

Intercultural Interactions (USA)

Connecting Domestic and International Students

It is through the mirror of others that we learn to know ourselves.

– Stella Ting-Toomey

This cross-cultural toolkit supports domestic and international students in the USA to leave their comfort zones, learn intercultural skills, and interact openly with each other around the topics of intercultural film clips.

The three intercultural sessions are suggested formats for short and targeted student interactions that can be easily custom tailored to your specific needs and contexts. They are designed as awareness exercises where the student learning happens predominantly through first-hand experiences of intentional peer-to-peer interactions. You may also be interested in the [Concept & Strategy](#) behind this toolkit.

[FACILITATOR MANUAL](#)

[ONLINE RESOURCES](#)

Content

Orientation Session: Awakening Intercultural Interest

Suggested class time: 5-10 mins

Learning areas: Curiosity, Cross Cultural Awareness

1. Why explore Diversity? (1 min) [view](#)

Session 1: Enhancing Intercultural Awareness

Suggested class time: 60-90 mins

Learning areas: Critical Thinking, Cross Cultural Awareness, Social Skills

1. On Speaking a Second Language (4 min) [view](#)
2. On Pre-Conceptions (5 min) [view](#)
3. On Beginning a Journey (4 min) [view](#)

Session 2: Growing Intercultural Skills

Suggested class time: 60-90 mins

Learning areas: Communication Skills, Cross-Cultural Skills, Social Skills

1. On Differences of Communication Styles (4 min) [view](#)
2. On Non-Verbal Communication (4 min) [view](#)
3. On Culture Shock (4 min) [view](#)

Session 3: Appreciating Cultural Diversity

Suggested class time: 60-90 mins

Learning areas: Intercultural Empathy, Cross-Cultural Awareness, Social Justice

1. On Differences of Backgrounds (8 min) [view](#)
2. Relationships Bridging Differences (6 min) [view](#)
3. The Power of Empathy (9 min) [view](#)

Additional Sessions: Screening Events & Open Dialogues

Practice communication skills, deepen intercultural understanding and interconnect diverse students by initiating **Screening Discussion Events** with the intercultural documentaries by Crossing Borders Films, set in Morocco, China and the USA.

ABOUT CROSSING BORDERS EDUCATION

Crossing Borders Education sponsors and helps to create engaging resources, films, and travel programs that empower individuals to view the world from multiple perspectives. We work for a world where differences are welcomed as learning opportunities and where intercultural understanding develops naturally through intentional cross-cultural interactions. Our training resources and products are designed to enrich society by initiating intergroup dialogues and enhancing critical thinking skills.

Crossing Borders Education is an international non-profit organization and charity registered in the UK. Through our fiscal sponsor, the Peace Development Fund (PDF), a 501(c)(3) public foundation, our supporters are able to make tax-deductible donations in the U.S.

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