

PRACTICAL APPROACHES TO DEVELOPING GLOBAL COMPETENCY ACROSS THE DISCIPLINES

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“YOU NEVER REALLY UNDERSTAND A PERSON UNTIL YOU CONSIDER THINGS FROM HIS POINT OF VIEW.... UNTIL YOU CLIMB INSIDE OF HIS SKIN AND WALK AROUND IN IT.”

—HARPER LEE, *TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD*

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“MINDFUL INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATORS CREATE A FEELING OF BEING UNDERSTOOD, SUPPORTED, AND RESPECTED IN THE INDIVIDUAL(S) WITH WHOM THEY ARE COMMUNICATING.”

—STELLA TING-TOOMEY,
COMMUNICATING ACROSS CULTURES



OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATION

- Definition of Global Competency
 - Importance of Developing Students' Global Competency
 - Assignments to Develop Global Competency
 - Value of Using an Interdisciplinary Approach
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WHAT IS GLOBAL COMPETENCY?

A set of skills, abilities, and knowledge
Cultural awareness and sensitivity



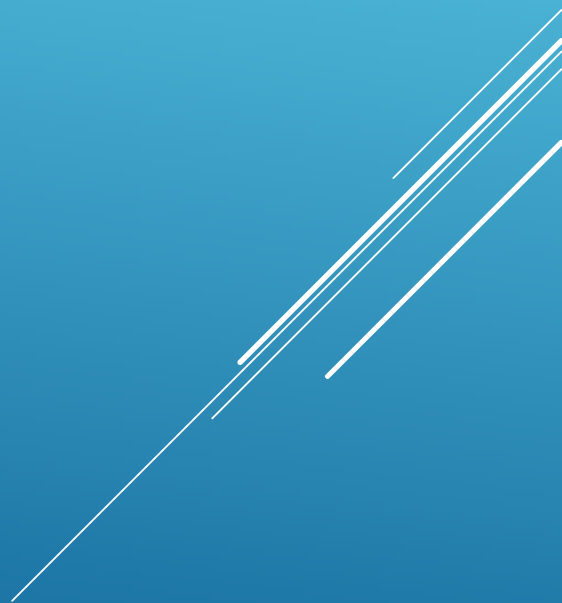
OVERLAP BETWEEN SKILLS ASSOCIATED WITH INFORMATION FLUENCY AND GLOBAL COMPETENCY



INFORMATION FLUENCY SKILLS INCLUDE THE ABILITY TO:

- Conduct research on global issues
 - Evaluate sources on global issues
 - Access and evaluate non-US research sources
 - Identify electronic sources that include intercultural content
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INFORMATION FLUENCY SKILLS INCLUDE THE ABILITY TO:

- Evaluate the credibility of electronic sources and analyze their cultural biases
 - Synthesize information from numerous sources
 - Integrate new information with pre-existing knowledge
 - Communicate knowledge effectively to various audiences
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THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE ASSOCIATED WITH GLOBAL COMPETENCY INCLUDE:

- An understanding of cultural differences
 - Sensitivity to other cultures
 - The ability to think critically about global issues
 - Knowledge of world events and the ability to view them from an interdisciplinary perspective
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THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE ASSOCIATED WITH GLOBAL COMPETENCY INCLUDE:

- Mastery of communication technologies for collaboration
- The ability to collaborate with diverse others to manage knowledge and create shared understandings
- An understanding of how to take action locally to address a global issue
- A framework for global civic engagement



IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPING STUDENTS' GLOBAL COMPETENCY

- The global workplace
 - Sophisticated information and communication technologies
 - Global issues related to health and the environment
 - Challenges of global citizenship
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ASSIGNMENTS TO DEVELOP GLOBAL COMPETENCY

A series of assignments to help students develop their global competency

The assignments can be used either individually or as a sequence



THE ASSIGNMENTS

- Internet Research Assignment
- Country Research Report
- Interview with Subject Matter Expert in Another Culture
- Group or Individual Assignment
- Presentation



INTERNET RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT (IRA)

Objectives:

- To think critically about global events
- To use technology to locate scholarly sources
- To develop information fluency
- To develop writing skills
- To analyze scholarly sources that present opposing viewpoints
- To evaluate the quality and relevance of information sources



INTERVIEW WITH SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT IN ANOTHER CULTURE

Objectives:

- To develop interview skills
- To develop technology skills
- To enhance awareness of cultural differences
- To develop an understanding of the practice of a discipline in other cultures
- To view a field of study from a broader perspective



COUNTRY RESEARCH REPORT

Objectives:

- To gain an awareness of intercultural communication
- To access and evaluate non-US research sources
- To learn about key cultural variables (political, economic, social, religious, educational, linguistic, and technological) in another culture
- To develop an understanding of another culture based on these variables



INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP PROJECT



Objectives:

- To develop writing and design skills
- To raise awareness of intercultural ethics
- To address a global issue at the local level
- To develop a framework for global civic engagement

PRESENTATION

Objectives:

- To develop presentation skills
- To disseminate the content of student projects either on campus or in the community



VALUE OF USING AN INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

- Multiple perspectives and approaches to global issues
- Preparation for the workplace
- Development of a mindful approach



STUDENT OUTCOMES

- Projects that address global issues
- Increased global civic engagement
- Development of a framework for future civic engagement



PILOT TESTING OF THE ASSIGNMENTS

The assignments are being pilot tested by UCF faculty members in diverse disciplines:

- Communication
- Creative Writing
- Engineering
- History
- Hospitality Management



QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?

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