



Cross-Cultural Agility Micro-Credential Syllabus

Professor: Ginger Sheridan gsheridan@cisabroad.com

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Use your current *CIS Local Life* experience coupled with this micro-credential's curriculum to upscale your career core competencies, then learn how to positively position these skills into a better future of your own making. The *Cross-Cultural Agility* micro-credential, offered uniquely through CIS Abroad, will help you enhance your critical thinking, cross-cultural communication, career & self development, and leadership skills while engaging in study abroad - adding global awareness, equity and inclusion to your international experience.

CIS Abroad uses the Minerva platform for MC coursework. Through online instruction which features cultural challenges and reflection, you will gain insights into what it means to be interculturally fluent by applying online curriculum to current real-world situations, while deepening your understanding of yourself as well as others.

COURSE CONTENT - 10 Sections (about one per week)

1. Introduction & Welcome to Cross-Cultural Agility Micro Credential Course
2. Program Overview: Welcome to Minvera & Why earn a Micro-Credential?
3. Getting the most from your MC Course: What to expect, including culture shock
4. Cross Cultural Agility: What is Culture, Really?
5. Cross Cultural Agility: The Cultural Iceberg - Surface vs Deep Culture
6. Program Midpoint Check-in: Revisit your Goals & Pop Cultural Deep Dive
7. Culture and Communication Modes, Updating your Branding on LinkedIn
8. Intercultural Leadership: Understanding Cultural Differences
9. Wrapping up: Cultural Deep Dive & Reverse Culture Shock
10. Planning for the Future: Marketing your study abroad experience

BONUS: More help with reverse culture shock

WHO IS ELIGIBLE: All CIS Study Abroad Students

INSTRUCTION METHOD: Asynchronistic online instruction with real-time guidance & feedback

TIME TO COMPLETION: Minimum of 8 weeks



EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- ❖ Students will apply their in-class knowledge to real-world, meaningful problem-solving situations where they learn to consider a variety of viewpoints.
- ❖ Students will develop strong cross-cultural communication skills and learn how to succeed in a global culture.
- ❖ Students will augment their ability to self-analyze and set clear, realistic goals.
- ❖ Students will augment their skillset and develop further knowledge and expertise in their desired career field.
- ❖ Students will develop greater cross-cultural leadership skills including independence, resiliency, and flexibility.

SKILLS OBTAINED*

- Global Equity & Inclusion
- Cross-Cultural Communication
- Career & Self Development
- Cross-Cultural Leadership

*Categories based on the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) key competencies, described in detail below.

Global Equity & Inclusion: Demonstrate the awareness, attitude, knowledge, and skills required to equitably engage and include people from different local and global cultures. Engage in anti-racist practices that actively challenge the systems, structures, and policies of racism by demonstrating openness, inclusiveness, and ability to interact respectfully with diverse groups.

Cross-Cultural Communication: Articulating thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively verbally and in writing taking into account cultural differences.

Career & Self Development: Proactively develop oneself and one's career through continual personal and professional learning, awareness of one's strengths and weaknesses, navigation of career opportunities, and networking to build relationships within and without one's organization, **Develop plans and goals for one's future career.**

Cross-Cultural Leadership: Recognize and capitalize on personal and team strengths to achieve organizational goals.



Course Content has 5 Cultural Deep Dive Themes:

1. Language as Culture
2. Food as Culture
3. History as Culture
4. Sports, Celebrations & Events as Culture
5. Art, Music, Media & Entertainment as Culture

DOCUMENTING ACHIEVEMENT: The specific requirements that must be met in order to earn this microcredential include:

1. Successfully completing each section of the *Cross-Cultural Agility* Micro-Credential online curriculum in order during the allotted time. This includes recording and saving your reflection and goal-setting documents as instructed and actively engaging with and posting responses to the Challenges to Minerva online.
2. Actively participating in the onsite *Local Life* program and receiving a positive final evaluation from your onsite director.
3. Submitting your 30 second elevator pitch.
4. Submitting a video, blog, or similar creative deliverable which presents the outcomes/results of your study abroad experience.

Upon completion, students will receive the *Cross-Cultural Agility* Micro-Credential certification along with the *Cross-Cultural Agility* Micro-Credential Badge to post on social media. Students will also be equipped to clearly and concisely explain their certification in any interview, highlighting skills acquired, be it an interview for graduate school or employment.

