

Intercultural Issues in Academia

Teacher: Judith Berns, MA

Course Nr.: 15304.0077

Date: Tue., 16:00 – 17:30h

Location: 326 0.03

Course description:

This seminar will provide students with theoretical background as well as skills connected to intercultural issues and situations.

It is a global fact that our societies are experiencing a very dynamic process of pluralization due to internationalization. Increasing cultural diversity brings along many challenges that affects everyone at one time or another. Many of those challenges can be very beneficial if they are handled with an appropriate coping behaviour.

Cultural competence is understood as the ability to act suitable and effectively in intercultural situations. This requires much more than just knowledge about intercultural theories, but involves actions, attitudes and skills. Intercultural competence demands a person to go beyond simply learning and memorizing facts, it demands the motivation to incorporate a reflexive, self-critical and open-minded attitude which consequently leads to certain actions.

In order to fulfill those aspects, the structure of this seminar provides a balance between theoretical input and intercultural experiences.

Topics covered within this seminar will be:

- Concept of culture and interculturality
- Intercultural standards/dimensions
- Communication theories
- Stereotypes, Prejudice, Strangeness
- Identity and self-reflection
- Working with critical incidents (academic focus)
- ...

The topics covered may be subject to slight change, as the course content will to some extent be determined by the students participating in the course.

Session	Date	
1	02.04.2019	Intro
		Getting to know the group
		What is culture?
2	09.04.2019	Model of Intercultural Communication
	16.04.2019	NO CLASS
3	23.04.2019	Model of Intercultural Competence
		Cultural models
4	30.04.2019	Communication
5	07.05.2019	Communication
6	14.05.2019	Cultural dimensions, cultural standards
		Stereotypes
7	21.05.2019	Perception
8	28.05.2019	Writing your own Critical Incident
9	04.06.2019	Writing your own Critical Incident
	11.06.2019	NO CLASS - Pentecost Holidays
	18.06.2019	NO CLASS
10	25.06.2019	CI/Topic of choice
11	02.07.2019	CI / Topic of choice
12	09.07.2019	Final Session (summary, feedback)