#### TOOLS

# INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCY FOR PRACTICING DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

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#### SUMMARY OF CONTENTS

#### **Pages 3-4:**

A set of intercultural competencies to be adopted for practicing diversity and inclusion (D/I)

#### Pages 5-10:

A framework of courses for D/I training – a course for each competence and a measurement key as a accompaniment

#### Pages 11-12:

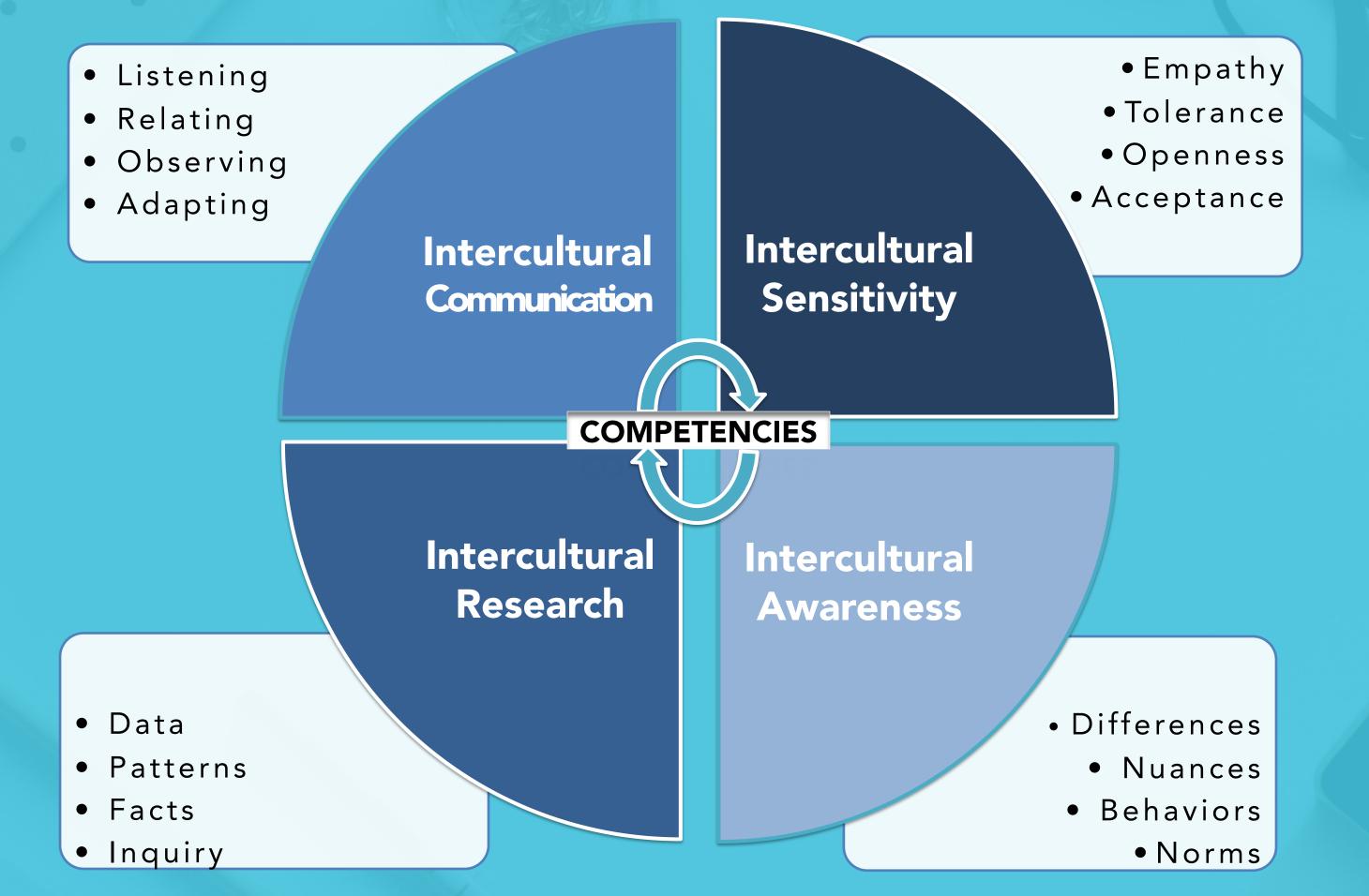
An organizational assessment/audit as a resource for evaluation and accountability to embed intercultural competence in their D/I practices

# INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCIES FOR THE PUBLIC RELATIONS INDUSTRY

Based on extensive research and the findings of a study, these competencies prioritize the knowledge and procedures needed to develop effective diversity and practices in the PR industry. The validity of each competency is supported by empirical evidence.

The continuing needs and opportunities in this study of intercultural competency for senior PR leaders call attention to the gaps in their practice of diversity and inclusion. The data is clear to show these gaps as ongoing and systemic, and that training and education should be designed to fill, eliminate or further exposes them.

While tested among the stakeholders in the public relations industry, these competencies can apply to a professional or team in any industry attempting to communicate interculturally with diversity and inclusion as the driving factor.



#### TRAINING AND MEASUREMENT FOR INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCE

This eight-week training model has a curriculum divided into four modules - one of each of the proposed competencies. This eight-week training model can be delivered online or in-person and will be delivered by a PR educator or consultant with teaching and research credentials in diversity and inclusion, cultural competency and intercultural communication.

Four components should be considered for this proposed training model: Pre-Training Survey, Coursework, Self-Assessment, Post-Training Survey. The coursework features a course for each area of the competences. The following pages feature a full sample curriculum agenda with a rubric for grading coursework to follow.

#### MODULE 1: intercultural communication

#### **Course Description**

- Demonstrate intercultural competency through interpersonal communication.
- Be aware of your own contribution to the problems in communication.
- Discover the consequences of cultural moments on immediate communication on larger scale social issues.

#### **Course Topics**

Fundamentals of Diversity & Inclusion

Connecting Demographic Shifts to Organizational Strategy

Race, Power & Privilege

The Concept of Unconscious Bias

Microaggressions and Microinequities

**Audience Behaviors** 

365 News Cycle

Influence of Politics

Crisis in Culture

#### **Course Assignments**

**Online Assessments** 

**Written Summary** 

#### MODULE 2: intercultural sensitivity

#### **Course Description**

- and Identify explain (historical, economic, social, religious, etc. similarities, differences, and connections across cultures.
- Recognize, articulate, reflect on, and formulate critical questions to reach a deeper understanding of cultural identity and biases of self and others.
- Understand various cultural systems, practices, and institutional structures.

#### **Course Topics**

Navigating through Religion and Belief Systems

LGBTQ and Inclusion

**Empowering Women** 

Disability and Special Needs Accommodations

**Generational Intelligence** 

**Veteran Support and Outreach** 

Immigrants in Workplace and Society

Socioeconomic Efforts

#### **Course Assignments**

**Online Assessments** 

Self-Reflection

#### MODULE 3: intercultural awareness

#### **Course Description**

- Identify and appreciate the beliefs, values, and norms of their own culture, and and articulate recognize differences and commonalities in dominant cultural patterns.
- in-depth about Learn intercultural topics to honor and share their own culture while developing a capacity to be inclusive of many other cultures.

#### **Course Topics**

EEO Laws in the US and Abroad

**Building and Leading Diverse Teams** 

Resource Groups and Diversity Councils

Strategic Planning, Purpose and Partnerships

Leadership and Board Development

Global Contexts in PR

Impediments to Intercultural Competence

#### **Course Assignments**

**Online Assessments** 

Intercultural Interview

## MODULE 4: intercultural research

#### **Course Description**

- Demonstrates evidence of engaging with, responding to, and promoting others' engagement with diverse communities locally, interculturally and globally.
- Initiates and demonstrates culturally aware behavior while engaging with others from diverse communities.

#### **Course Topics**

**Recruiting and Retention** 

**Executive Commitment and Sponsorship** 

**Next Generation of Equity** 

**Boardroom Diversity** 

**Supplier Diversity** 

Improving Approach to Bottom Line

**Global Best Practices** 

Leading Large Scale D/I

Innovation through D/I

Advanced Data Insights and Analysis

#### **Course Assignments**

Online Assessments

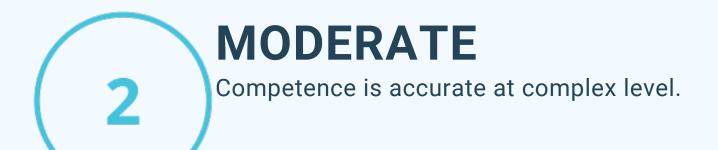
Research Report

#### **ASSSESSMENT RUBRIC FOR COURSEWORK:** INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING MODEL

(ACE/FIPSE Project Steering Committee, n.d.a, p. 5-6)









#### ORGANIZATIONAL **AUDIT/ASSESSMENT**

#### Intercultural Competency

The assessment operates as an organizational audit of your organization's diversity and inclusion practices, grounded in the four categories of intercultural competence and measured by the evaluation model used in the individual training program.

A part of this assessment asks leaders to review their most recent strategic plan that address their business objectives, or a series of issues for diversity and inclusion, or focuses its intent on reaching multicultural consumer audience.



Reveal opportunities for improvement, growth and innovation.



Validate your organization's understanding of diversity/inclusion



Identify common problems and obstacles in diversity/inclusion practices



Determine how your organization is meeting the needs of a diverse consumer base



Assess how effectively your organization communicates

#### **EVALUATION FOR ORGANIZATIONAL** ASSESSMENT/AUDIT

#### Intercultural Competency

These indicators of learning should be used in measuring the organizational assessment/audit.

#### INDICATORS OF LEARNING

#### Intercultural Communication

Listening in context of D/I Relating in context of D/I Relating applicable practices to D/I Adapting to strategies, procedures and environment Measured by: Self-Assessment, Document Analysis, Performance Rubric

#### Intercultural Sensitivity

Displaying empathy in D/I decisions Demonstrating tolerance and adaptability in understandings Acknowledging openness and flexibility in change Showing acceptance of others Measured by: Post-Training Survey, Performance Rubric

#### Intercultural Awareness

Expressing knowledge of cultural differences Respecting nuances in cultural identities Familiarity with unique behavioral patterns of cultural groups Responding to diverse norms in cultural interactions Measured by: Self-Assessment, Performance Rubric

#### Intercultural Research

Interpreting data of diverse groups/issues Detecting patterns in behavior Learning and recalling facts Using inquiry to discover deeper insights Measured by: Organizational Assessment, Document Analysis, Performance Rubric

### FOR FURTHER USE & **INSTRUCTION CONTACT:** Dr. Aerial Ellis Managing Principal, Advisory 83 aerial@aerialellis.com 615.307.0460