Methodological Guidelines for Practical / Seminar / Laboratory Sessions: Fundamentals of Intercultural Communication Theory

# Introduction

The practical sessions for this course are aimed at deepening the understanding of intercultural communication, developing skills in analyzing cultural differences, and their impact on communication. Practical tasks will help reinforce theoretical knowledge gained from lectures and apply it in real-world contexts.

# Goals and Objectives of Practical Sessions

- Apply theoretical knowledge in practical contexts of intercultural communication.  
- Develop skills in intercultural interaction, analyzing cultural differences, and resolving intercultural conflicts.  
- Foster critical thinking and the ability to apply various communication strategies in culturally diverse settings.  
- Develop teamwork skills, including conducting joint research and presentations.

# General Recommendations

1. \*\*Structure of Practical Sessions\*\*:  
 - Sessions are divided into three parts: theoretical introduction, practical work, and discussion.  
 - Each session discusses specific cases or examples of intercultural communication, which students analyze in groups.  
   
2. \*\*Methods of Work\*\*:  
 - \*\*Group Discussions\*\*: Students are divided into small groups to analyze given scenarios or cases. Each group should propose a solution to the intercultural conflict or provide recommendations for improving interaction.  
 - \*\*Role Plays\*\*: Simulating real-life intercultural situations and communication problems.  
 - \*\*Discussions and Debates\*\*: Debates on cultural differences and ways to overcome them in business and everyday life.  
 - \*\*Research Projects\*\*: Completing small research tasks followed by presentations.  
   
3. \*\*Assessment\*\*:  
 - Student activity in practical sessions is assessed based on:  
 - Participation in discussions and debates.  
 - Quality and depth of analysis of intercultural situations.  
 - Ability to propose creative and realistic solutions.  
 - Engagement in group tasks.

# Structure of Each Session

1. \*\*Session Topic\*\*: Specify the topic and objective of the session (e.g., "Verbal and Non-Verbal Communication Channels in Intercultural Contexts").  
   
2. \*\*Preparation for the Session\*\*:  
 - Students must familiarize themselves with theoretical materials (textbooks, articles) in advance and prepare examples or questions for discussion.  
   
3. \*\*Tasks for the Session\*\*:  
 - Example Task: "Analyze the verbal and non-verbal communication tools used in high-context and low-context cultures and discuss their impact on communication effectiveness."  
   
4. \*\*Practical Part\*\*:  
 - Example: Divide students into groups to analyze scenarios of intercultural misunderstandings in a business setting. Each group should propose a plan to prevent such situations in the future.  
   
5. \*\*Conclusion\*\*:  
 - At the end of the session, a discussion is held on the results of the group's work, summarizing, sharing opinions, and conclusions on the session topic.

# Example: Practical Session on "Intercultural Conflicts and Their Resolution"

- \*\*Topic\*\*: Analysis of conflicts in intercultural communication.  
- \*\*Objective\*\*: Identify and analyze the main causes of intercultural conflicts and propose strategies for their resolution.  
- \*\*Task\*\*: Analyze a conflict scenario involving individuals from different cultural backgrounds. Describe how cultural differences contributed to the conflict and suggest resolution strategies based on intercultural communication theory.  
- \*\*Practical Assignment\*\*: In a role-play, students represent the parties involved in the conflict and apply proposed resolution strategies.

# Recommendations for Material Use

- \*\*Visualization\*\*: Use tables, charts, and diagrams to illustrate cultural differences and their impact on communication.  
- \*\*Multimedia Resources\*\*: Incorporate video clips, TED Talks, and other interactive materials to showcase real-life examples.  
- \*\*Creative Assignments\*\*: Encourage students to use creative methods for presenting results (e.g., creating short video clips or presentations).