

GO Abroad Fair 2021, February 3-4

# Discover Intercultural Learning



Rūta Jankauskienė, Saulė Zadlauskienė Exchange programme coordinators Academic Mobility Office



# Why do we need

# **Intercultural Learning?**

### World realities that we face...



	the online world			Protection of human rights		citizens' movements
extremism			diverse society		discrimination	
		hate speech		sustainable development		the rise of populism
the threat of terrorism			stereotypes			
	climate change					disadvantaged groups
prejudice			social exclusion		xenophobia	
	protests			gender (in)equality		globalisation





Example from DrDeborahSwallow. Intercultural Communication Adventure with Little Pilot

## Intercultural Learning Course for Exchange Programme Participants



Constituent elements of intercultural competence (Adapted from Deardorff, 2006)

### Aim

To develop intercultural competence necessary for effective communication and cooperation during academic exchange and when acting in multicultural groups.

### Knowledge

Cultural self awareness; culture specific knowledge; socio-linguistic awareness; grasp of global issues and trends

### Skills

listening, observing, evaluating using patience and perseverance; viewing the world from others' perspectives

#### Attitudes

Respect (valuing other cultures); openess (withholding judgement); curiosity (viewing difference as a learning opportunity); discovery (tolerance for ambiguity)





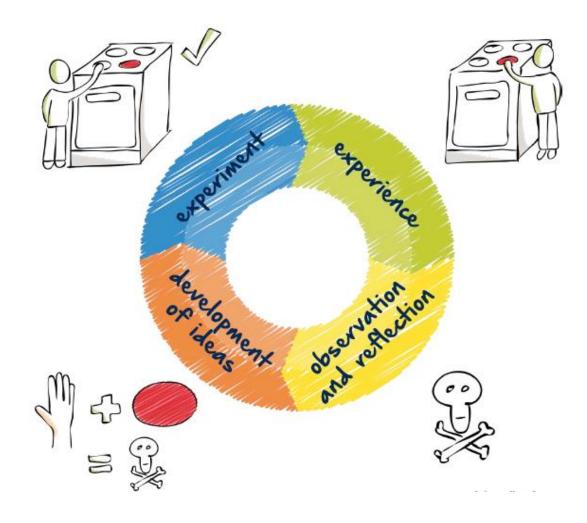
- (5) to facilitate your adaptation to the host country during exchange;
- to support your reintegration into home country after exchange;
- To develop your reflection skills and understanding of intercultural experience gained abroad.
- During the course\* intercultural competence is developed in multicultural environment through **experiential learning**.

\*This course was prepared under ERASMUS+ project "Connect 2.0 – Intercultural Learning Network 4 Europe" material (http://weconnecteurope.eu/).

### **Intercultural Learning Requires Reflection**



Intercultural experience adds to intercultural competence only when learners are able to make sense of their experience through reflection.





# **I. Preparation (Pre-departure. Face-to-Face Training):** introduction to academic exchange, first intercultural learning session in a mixed group of outgoing exchange students and trainees.

**II. Support (online activities):** during your stay abroad, online lectures on intercultural topics in combination with exercises that allow for interaction and self-assessment.

**III. Online stories:** reporting on your experiences gained abroad and exchanging practical information.

**IV. Reflection (Re-entry. Face-to-Face Training):** evaluation of and reflection on your intercultural experiences, integration of acquired intercultural skills into your CV, internet profile, job interviews.



**Cultural Self-Awareness & Perception:** definition of culture; expectations towards your stay abroad; models to describe cultures; identity / SWOT analysis.

Intercultural Acting: cross-cultural communication; meta-communication.

**Culture-Specific Features:** stereotypes and expectations; how to gather information on the region of your exchange.

Learning to Share Knowledge: narrative and media in intercultural context; online learning platform; reporting about host city, institution and your intercultural challenges.



## What do we do?

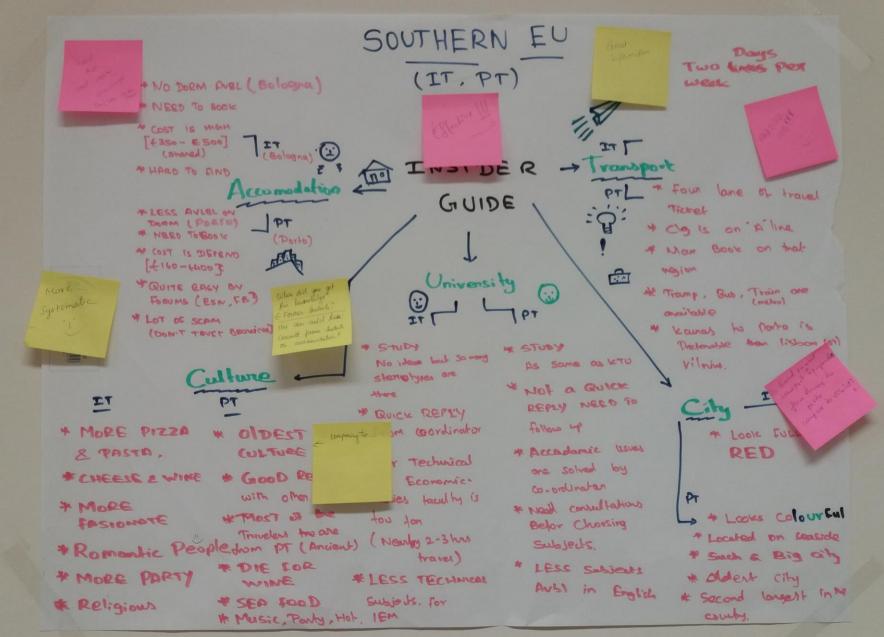
## Discussions & group work...

Practical exercises & games...









Analysing...

### **ktu** 1922

### **Online Training Topics**

- Coping with Uncertain Situations,
- Experiencing a Stay Abroad as Enrichment,
- Sharing Experiences,
- Coming Home / Thinking Back and Moving Forward.

### **Re-entry Topics**

**Reflection:** reflecting upon your experience, settling back, reverse cultural shock, strategies of dealing with cultural shock.

**Presenting Key Competencies:** key skills and international competencies, gained during your stay abroad to include into your CV and present during job interviews.

### **Benefits for YOU?**



- Acquiring **soft skills**;
- Challenging assumptions about your own and other / host cultures.
- **Broadening perspectives** on cultural stereotypes and prejudice;
- **Understanding** culture shock and reverse culture shock;
- **Acquiring** narrative competence;
- Raising awareness of international and intercultural competence and ability to present it effectively for your career (CV& Job Interview)
- **Credit recognition** (3 extra credits for free)
- **Certificate** of Participation and Completion

## What did students say?



... Very much interactive and exciting to share my views and ideas. Felt Encouraging to bring out my ideas and skills!

I did like that the module had a lot of activities and interactions with the theory. Many of the activities helped to reflect the exchange period which is extremely useful for self-development and future plans. I am glad that I will be able to adapt some tasks for my career, for instance the CV improvement... I really enjoyed the discussion on topics like ,'cultural shocks' and how to handle the situations and really enjoyed the excercises during Pre-departure training.

I learned a lot and developed my personal skills which includes my resilience and even cooking skills ©

I did like sharing interesting things I found during my exchange...

### AWSOME COURSE!

I liked the way you carried the programme, it was so friendly and informative! really appreciated some of the given material (especially self-competences) and listening other participants sharing their experiences.

My innert skills and talents were exposed through this programme and the fear of expressing my ideas was removed

> The method you are following so productive and perfect, I think it is more that enough for students who go for exchange.

I am improved to make a better CV for my career like what to include on our curriculum and how to include. From the competence sheet I can improve *myself* on knowledge about culture, history and politics.

## Intercultural Learning Course\*



- Only for Exchange Programme Participants
- Only one group per semester (spring/autumn)
- Only in English
- Only mixed groups from different faculties/different study cycles
- Not evaluated by the mark ("completed " (IT) or "not completed " (NT))

\*Module codes: DS00B107 (for Bachelor students) / DS00M109 (for Master students)





Interested?

Contact: Rūta Jankauskienė/Saulė Zadlauskienė at erasmus@ktu.lt