National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Cross-Cultural Competencies for the NASA International Internship Project

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CCC DEFINED

- Skill that facilitates international and intercultural engagement
- Stems from both stable individual traits and behaviors and habits that can be strengthened over time
- Critical for workplaces and projects that include multinational and multicultural employees, such as NASA' I² project

COMPETENCIES

Confidence in one's language ability¹⁻²

Cultural sharing³

Positive models of engagement⁴

Awareness of one's own culture⁵

General competencies (e.g., Trust⁶)

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ACTIVITIES

- Reflection on past language success
- Multicultural nights and activities
- Comparing variation within a shared experience
- Presentations by multinational NASA employees
- Scavenger hunts in a grocery store & downtown
- Happy hour events
- Team building & bonding activities

FUTURE STEPS

- Continue research on specific competencies
- Develop a logical schedule of activities
- Deploy schedule for the Fall 2017 NASA I² cohort
- Create qualitative and quantitative tests to determine project success

BENEFITS TO NASA

- Different cultures emphasize different things, so creating an inclusive international environment will facilitate creativity and problem-solving
- More diverse teams will dream up a greater range of possibilities & create better missions

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- Dr. Erika Rodriguez, for her vision in bringing Smith College students to NASA ARC
- Commander Leedjia Svec, for her unending patience, advice, and guidance

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