Intercultural Competence: Making a Worldview of Difference

November 19, 2019
9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Mershon Center for International Security Studies, First Floor
1501 Neil Avenue

We hope you can join us for a workshop led by Debra Freathy, an experienced intercultural trainer and consultant, which will enhance participants’ intercultural awareness and competence through interactive group activities and one-on-one conversations.

Intercultural competence is the ability to shift cultural perspectives and appropriately adapt behavior to cultural differences and commonalities. Research conducted on intercultural effectiveness, cross-cultural adaptation and adjustment, international job performance, diversity and inclusion efforts and other forms of intercultural contact, clearly identifies intercultural competence as a key capability for working and living effectively with people from different cultures. Intercultural competence is essential for transcending ethnocentrism and establishing effective, positive relations across cultural boundaries, both international and domestic. At Ohio State, intercultural competence has been incorporated into the goals and outcomes of the new general education requirements and is considered as a learning outcome of the new World Language Requirement.

The workshop will introduce intercultural competence, the Intercultural Development Inventory – the assessment tool – and its practical applications. Faculty and staff involved in general education, foreign language instruction, education abroad, service learning, and diversity and inclusion initiatives are welcome to participate.

Presenter: Debra Freathy

Debra Freathy is an experienced intercultural trainer and consultant. She served as the Program Director for Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI), LLC from 2009-2014. Currently, she is an IDI Consultant and continues to be a part of the IDI faculty team that conducts seminars on intercultural competence and the Intercultural Development Inventory. She has led intercultural training using the IDI with executives, students and instructors and conducted research using the IDI across business institutions in Europe. In addition to her work with the IDI, Debra has worked as a psychotherapist for 20 years. Debra lived, studied and worked in Europe and Asia for 17 years and has taught psychology courses and at the graduate level she has taught courses on organizational behavior and leadership in EMBA and MBA programs. She has worked as a mentor for new therapists, families in transition overseas and students.

Registration: go.osu.edu/BeU9

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