

Introduction to Intercultural Management

Blockseminar WS 2018/2019 for TU Berlin students of all faculties

Prof. Dr. Ariane Berthoin Antal (WZB & TU Berlin)

This course (in English) is designed for students who want to explore the implications of cultural differences in their professional interactions and personal lives.

The **objective** of the course is to introduce the students to the key concepts in the literature on intercultural management and to enable them to reflect on how their cultural backgrounds affect their perception and behavior in intercultural interactions, with the intention of helping them engage productively in such situations.

Intercultural competence requires an understanding of culture at multiple levels (societal, organizational, professional, etc.) and the ability to reflect on how cultural assumptions and values influence perception and behavior. The course entails grappling with concepts and theories in the literature then applying them to real interactions. A high level of **participation** is therefore required.

The course is structured in blocks to enable intense work. After an introductory session (2hrs) at the beginning of the semester, you will have several weeks to read the **required literature** (a reader is provided) and will then meet for a 2.5-day block to discuss the readings in depth. A second block of 2.5 days towards the end of the semester focuses on applying the concepts from the literature to cases.

Written assignments:

1. Before attending the first block seminar, you will submit by email 2 pages (a) summarizing key ideas in the articles and (b) commenting on what you think/feel about these ideas or how you relate to them/ connect them to your experience (1 paragraph per article). **Deadline: December 3, 2018, 8.00 am.**
2. After the first block seminar you will **write a 7-10 page paper** linking ideas from the literature to practical experience. **Deadline: January 14, 2019, 8.00 am.** That paper will serve as the basis for the work in a second 2.5-day block at the end of the semester. (You will receive an instruction sheet for this assignment.)

➡ The grade will be based on class participation (50%) and the quality of the written work (50%). Credit = 4 ECTS.

Please pre-register by email (claudia.nentwich@wzb.eu) before October 29, 2018.

Dates:

- **Introduction:** 1 November 2018, 16:00-18:00 at the **WZB*** (B001)
- **Block 1: Discussion of literature:** 6-8 December 2018 at the **WZB*** (B001)
- **Block 2: Work on cases:** 17-19 January, 2019 at the **WZB*** (B001)

Times:

14:00-19:00 on Thursday and Friday
9:00-16:00 on Saturday

Contact:

ariane.berthoin.antal@wzb.eu or claudia.nentwich@wzb.eu

Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung (WZB)*
Reichpietschufer 50, 10785 Berlin

* (Bus M29; U/S-Bahn Potsdamer Platz; U-Bahnhof Mendelssohn-Bartholdy-Park)