

Reflecting on your learning: Guidance for the GoGlobal Challenge Assessment

Introduction

The GoGlobal Challenge leads you on a journey of discovery. You encounter new cultures and find out more about them, you learn new things about yourself, and you develop new skills and values. In short, you become more intercultural competent than you were before you started your GoGlobal Challenge.

Now we now ask to reflect on this and prepare for the final step of the GoGlobal Challenge.

You have two options for the final step:

- 1) You can write and submit a 1,500 reflective journal by 10 April 2019 or
- 2) You can attend an assessed moderated discussion which takes place in the last week of March

Whichever option you choose, we will expect to see evidence of reflection on your journey towards intercultural competence (see guidance overleaf).

Your GoGlobal Challenge Reflection

In your journal or in the moderated discussion we ask you to reflect on how the GoGlobal Challenge has helped you develop your intercultural competence. Please reflect on the impact of completing the challenge has had on your knowledge, skills and attitudes by covering the following questions:

Knowledge	Discussion max 1-2 min	Journal: max 400 words
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What new knowledge have you acquired through the GoGlobal Challenge? Which of the GoGlobal Challenge activities you engaged in led to acquiring this new knowledge? • What were the challenges in developing this new knowledge? Why? • How will this knowledge benefit you personally? How will it impact on your future career? • How do you plan to continue improving your intercultural knowledge in the future? Are there elements you need to continue working on? 		
Skills	Discussion max 1-2 min	Journal: max 400 words
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What new skills have you acquired through the GoGlobal Challenge? • Which of the GoGlobal Challenge activities you engaged in led to acquiring these new skills? • What were the successes and challenges in developing these new skills? Why? • How will these skills benefit you personally? How will they impact on your future career? • How do you plan to continue improving your intercultural skills in the future? Are there elements you need to continue working on? 		
Attitudes & values	Discussion max 1-2 min	Journal: max 400 words
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have your attitudes and values changed throughout the GoGlobal Challenge? What is the most significant change you observed? • Which of the GoGlobal Challenge activities you engaged in led to change in values and attitudes? Why? • Did you find the change in your attitudes and personal values challenging? Why? • How do you feel the change in your attitudes and personal values will impact on your future life and career aspirations? Which attitudes/values would you like to continue working on? Why? 		
Overall impact	Discussion max 1-2 min	Journal: max 300 words
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do you evaluate the overall impact from completing the GoGlobal Challenge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ on your ability to engage with different value systems and cultures ○ on your ability to communicate effectively across cultures and in different cultural contexts ○ on your understanding of global issues affecting the world today ○ on your future professional aspirations and plans 		

You have chosen to write a reflective journal, please submit it via this [UniHub Form](#) by 10 April 2019

Your journey towards intercultural competence

Deardorff (2006) defines intercultural competence as 'the ability to develop targeted knowledge, skills and attitudes that lead to visible behaviour and communication that are both effective and appropriate in intercultural interactions.'¹

The constituent elements of intercultural competence are:

Knowledge

- **Cultural self- awareness:** articulating how one's own culture has shaped one's identity and world view
- **Culture specific knowledge:** analysing and explaining basic information about other cultures (history, values, politics, economics, communication styles, values, beliefs and practices)
- **Sociolinguistic awareness:** acquiring basic local language skills, articulating differences in verbal/non-verbal communication and adjusting one's speech to accommodate nationals from other cultures
- **Grasp of global issues and trends:** explaining the meaning and implications of globalisation and relating local issues to global forces

Skills

- **Listening, observing, evaluating :** using patience and perseverance to identify and minimize ethnocentrism, seek out cultural clues and meaning
- **Analysing, interpreting and relating:** seeking out linkages, causality and relationships using comparative techniques of analysis
- **Critical thinking:** viewing and interpreting the world from other cultures' point of view and identifying one's own

Attitudes

- **Respect:** seeking out other cultures' attributes; value cultural diversity; thinking comparatively and without prejudice about cultural differences
- **Openness:** suspending criticism of other cultures; investing in collecting 'evidence' of cultural difference; being disposed to be proven wrong;
- **Curiosity:** seeking out intercultural interactions, viewing difference as a learning opportunity, being aware of one's own ignorance
- **Discovery:** tolerating ambiguity and viewing it as a positive experience; willingness to move beyond one's comfort zone

Accumulating this knowledge, skills and attitudes leads to **internal outcomes** which will make you flexible, adaptable, and empathetic and able to adopt an ethno-relative perspective. These qualities are reflected in **external outcomes** which can be observed in your behaviour and communication style - the visible evidence that you are, or are learning to be, interculturally competent.

Intercultural competence cannot be acquired in a short space of time. You continue developing your intercultural competence throughout your life by being open to new cultures, experiences and critical reflection.

¹ Deardorff, D. K. (2006) , The Identification and Assessment of Intercultural Competence as a Student Outcome of Internationalization at Institutions of Higher Education in the United States, *Journal of Studies in International Education* 10:241-266