

Intercultural Communication
Paris, 6/20/27 July 2011
12 contact hours / 2 ECTS credits

This course aims to give students an introduction to some of the tools they need in order to be able to better recognize, respect and reconcile the cultural differences that make a difference in professional and private life. A culture-general approach is used so that students will be able to apply the skills and knowledge they gain in any cultural context.

Course Schedule

Wednesday, 6 July (9:30 – 11:00, 11:30 – 13:00)

What is culture? Definitions, elements and metaphors of culture. The stumbling blocks to intercultural communication.

Wednesday, 20 July (9:30 – 11:00, 11:30 – 13:00)

Non-verbal communication and the model of E.T. Hall (space, time and context).

Wednesday, 27 July (9:30 – 11:00, 11:30 – 13:00)

Kluckhohn and Strodtbeck's cultural orientations model and culture shock.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of the course, the student is expected to:

- Recognise the different elements that make up culture
- Demonstrate the role culture plays on general behaviour
- Interpret some of the major cultural differences that make a difference
- Sensitive interpret different elements of verbal and non-verbal communication
- Develop a capacity for culturally sensitive critical analysis

Prerequisites

There are no specific prerequisites for this course.

Course Design

Lectures, presentations, simulations and discussions.

Course Assessment

Active participation in class and a presentation or take-home paper.