

National Research Mordovia State University (MRSU)

Faculty of Foreign Languages

S Y L L A B U S

Course Name	Intercultural Communication
Degree Programme	Bachelor of Linguistics (Track “Teaching Languages and Cross Cultural communication”)
Year of Study	2 year
Semester	Autumn
ECTS (36 hrs per ECTS)	3 (108 hrs)
Instructor(s)	Irina Korovina , Associate Professor, Department of English Philology, Faculty of Foreign Languages
Language of Instruction	Russian
Course Requirements	-
Course Overview	The course is intended for undergraduate students interested in solving professional tasks in effective oral and written communication with foreigners.
Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of specific features of verbal and non-verbal activity of representatives of various cultures; • Be aware of the types of mentalities typical for representatives of various cultures; • Implement the specific cultural features and socio-cultural norms in oral and written intercultural communication; • Use models of typical communicative situations and rules of communicative behavior appropriate for various intercultural communication scenarios; • Overcome stereotypes in cross-cultural dialogue based on the awareness of cultural features.
Course unit contents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 1. Weeks 1-3. The Concept of Culture: <i>definitions of culture; structural attributes of culture; ways of forming cultural identity (ethnocentrism and cultural relativism).</i> • Module 2. Week 4. The Concept of Communication: <i>the goal of communication; functions of communication; types of communication; factors of effective communication; problems of understanding (linguistic and cultural lacunas and their types); taboos.</i> • Module 3. Week 5. Non-Verbal Communication in Various Cultures. • Module 4. Weeks 6-9. Types of Mentalities: <i>discourse patterns by R.B. Kaplan; typology of mentalities by Yu. Sorokin; typology of mentalities by R. Nisbett; cultural syndromes by H. Triandis; cultural dimensions by G. Hofstede; cultural dimensions by other researchers.</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 5. Weeks 10-11. Cultural Stereotypes and Intercultural conflicts: <i>sources of forming cultural stereotypes; their functions; strategies of resolving intercultural conflicts; conflicts of generations.</i> • Module 6. Weeks 12-13. Affective Overload of Intercultural Communication Participants: <i>factors of affective overload of intercultural communication participants; strategies to reduce affective overload; culture shock; M. Bennett’s model of intercultural sensitivity.</i> • Module 7. Weeks 14-15. National Character and Russian National Character: <i>sources of information on national character; the role of language in forming national character; Russian and Western countries (different ideologies); contemporary Russia through the language and culture.</i> • Module 8. Week 16. Language and Culture. Linguoculturology: <i>language and the national view of the world; equivalence of words and concepts; lexical specification of concepts; sociocultural comment; linguoculturology and its methods.</i> • Module 9. Weeks 17-18. Intercultural Competence: <i>the structure of intercultural competence; the influence of national mentality and national character on the educational process and choice of teaching methods.</i>
Course Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total number of contact hours: 57 Lectures: 18 hrs (9 lectures) Seminars: 36 hrs (18 seminars) Consultations: 3 hrs • Self-study: 51 hrs
Teaching methods	Interactive lectures, inquiry-based learning, cooperative learning
Grading System (including segment percentage)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral Q&A sessions on lectures content (40%) • Student presentation (30%) • Final oral exam (grade) (30%)
Textbooks and Mandatory Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Гришаева Л.И. Введение в теорию межкультурной коммуникации / Л.И. Гришаева, Л.В. Цурикова. - М., 2007. • Коровина И.В., Сафонкина О.С. Введение в теорию межкультурной коммуникации: учебно-практическое пособие. - Саранск: Морд. гос. ун-т., 2017. - 82 с. (Электронное издание) • Тер-Минасова С.Г. Язык и межкультурная коммуникация. - М.: Слово/Slovo, 2004. • Сайт Гирта Хофстеде. – Код доступа: http://geerthofstede.nl • Тер-Минасова С.Г. Язык, культура и межкультурная коммуникация. – онлайн-курс. – Код доступа: https://openedu.ru/course/msu/LANG/

Grading system		
Grade	No. of points	Description

5	86-91	Excellent
4	71-85	Good
3	51 - 70	Satisfactory
2	Below 51 point	Fail

