



UNIWERSYTET  
IM. ADAMA MICKIEWICZA  
W POZNANIU

## Introduction to Intercultural Communication

### Educational subject description sheet

#### Basic information

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Study programme</b><br>European Legal Studies<br><b>Speciality</b><br>-<br><b>Organizational unit</b><br>Faculty of Law and Administration<br><b>Study level</b><br>First-cycle programme<br><b>Study form</b><br>Full-time<br><b>Education profile</b><br>General academic |                                                             | <b>Didactic cycle</b><br>2026/27<br><b>Subject code</b><br>10ELSS.11.04081.26<br><b>Lecture languages</b><br>English<br><b>Course type</b><br>Elective<br><b>Block</b><br>Humanities and social subjects |
| <b>Subject coordinator</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Sławomir Sztajer                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Lecturer</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Sławomir Sztajer                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Period</b><br>Semester 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>Activities and hours</b><br>• Lecture: 30, Graded credit | <b>Number of ECTS points</b><br>3                                                                                                                                                                        |

#### Goals

| Code | Goal                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| C1   | The aim of this lecture is to introduce students to the key concepts and approaches of intercultural communication. It will explain how culture shapes perception, values and communication styles, as well as both verbal and non-verbal communication. The course helps students develop the ability to analyze communication in culturally diverse contexts and the openness and reflexivity required to function effectively in multicultural settings. |

## Entry requirements

none

## Subject learning outcomes

| Code                                 | Outcomes in terms of                                                                                                                                                                                 | Learning outcomes                        | Examination methods |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Knowledge - Student:</b>          |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                          |                     |
| W1                                   | knows the key concepts of intercultural communication (culture, identity, communication, interculturality, multiculturalism, transculturality, high-/low-context communication, cultural dimensions) | ELS_K1_W02,<br>ELS_K1_W16                | Essay               |
| W2                                   | describes major theoretical approaches to intercultural communication                                                                                                                                | ELS_K1_W02,<br>ELS_K1_W16                | Essay               |
| W3                                   | explains the relationship between culture, language, perception, values and communication styles                                                                                                     | ELS_K1_W02,<br>ELS_K1_W16                | Essay               |
| W4                                   | identifies barriers to effective intercultural communication (stereotypes, prejudice, discrimination, culture shock, communication breakdowns)                                                       | ELS_K1_W02,<br>ELS_K1_W15,<br>ELS_K1_W16 | Essay               |
| W5                                   | recognizes the role of power, history and social structures in intercultural encounters                                                                                                              | ELS_K1_W02,<br>ELS_K1_W16                | Essay               |
| W6                                   | knows the basic principles of verbal and non-verbal communication across cultures.                                                                                                                   | ELS_K1_W02,<br>ELS_K1_W16                | Essay               |
| <b>Skills - Student:</b>             |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                          |                     |
| U1                                   | analyze intercultural interactions using basic theoretical frameworks                                                                                                                                | ELS_K1_U02                               | Essay               |
| U2                                   | interpret communicative behaviors in a culturally sensitive way and avoid simplistic stereotyping.                                                                                                   | ELS_K1_U01, ELS_K1_U02                   | Essay               |
| U3                                   | compare communication styles across cultures                                                                                                                                                         | ELS_K1_U02                               | Essay               |
| U4                                   | identify potential sources of misunderstanding in intercultural situations and propose appropriate strategies for managing them                                                                      | ELS_K1_U03,<br>ELS_K1_U06, ELS_K1_U07    | Essay               |
| U5                                   | apply concepts such as cultural awareness, empathy and perspective-taking to practical cases                                                                                                         | ELS_K1_U02,<br>ELS_K1_U06, ELS_K1_U07    | Essay               |
| U6                                   | use appropriate terminology from intercultural communication in oral and written form                                                                                                                | ELS_K1_U11                               | Essay               |
| <b>Social competences - Student:</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                          |                     |
| K1                                   | is aware of the limits of their own cultural perspective                                                                                                                                             | ELS_K1_K01                               | Essay               |
| K2                                   | critically reflects on stereotypes and ethnocentric attitudes                                                                                                                                        | ELS_K1_K01                               | Essay               |
| K3                                   | Is prepared for lifelong development of intercultural competence                                                                                                                                     | ELS_K1_K02, ELS_K1_K03                   | Essay               |
| K4                                   | values dialogue, tolerance and mutual understanding in multicultural contexts                                                                                                                        | ELS_K1_K03                               | Essay               |

## Study content

| No. | Course content                                       | Subject learning outcomes  | Activities |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| 1.  | Intercultural communication: concepts and approaches | W1, W2, U5                 | Lecture    |
| 2.  | Identity and intercultural communication             | W1, U1, U6, K1             | Lecture    |
| 3.  | Verbal and non-verbal communication across cultures  | W6, U4, K4                 | Lecture    |
| 4.  | High-context and low-context cultures                | W1, W2, W6, U1, U3, U4, U6 | Lecture    |
| 5.  | Cultural value dimensions                            | W1, W2, W3, U1, K1         | Lecture    |
| 6.  | Perception and intercultural communication           | W3, K1, K2                 | Lecture    |
| 7.  | Intercultural adaptation processes                   | W5, K4                     | Lecture    |
| 8.  | Power, inequality and intercultural communication    | W5, U2, K4                 | Lecture    |
| 9.  | Developing intercultural competence                  | W3, U1, U2, K1, K2, K3     | Lecture    |
| 10. | Migration, acculturation, and intercultural contact  | W1, W2, W4, W5, K2, K4     | Lecture    |
| 11. | Intercultural legal communication                    | W2, W5, U3, U6, K3         | Lecture    |

## Additional information

| Activities | Teaching and learning methods and activities                                          |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lecture    | Lecture with a multimedia presentation of selected issues, Discussion, Work with text |

| Activities | Credit conditions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lecture    | <p>Assessment is based on an essay submitted by the student to the lecturer no later than the final lecture. The essay should be between 2,000 and 2,500 words long.</p> <p>Students can choose one of the following essay topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How can barriers in intercultural communication be broken down?</li> <li>2. Social media as a tool for intercultural communication.</li> <li>3. How do values and value orientations affect communication?</li> <li>4. Language and the perception of reality: how does language shape worldviews?</li> </ol> <p>Essays will be graded based on the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understanding and correct use of the concepts and theoretical approaches discussed during the course (0-30 points).</li> <li>2. The ability to critically analyse problems and solutions (0-20 points).</li> <li>3. Ability to refer to empirical materials and examples to support arguments (0-20 points).</li> <li>4. Ability to use sources and academic studies (0-15 points).</li> <li>5. Ability to use academic language, coherence of argumentation and essay structure (0-15 points).</li> </ol> <p>Grading scale (maximum 100 points):</p> <p>Excellent (5.0): 91-100 points</p> <p>Very Good (4.5): 81-90 points</p> <p>Good (4.0): 71-80 points</p> <p>Average (3.5): 61-70 points</p> <p>Satisfactory (3.0): 51-60 points</p> <p>Unsatisfactory (2.0): 0-50 points</p> <p>The essay must be submitted by the deadline via email to the lecturer.</p> |

## Literature

### Obligatory

1. Samovar, L., Porter, R., McDaniel, E. , & Roy, C. (2015). Intercultural communication: A reader (14th edition). Boston, MA: Wadsworth Cengage Learning
2. Ting-Toomey, S., Chung L. (2012). Understanding Intercultural Communication (2nd edition). Oxford: Oxford University Press

### Optional

1. Hall, Edward Twitchell. The Silent Language / Edward T. Hall. New York: Anchor Books, 1990

## Calculation of ECTS points

| Activities                       | Activity hours*    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Lecture                          | 30                 |
| Reading the indicated literature | 30                 |
| Semester paper preparation       | 30                 |
| <b>Student workload</b>          | <b>Hours</b><br>90 |
| <b>Number of ECTS points</b>     | <b>ECTS</b><br>3   |

\* academic hour = 45 minutes

## Efekty uczenia się dla kierunku

| Kod        | Treść                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ELS_K1_K01 | The graduate is ready to critically appraise his or her knowledge, particularly in the context of the changing aquis on the regulation and critical assessment of the acquired knowledge, especially in view of the changing aquis on the regulation and application of law |
| ELS_K1_K02 | The graduate is ready to fulfil social commitments and to contribute to the social environment through involvement in various forms of activity involving legal initiatives of European scope                                                                               |
| ELS_K1_K03 | The graduate is ready to think and act as an entrepreneur                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| ELS_K1_U01 | The graduate can interpret social phenomena (cultural, political, legal, economic) within legal science                                                                                                                                                                     |
| ELS_K1_U02 | The graduate can use the basic theoretical knowledge and independently procure data to analyse individual processes and social phenomena (cultural, political, legal and economic) within legal science                                                                     |
| ELS_K1_U03 | The graduate can analyse the causes and course of individual processes and social phenomena (cultural, political, legal and economic) within legal science                                                                                                                  |
| ELS_K1_U06 | The graduate can use the knowledge gained to resolve dilemmas at work arising during their professional career as well as throughout pursued lifelong learning                                                                                                              |
| ELS_K1_U07 | The graduate can identify and analyse selected solution of specific individual problems and propose relevant resolutions                                                                                                                                                    |
| ELS_K1_U11 | The graduate can have a command of a foreign modern language at B2+ level according to the Common European Reference for Languages, including specific terminology                                                                                                          |
| ELS_K1_W02 | The graduate knows and understands the foundations of integration processes, analysed through the example of the European Union in economic, social, and cultural contexts                                                                                                  |
| ELS_K1_W15 | The graduate knows and understands the sources and principles of international law, at the basic level; the fundamental principles of international cooperation                                                                                                             |
| ELS_K1_W16 | The graduate knows and understands społeczny, kulturowy i ekonomiczny kontekst procesów integracyjnych w Europie oraz fundamentalne dylematy współczesnej cywilizacji                                                                                                       |