Communicating Across Cultures

Being able to effectively communicate and work with people from cultures other than your own is a critical skill in today’s global environment. Whether you work in industry, business or academia, you will likely interact with colleagues, partners, customers or other stakeholders from different countries and backgrounds. People from different cultures not only speak different languages, they also have different preferences for managing time and activities, planning and working on projects, and interacting with colleagues. Not understanding these differences can lead to miscommunications, damaged relationships and failed projects.

During this interactive workshop, you will learn how cultural backgrounds influence our perceptions, beliefs and behaviors. You will identify some of your own personal cultural preferences and examine the impact that your preferences might have on people from other cultures. You will learn key areas where cultural differences can cause miscommunication and other challenges, begin to develop the skill of recognizing intercultural problems before they occur, and learn strategies for working effectively with people of any culture or background.

Content

- Models for understanding culture
- Where stereotypes come from and how to avoid them
- Key cultural characteristics that influence interactions
- Recognizing and resolving cultural misunderstandings
- Understanding how your cultural preferences impact others
- Culture shock and cultural adjustment

Methods

Individual work, partner and small group exercises, group discussion, role plays, interactive presentation.

This workshop will be held online and in English.

A pre-seminar task as well as homework assignments between sessions will be required.

The total duration of the workshop will be 16 hours (12 Hours of online teaching plus tasks/homework)