of societal responsibility and cross-cultural empathy as well as sociocultural and sociolinguistic linguistic awareness. In our globalised world these skills are in demand in every sector of industry and will help prepare you for participating in an international workforce and boost employability.

The course consists of 6 on campus/online sessions and an optional overseas trip. Students will be expected to actively participate in sessions, complete pre-reading and any course work. A minimum of 80% attendance will be required to attend the trip and to receive the end of course digital badge.

## Aims

The aims of the Introduction to Intercultural Competence Course are to:

- To develop knowledge of basic intercultural competence and communication - the knowledge, skills and attitudes that underpin effective intercultural interactions in professional and social contexts
- Gain an understanding of differences and respect for diversity through interactions with people from different cultural backgrounds
- To encourage and motivate students to effectively communicate with people from different cultural backgrounds; to gain skills which can be put into practice in daily life
- To encourage openness to accepting the values of other cultures; Learn to accept and appreciate difference
- To develop self-awareness and ability to reflect on self-behaviour in different cultural contexts
- To support students with their programme of study and graduate employability prospects; Support the development of a range of soft skills (teamwork, resilience, communication, self-awareness etc.) that are valued by employers
- To raise awareness of bias and stereotyping
- To develop a stronger appreciation of diversity and inclusivity

## Programme overview

Through the sessions, workshops, intercultural activities, reflective work and overseas trip, students will engage in a cycle of activity lasting for the 2022-23 academic year, from October 2022 to March 2023, as outlined below:

### Timeline of activity

| Stage | Activity                               | Date and Venue*  | Details   |
|-------|--|--|---|
| 1     | <b>Application and acceptance</b>      | Monday 17<br>October 2022  | All students are required to complete the course application on the website by the deadline of Monday 10 October, 9am. Decisions will be communicated to all applicants within 7 days of the deadline.<br>Students who've accepted their place on the course can apply for the Vienna trip by Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October, 9am. |
| 2     | <b>DMU Global Introductory Session</b> | Wednesday<br>2 November 2022<br>1:30pm-3pm<br>Venue: The Yard 1.02 | The introductory session will give students an overview of the course and the planned activities and expectations for engagement.   |
| 3     | <b>Intercultural Awareness</b>         | Wednesday<br>23 November 2022<br>1pm-4pm<br>Venue: Hugh Aston 2.86 | DMU Global will give an introduction to the concept of intercultural and self awareness, looking into what culture is and our perceptions of cultures different to our own.   |

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| 4 | <b>Intercultural Communication</b>                                     | Wednesday<br>7 December 2022<br>1pm-4pm<br>Venue: Online (Teams)  | Mag. Agnes Hofer BA (Lecturer at the University of Applied Sciences Wiener Neustadt) will host a workshop on communication within multicultural teams, also paying respect to different team roles as described by Dr. Meredith Belbin.  |
| 5 | <b>FHWN and DMU students meet online</b>                               | Date<br>Time<br>Venue   | <i>(for students on the Vienna trip)</i><br>TBC  |
| 6 | <b>Working Across Cultures</b>   | Wednesday<br>11 January 2023<br>1pm-4pm<br>Venue: Hugh Aston 1.82 | Dr Karen Malan (programme leader for the MSc Intercultural Business Communication at DMU) will explore how cultural differences impact on how people work and communicate together in the workplace.   |
| 7 | <b>Global Migration: Multicultural Individuals and Societies</b>       | Wednesday<br>1 February 2023<br>1pm-4pm<br>Venue: Hugh Aston 1.82 | In this session with Dr Malan you'll explore how global migration has contributed to the huge increase in multicultural (and multilingual) individuals and societies and the impact of these phenomena.  |
| 8 | <b>OVERSEAS TRIP<br/>Intercultural Competence in Vienna (optional)</b> | 27 February – 3 March<br>2023<br>Vienna, Austria                  | Monday 27 February – Arrive in Vienna (AM) and check in – free time subject to travel<br>Tuesday 28 February – Explore Vienna – a historical and cultural tour<br>Wednesday 1 March – On campus, student group work (AM), Wiener Neustadt cultural exploration (PM)<br>Thursday 2 March – Excursion<br>Friday 3 March – On campus “show and tell” outcomes of group work (AM) – flight back (PM) |

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| 9 | <b>Presentations and graduation</b> | <p>Wednesday<br/>15 March 2023<br/>1pm-4pm<br/>Venue: Trinity House Chapel</p> | <p>All participants that complete the mandatory steps above will be asked to deliver a short (5-10 minute) presentation. This will be an individual reflection on any topic, issue, or intercultural experience of your own, that the course has helped you to think a bit more deeply about or shifted your perspective on.</p> <p>Creative approaches to the presentation are encouraged.</p> <p>Following completion of these steps, all students will be received their digital badges.</p> |
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\*dates/hours/venues subject to change