

Welcome to Intercultural Competence Course

January 17 - March 17

ToDo before we start

- Thoroughly read the course info+materials in “Welcome to Intercultural Competence course” module
- Have questions in relation to the course structure/content? - Post them in discussion forum in Canvas or email to Alena at [ipanova@kth.se](mailto:ipanova@kth.se).
- Having technical questions on Canvas management? - email to Björn at [bjorn@kth.se](mailto:bjorn@kth.se)
- Get ready for the Webinar 1 and have fun reading the articles available in Canvas in Week 1-2 module of the course

By completing the “Welcome to Intercultural Competence course” module you will unlock the rest of the course materials.

Week 1-2. Introduction to Intercultural Competence

January 23 - February 5

Activity Type	Main Focus	Study Materials
<b>Self-study</b>  Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to Intercultural Competence</li> <li>• What is culture</li> <li>• Culture and Identity</li> </ul>	Obligatory: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gibson, R. (2010). Intercultural Business Communication. Oxford University Press. P.7-15.</li> <li>• Jandt, F.E. (2015) An Introduction to Intercultural Communication: Identities in a Global Community, 8th Edition. Chapter 3. Culture’s Influence on Perception p. 59-75</li> <li>• R. Lewis. Cross-cultural communication model description</li> <li>• Baldwin, J. R. (2013). Ethics: Can we determine right and wrong across cultures? Theory and Research in Intercultural Communication. School of Communication Illinois State University</li> <li>• Kirkman, B., Taras, V., Steel, P. (2016) Research: The Biggest Culture Gaps Are Within Countries, Not Between Them. Harvard Business Review</li> <li>• Meyer, E (2014). The Culture Map: Breaking Through the Invisible Boundaries of Global Business. P 19-30</li> <li>• Toth, C. (2020). Uncommon Sense in Unusual Times: Too many opportunities are lost because of self-sabotage and friction with people who think and behave differently. Chapter 8.</li> <li>• Video materials in Canvas</li> </ul> Recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wieringa, F. (1996). The TOPOI-model: a challenging model for intercultural communication. Fontys, University of professional education, The Netherlands)</li> </ul>
<b>Webinar 1.</b> Introduction to IC. Part 1  <b>January 23, 17:00 - 19:00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is Intercultural Competence</li> <li>• Culture and Identity</li> <li>• Perception and cultural relativity</li> <li>• Intro to Individual Assignment 1</li> </ul>	
<b>Webinar 2.</b> Introduction to IC. Part 2 + Life Advisor Challenge Intro  <b>January 30, 17:00 - 19:00</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intercultural Competence theories, concepts, models</li> <li>• Practical cases: Culture clashes</li> <li>• Intro to Life Advisor Challenge</li> </ul>	
<b>Discussion Forum</b> <b>Questions in Canvas:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Week 1-2. Q1</li> <li>• Week 1-2. Q2</li> </ul> Deadline: February 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in a group discussion related to the topic of the week</li> <li>• Share your thoughts, opinions, ideas</li> <li>• Discuss your views with other group members</li> </ul>	

<p><b>Individual Assignment 1.</b> My perception of self vs. how others see me</p> <p>Detailed guidelines and recommendations to be provided in Canvas</p> <p><b>Deadline: February 3</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploring your own identity in order to develop interpersonal and IC competency</li> <li>• Evaluating your strengths and weaknesses</li> <li>• Defining the ways for self-development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holliday, A. Small Cultures. Applied Linguistics 20/2: 237-264. Oxford University Press 1999.</li> <li>• Spencer-Oatey, H. (2012) What is culture? A compilation of quotations. GlobalPAD Core Concepts</li> <li>• Nishimura, S., Nevgi, A., Tella, S. Communication Style and Cultural Features in High/Low Context Communication Cultures: A Case Study of Finland, Japan and India</li> <li>• Lustig, M. &amp; Koester, J. (2017). Intercultural Competence: Interpersonal Communication across Cultures. Pearson International Edition. Intercultural Competence, 8th Edition. Cultural Biases.</li> <li>• How to Have a Good Conversation   Celeste Headlee   TEDx Creative Coast (handy for your Individual Assignment 1)</li> <li>• Taiye Selasi "Don't ask where i'm from, ask where i'm a local. TED talk</li> </ul>
---	---	--

**Week 3. "Find a Life Advisor" Challenge**  
(this is a continuous assignment that stretches from Week 3 - Week 7)  
February 6 - February 12

Activity Type	Main Focus	Study Materials
<p><b>Individual/Group Assignment 2.</b> "Find a life advisor" Challenge</p> <p>Detailed instructions are provided in Canvas</p> <p><b>Deadline: March 10</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing communication skills</li> <li>• Stretching comfort zone</li> <li>• Expanding network</li> <li>• Learning from the experience of others</li> <li>• Getting practical perspectives on Intercultural Competence</li> <li>• Collecting IC related critical incidents from a "Life advisor" for your analysis</li> </ul>	<p>Obligatory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructions for Individual/Group Assignment 2.</li> </ul> <p>Recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get a Great Mentor Through LinkedIn: 5 Steps</li> <li>• 8 Successful People Share How Not To Find A Mentor</li> <li>• Mentoring the Next Generation: Michael Benko at TEDxOU</li> </ul>
<p><b>Discussion Forum Questions in Canvas:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Week 3. Q1</li> <li>• Week 3. Q2</li> </ul> <p><b>Deadline: February 8</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in a group discussion related to the topic of the week</li> <li>• Share your thoughts, opinions, ideas</li> <li>• Discuss your views with other group members</li> </ul>	

**Week 4 - 5. Teamwork in Intercultural Environment**  
February 13 - February 26

Activity Type	Main Focus	Study Materials
<p><b>Self-study</b></p> <p><b>Online</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is teamwork</li> <li>• Teamwork processes: decision making, conflict resolution</li> <li>• Emotional Intelligence</li> </ul>	<p>Obligatory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meyer, E. (2014) The Culture Map. Breaking through the invisible boundaries of global business. P. 39-46</li> <li>• What Google Learned From Its Quest to Build the Perfect Team</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diversity management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (2020). The New York Times Magazine</li> <li>• Lilian Maria de Souza Almeida, Kurt Henry Becker &amp; Idalis Villanueva (2020): Engineering communication in industry and cross-generational challenges: an exploratory study, European Journal of Engineering Education</li> <li>• Winsborough, D., Chamorro-Premuzic, T. (2017) Great Teams Are About Personalities, Not Just Skills. Harvard Business Review</li> <li>• The Something's Up Cycle. Tool.</li> <li>• Thomas-Kilmann conflict MODE instrument.</li> <li>• Video materials in Canvas</li> </ul> <p>Recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mesquita, B., Walker R. (2002). Cultural differences in emotions: a context for interpreting emotional experiences</li> <li>• Hinnenkamp, V. (1998). The notion of misunderstanding in Intercultural Communication. In: The Diversity of Intercultural Communication, PAL 28, Dep. of Linguistics, Göteborgs Univ. pp.55-87)</li> <li>• Test "What is your conflict style?"</li> </ul>
<b>Webinar 3.</b> Teamwork in intercultural environment February 13, 17:00 - 19:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teamwork challenges</li> <li>• Practical cases</li> <li>• Teamwork knowledge application and skills development</li> </ul>	
<b>Discussion Forum Questions in Canvas:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Week 4-5. Q1</li> <li>• Week 4-5. Q2</li> <li>• Week 4-5. Q3</li> </ul> <p><b>Deadline: February 22</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in a group discussion related to the topic of the week</li> <li>• Share your thoughts, opinion, ideas</li> <li>• Discuss your views with other group members</li> </ul>	

### Week 6. Culture Survival Guide

February 27 - March 5

<b>Self-study week</b>  online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Culture Shock</li> <li>• Intercultural Competence in Practice</li> <li>• How to set SMART goals</li> </ul>	<b>Obligatory:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spencer-Oatey, H., Stadler, S. (2009). The Global People Competency Framework Competencies for Effective Intercultural Interaction. Warwick Occasional Papers in Applied Linguistics #3, University of Warwick.</li> <li>• Bennett, M.J. (2017). Research Gate. Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity</li> <li>• Video materials in Canvas</li> </ul> <p><b>Recommended:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How Culture Drives Behaviours   Julien S. Bourrelle   TEDxTrondheim</li> <li>• Flanja, D., Gaz, R.M. Intercultural adaptation: the case of international student exchange programmes. Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania.</li> </ul>
<b>Discussion Forum Questions in Canvas:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Week 6. Q1</li> <li>• Week 6. Q2</li> </ul> <p><b>Deadline: March 1</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in a group discussion related to the topic of the week</li> <li>• Share your thoughts, opinion, ideas</li> <li>• Discuss your views with other group members</li> </ul>	

### Week 7. Finalising your "Find a Life Advisor" Challenge

March 6 - March 12

Submission of a Group Report for <b>Individual/Group Assignment 2. "Find a Life Advisor" Challenge</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in a group discussion</li> <li>• Share your thoughts, opinions, ideas</li> <li>• Share your experience with life advisor challenge with your peers</li> <li>• Analyze critical incidents using IC theories,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IC theories, concepts, models from the course materials studies in previous modules</li> </ul>
---	---	---

<p><b>Deadline: March 10</b></p>	<p>models, concepts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss your views with other group members</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Week 8. Personal Action Plan</b> March 13 - March 19</p>		
<p><b>Individual Assignment 3. Personal Action Plan</b></p> <p>Detailed guidelines and recommendations to be provided in Canvas</p> <p><b>Deadline: March 17</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goal setting in relation to your IC development</li> <li>• Planning practical steps for accomplishing your goal</li> </ul>	<p>Obligatory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instructions for Individual Assignment 3.</li> </ul>

### Useful Notes:

- We highly recommend you to thoroughly read and watch all the materials in the “Welcome to Intercultural Competence course” module in relation to the course structure, content, deadlines, examination requirements, etc. Feel free to use the Discussion Forum in course Canvas to post the questions you might have in relation to the course practicalities.
- You can access the list of the course deadlines in chronological order by choosing “Syllabus” in the course Canvas menu on the left.
- The whole course content will be open for you as soon as you complete the “Welcome to Intercultural Competence course” module.
- You will be divided into smaller Discussion Groups in Canvas in order to discuss weekly questions.
- We have a “golden rule” for Discussion Forum Questions to avoid the stress of last minute submissions. The rule is: you should make your own post within the deadline stated in Canvas, and you have +2 days after the deadline in order to write your comments/feedback/input to the posts of your peers in your discussion group.
- As the whole course content, including assignments, will be open for you from the start of the course, feel free to organise your workload in the course in accordance to your study schedule. Early submissions are accepted and will be given feedback and graded in on-going mode.
- Every week you will get an email with the overview of things to do for a specific course week
- Before every weekend you will get an email with the “Weekend Inspiration” which includes some fun, interesting and useful material for you to explore more of IC related topics.