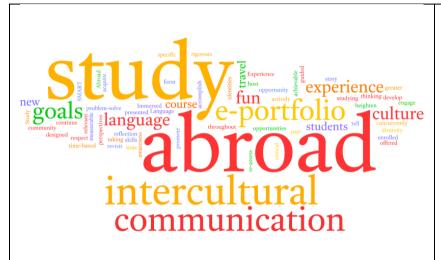
# Intercultural Communication 3600Z Immersed in the Experience: Language and Culture Abroad

Draft 2019-2020 for (Fall 2019/ Winter, Intersession, Summer 2020)



Would you like to engage in an international, intercultural experience and study abroad? This online course allows you to reflect on your goals and expectations before you go, document and engage with different aspects of your experiences while abroad, and reflect on your transformation process upon your return.

### **Course Description:**

This online course is designed to provide a forum to critically reflect upon study abroad experiences in order to gain an in-depth understanding of the knowledge, skills, and attitudes associated with intercultural communication. Throughout this course, students will have the opportunity to use their own lived experiences of cultural events, student life, interpersonal relationships, language learning, etc. while abroad to develop the ability to engage cross-culturally with cultural humility. Some of the themes in this course include individual identity, stereotypes, patterns of both verbal and non-verbal communication, social membership, among others, but most importantly, this course is designed to facilitate *transformative learning*. It is intended to promote greater awareness about intercultural perspectives and guide students who are participating in study abroad programming as they adapt to new ways of seeing the world.

### Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to engage self-reflectively with your intercultural knowledge, skills and attitudes. Specifically you will be able to

### Intercultural Knowledge:

- demonstrate an awareness of differing cultural groups and their social processes, products and practices in a variety of settings
- analyze the validity of individually-held cultural beliefs, behaviors, and norms by contrasting and comparing them with those of the host cultures

## Intercultural Skills:

- demonstrate independence in the exploration of new cultural perspectives and skills of negotiating cultural differences
- recognize the intercultural discrepancies in written, verbal, and non-verbal communication
- successfully use strategies to promote communicative understanding
- purposefully seek out opportunities to learn from individuals of different cultural backgrounds Intercultural Attitudes:
  - demonstrate adaptability and sensitivity towards new cultural perspectives including an interest in revising own values, beliefs, or behaviours

• approach encounters with members of the community with curiosity and ethical poise

• Functions within other cultures and effectively overcome the challenges of culture shock You will also engage with overarching learning outcomes:

- Examine both the theory and practice associated with this course with a critical eye
- Demonstrate literacy skills in technology using a wide variety of media (audio/video files, digital images, etc.) for both insight and innovation
- Showcase organizational skills and the ability to express ideas clearly and creatively

#### Assessments:

| Goal-Setting Reflections -                                      | 15% |
|---|-----|
| Course Reading/Media Responses/Critiques -                      | 20% |
| E-Portfolio incorporating different media and topics, such as   |     |
| advice column, blog, multi-media journal, artistic expressions, |     |
| humor in translation, surveys, interview                        | 50% |
| E-Portfolio Presentation/ Summative Reflection on Return -      | 15% |

**Materials:** All readings and assignments are available through OWL Sakai. **Course Calendar:** Available through OWL Sakai

Prerequisite(s): ICC 2200F/G and permission of the instructor

Students may enroll in this course if they are participating in a study abroad experience on a letter of permission, or an international exchange through Western International. They will need to be immersed in the target culture for at least one month, preferably longer. The course is online, linked to an e-portfolio. There will be shared online discussion with peers in the course where possible and the faculty supervising the course. \*30% of the coursework may be completed in the target language.

### **Academic Policies:**

For the academic policies for undergraduate courses in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, please consult the following link: https://www.uwo.ca/modlang/undergraduate/policies.html