

Abstract:

The practical side of intercultural communication shows, that two different paradigms exist in this field. One is the economic perspective with it's aim to train managers and other staff to facilitate international business or to improve the economic results of organisations through diversity management. The other perspective is much more heterogeneous. In a broad field ranging from associations, schools, the police, adult education, public bureaucracy to NGOs different stakeholders acquire intercultural competences. The differences between these perspectives lie in the diverse understanding of the notion "culture" and in varying methodological approaches.

In this seminar we investigate the question, how intercultural competence is understood and trained regarding these different perspectives. Which means or tools are helpful, how are competences defined and which is a good way to get hold of them? Beneath reading relevant literature we also try different practical exercises, invite experts and go on excursions in Bremen. The starting point will be to look into the basic theoretical concepts. Exercises, trainings and excursions will provide an insight into the different fields of application. At the end of the course, participants will understand how intercultural competences are defined and in which way they are trained in different fields of practice.

The required activities in this course are composed of frequent and active participation, presentation in the course and an essay at the end.

Please note that this course is obligatory to achieve the "Interkulturelle Zertifikat". More details can be found on our website and will be provided in the first session.

Reading:

Moosmüller, A. (2007). Interkulturelle Kommunikation. Konturen einer wissenschaftlichen Disziplin. Münster, New York, München, Berlin: Waxmann.