

Developing Intercultural Capacity

AESC 270, Spring 2022

Do you have the ability to navigate differences, whether in international or domestic settings, appropriately and successfully? If you are interested in further developing this ability, this course is designed to increase and support your intercultural learning.



Intercultural capacity is a continuous learning process to develop knowledge, appreciation, acceptance, and skills to be able to discern cultural patterns in your own and other cultures and be able to effectively incorporate several different worldviews into problem solving, decision making, and conflict resolution. It is also the capability to shift cultural perspective and adapt behavior to cultural commonality and difference in order to successfully accomplish cross-cultural goals. Such capability is developmental and it is learned; this course is intended to support such capability with opportunities for cognitive growth and reflection.

Throughout this course, we will explore the Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity, a theoretical model designed to explain developmental progression of worldview and experience of cultural difference. We will utilize the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) tool, review your own IDI Individual Profile Report to gain insight into how you make sense of cultural differences and commonalities, and examine ways to systematically increase your intercultural competence—from where you are to where you want to be. In this course, you will gain exposure to cultural difference through working with international classmates and with a cultural informant, which could include partnering with a LC student from a different country or volunteering with a local organization which serves immigrant and refugee populations.

Spring 2022: M 3-5pm, counts as credit towards Global Perspectives general education requirement

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