Course Code AL301408
Course Name Understanding Culture
Replaces
Course level Lavere grad / First cycle
Credits 7.50
Duration (semesters) 1 semester
Duration (other)
Teaching language English

Admission requirements

Minimum university entrance requirements
The course is only available to students who have been admitted to the current degree programs:

- Economics and Leadership
- Bachelor of Marketing and Management
- Bachelor in Economics and Administration
- Other programs in which the subject is included within the curriculum

Registered students may also seek admission to courses in additional subjects and external candidates can apply for admission to individual courses providing they do so within the application deadlines.

Topic list

Understanding Culture aims to develop your awareness of the meaning of culture and its importance in effective intercultural communication inside and outside the workplace. We take a critical look at different approaches used for describing and understanding different cultures as well as examples of recent research from disciplines with an interest in intercultural communication and cultural differences.

You will be introduced to a range of topics including:

- Stereotyping and 'othering'.
- The relationship between language and culture.
- Intercultural communication.
- Multicultural workplaces.
- Organisational culture.
- Culture and leadership.
- Technology and culture.
Teaching Methods

- Lectures as part of interactive classes.
- Small group work, including discussions and research.
- Small group supervision sessions during the group project phase.
- Presentations.
- E-learning in a virtual classroom.

Learning outcome - Knowledge

- Know what culture means in contemporary society and understand approaches used to describe and understand cultures.
- Know what is meant by intercultural communication.
- Understand both the benefits and problems arising from working in a multicultural setting and/or with people from different cultures.
- Develop a deeper understanding of one's own cultural affiliations as well as those of others.

Learning outcome - Skills

- Be able to communicate effectively with people from different cultures both inside and outside the workplace.
- Be able to use English as a lingua franca to discuss cultural issues both orally and in writing.
- Be able to read English articles from the popular press as well as academic journals and select key information to support one's own ideas.
- Be able to produce an academic poster and present it to an international audience.
Learning outcome - General competence

Be able to critically analyse one's own and others' attitudes to different cultures and individuals from different cultures in order to communicate effectively.

Understand one's own cultural and social identity and how it affects communication.

Identify ethical issues arising from cultural differences and their effects on intercultural communication.

Mandatory Assignments

A written group project. This must be written in English and submitted before the examination period starts. Final date of delivery will be given at the start of the semester.

A group poster presentation based on the project.

Both assignments must gain a pass in order for individual students to progress to the final exam.

Students who postpone the final exam are not required to submit a new project or presentation.

Evaluation: Hjemmeeksamen/Home examination

Resit exam

Evaluation

A 72 hour written exam comprising of one 2,000 word essay. The word count should not be more than 10% above or below 2,000 words. The Title Page and Reference List are not included in this word count.

Students must write answers in English.

Supporting material allowed on exams Required reading for the course.

Grading Karakter (A-F, E er laveste ståkarakter)/Grading A-F. Grade F is a fail Credit reductions

Credit reduction due to overlapping courses:

Students must expect possible overlaps between courses and a reduction in credits; however, a complete overview of all topics available from NTNU is not currently available.