

## 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 8 on campus/online workshops and 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 2023-24 academic year, from November 2023 to March 2024, as outlined below:

### Timeline of activity

Stage	Activity	Date and Venue*	Details
1	<b>Application and acceptance</b>	Monday 16 - 23 October 2023	All students are required to complete the course application on the website by the deadline of Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> October, 9am. Decisions will be communicated to all applicants within a couple of days of the deadline. Students who've accepted their place on the course can apply for the Berlin trip by Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October, 9am.
2	<b>DMU Global Introductory Session</b>	Wednesday 1 November 2023 1pm-2:30pm Venue: <a href="#">The Yard</a> 1.05	The introductory session will give students an overview of the course and the planned activities and expectations for engagement. It will also be a great chance to meet other students on the course.
3	<b>Intercultural Awareness (Part 1)</b>	Wednesday 8 November 2023 1pm-3pm Venue: <a href="#">The Yard</a> 1.05	Damla Finch and Owen Sheridan (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. (Part 1)

4	<b>Intercultural Awareness (Part 2)</b>	Wednesday 22 November 2023 1pm-3pm Venue: <a href="#">The Yard</a> 1.05	Damla Finch and Owen Sheridan (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. (Part 2)
5	<b>Intercultural Communication</b> <i>Virtual workshop</i>	Wednesday 6 December 1pm-3:30pm Venue: 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.
6	<b>Working Across Cultures</b>	Wednesday 17 January 2023 12:30-3pm Venue: <a href="#">The Yard</a> 1.06	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>Europa-Universität Viadrina and DMU students</b> <i>Virtual meeting</i>	Wednesday 24 January 2024 1:30pm – 4pm Venue: Teams or Zoom	In this online meeting, Europa-Universität Viadrina and DMU students will participate in a story exchange activity to get to know each other and build connections. The session will be facilitated by Niki Kasis (Academic researcher and lecturer at the Centre for Teaching and Learning at the European University Viadrina) and DMU Global.
8	<b>Global Migration: Multicultural Individuals and Societies</b>	Wednesday 31 January 2023 12:30-3pm Venue: <a href="#">The Yard</a> 1.06	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.

9	<b>Optional OVERSEAS TRIP Intercultural Competence in Berlin Pre- Departure Session</b>	Wednesday 7 February 2024 1pm-2:30pm Venue: <a href="#">The Yard</a> 1.05	During the pre-departure session, you will be provided with important information about your trip including further details on travel arrangements, trip itinerary and accommodation, as well as instructions on any necessary steps you need to take next as part of your preparation to travel.
10	<b>Optional OVERSEAS TRIP Intercultural Competence in Berlin</b>	Sunday 25 February – Friday 1 March 2024  Berlin, Germany	A detailed trip itinerary will be provided during the pre-departure session.
11	<b>Presentations and graduation</b>	Wednesday 13 March 2023 1pm-4pm Venue: <a href="#">Trinity House</a> - Chapel	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. Creative approaches to the presentation are encouraged. Following completion of these steps, all students will be received their digital badges.

\*dates/hours/venues are subject to change