



LS1600 Intercultural Competence 4.5 credits

Interkulturell kompetens

This is a translation of the Swedish, legally binding, course syllabus.

If the course is discontinued, students may request to be examined during the following two academic years

Establishment

Course syllabus for LS1600 valid from Autumn 2017

Grading scale

P, F

Education cycle

First cycle

Main field of study

Specific prerequisites

General entry requirements.

Language of instruction

The language of instruction is specified in the course offering information in the course catalogue.

Intended learning outcomes

On completion of the course, you should be able to:

- Show an understanding, grounded in personal experience, of how personal and cultural variation and diversity influence understanding, emotions, decision-making, communication and teamwork.
- Problematised your own and others' descriptions of culture and identifications based on, for example, gender, nationality, ethnicity, class, age, language and profession.
- Give personal examples of knowledge, skills and attitudes that support and develop intercultural competence.
- Explain how intercultural competence relates to KTH's core values, global citizenship, and sustainable development.
- Use simple and efficient methods to observe, analyse and work constructively, creatively and ethically with personal and cultural variation.
- Reflect on critical intercultural incidents in a constructive and solution-oriented way.
- Systematically document, reflect on, and give accounts of intercultural experiences and learning.
- Present a personal action plan, grounded in self-awareness, for your continued personal development towards increased intercultural competence.

Course contents

With concrete examples and problem-based inductive learning, the course introduces the theoretical models needed for efficient reflection on, and analysis of, intercultural situations, communication and teamwork.

The course provides opportunities to learn and practice, individually and in groups, various practical methods for working constructively, creatively and ethically with personal and cultural variation and diversity, as well as for handling critical intercultural situations.

The course contributes to an increased level of self-awareness and understanding of important issues such as identity, stereotypes, norms and behavioral patterns.

During the course, we will examine roles and expectations, relevant to the student's specific profession, that may exist in different countries, companies and workplaces, and discuss what consequences this may have in, e.g., multi-disciplinary and international projects.

We discuss how intercultural competence relates to KTH's core values, global citizenship, and sustainable development.

The course also covers emotional aspects of international teamwork, living and working abroad as well as returning to your country.

Documentation, reflection and accounting of intercultural experiences and learning are brought up as a step towards personal development and future employability.

The course is given in English and makes use of the fact that KTH has students with different backgrounds at all levels.

Course literature

Course literature will be announced before the start of the course.

The recommended reference literature and electronic resources will be stated in the course information or equivalent.

Examination

- LEXA - Continuous Assessment, 4.5 credits, grading scale: P, F

Based on recommendation from KTH's coordinator for disabilities, the examiner will decide how to adapt an examination for students with documented disability.

The examiner may apply another examination format when re-examining individual students.

Continuous examination.

Under particular circumstances, other examination forms may be used.

Other requirements for final grade

All examination parts passed.

Ethical approach

- All members of a group are responsible for the group's work.
- In any assessment, every student shall honestly disclose any help received and sources used.
- In an oral assessment, every student shall be able to present and answer questions about the entire assignment and solution.