

# Intercultural Internship Seminar

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Time Slot:	tbd
Language of Instruction:	English
Contact Hours:	16
ECTS Credits:	12 (in combination with full-time internship)

## Course Description

This seminar is designed to complement your FU-BEST Internship. In weekly sessions, you will have the opportunity to develop your career profile and focus on getting the most out of your internship experience. Examine and solidify your expectations and goals for the internship, analyse your individual strengths and weaknesses, and develop new skills and methods to reflect on your internship experience from a personal, professional, and practical perspective. Through the exploration of your experiences together with your instructor you will take a deeper look at differences and similarities between workplace culture and behavioural expectations in your country of origin and in Germany. A variety of career-based topics will be covered in the seminar, including "Workplace Communication", "Networking", and "Career Roadmap". This seminar will assist you on the path to career success, help you to determine what comes next, and formulate strategies for the future.

## Student Profile

Participants of FU-BEST Internship Program

## Assignments and Grading

Internship Report: 100%

Attendance of at least 6 sessions (1 excused absence)

## Literature

Digitized readings posted on the online learning platform Blackboard.

## Course Schedule

Calendar	Topics, Readings, etc.
Session 1	Introductory Session
Session 2	<b>Crossing Cultures</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exploring factors that influence productivity</li> <li>Examining resources and strategies for stress management (relevant to working abroad)</li> </ul>

<b>Session 3</b>	<b>Culture: What is it and why does it matter?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discovering the relationship between culture and expectations</li> <li>• Exploring cultural standards in Germany and the US and (un)shared knowledge</li> </ul>
<b>Session 4</b>	<b>(Culturally-Specific) Workplace Communication + Understanding Germany</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding diverse communication styles</li> <li>• Getting effective feedback</li> <li>• Communication in the workplace (Roadblocks and methods, examining communication bias)</li> </ul>
<b>Session 5</b>	<b>Career Orientation: What motivates me?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examining your career map</li> <li>• Career anchors as a tool for orientation</li> <li>• Character strengths in your career</li> <li>• Understanding career possibilities and choices</li> </ul>
<b>Session 6</b>	<b>Exploring Cultural Differences in Germany</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Field work: looking closer at cultural differences</li> <li>• Navigating cultural differences</li> </ul>
<b>Session 7</b>	<b>Personal Profile and Self-Marketing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building your personal profile toolbox</li> <li>• Marketing your internship</li> <li>• Peer review</li> </ul>
<b>Session 8</b>	<b>Working in Germany &amp; Future Plans</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluating and reflecting on progress</li> <li>• Staying in/returning to Germany</li> <li>• Using your internship</li> </ul>