

## Subject Outline: Elective A – Intercultural Competency



THE AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE  
OF DERMATOLOGISTS

**Course:** Master of Dermatology (Coursework)

**Subject:** Elective A: Intercultural Competency for medical specialists

**Credit Points:** 4

**Year/Semester Delivered:** 2/4

### Subject Outline:

This subject explores the intercultural communication, the links among values, beliefs and behaviours and strategies for cultural adaptation in the specialist medical context. The approach is to place it in the context of your own cultural expectations as well as those of others.

It is centred on a series of online tutorials which cover topics including:

- (1) Learning
  - In diverse cultures
  - Conscious and subconscious culture
  - Ethnocentrism
  - Generalising vs Stereotyping
  - Cultural values
- (2) Low and High Context Communication (LCC/HCC)
  - Defining Low and High
  - Subconscious communication
  - LCC and HCC case studies
  - Communication channels
- (3) Communication styles
  - Case studies
- (4) Cultural values
  - Equality/Hierarchy
  - Individualism/Collectivism
  - Task/Relationship
  - Expressions of Culture
  - Equality in the workplace
  - Case Studies
- (5) Cultural Values (Self in the world)
  - Relationship between cultural values, beliefs and behaviours
  - Strategies to deal with cultural values clashes
- (6) Explanatory Module
  - Case based scenarios (reflective exercises)

The tutorials include a range of activities centred on case studies regarding the impact of cultural issues on medical practice. These will form the main component of assessment in this subject.

This subject is supported by an online content/assessment module “ Intercultural Competency for Medical Specialists”:

### **Learning Outcomes:**

After completing this subject, students will be able to:

1. Establish safe clinical treatment environments appropriate to the cultural background and beliefs of the patient.
2. Demonstrate the ability to effectively communication with patients and other stakeholder in a cultural context
3. Develop an effective protocol for generating a relevant history in a cultural context
4. Assess the role of cultural diversity in the establishment of treatment/management plans.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the impact of medical practice of relationship between cultural values, beliefs and behaviours
6. Create strategies to cope with situations in which there is a clash of cultural values
7. Research and report on issues associated with compliance in remote settlements in Australia.

### **Student Workload:**

The following extract for the ACD Academic Awards Framework Policy should be used as a guide to the minimum time a student should spend working on this subject.

“A 4 credit point subject will have a minimum of 48 hours teaching time associated with it ...” per semester.

“1CP will equate to a minimum of 2.5 hours personal study time per week for the student. Over a semester (20 weeks) this equates to 200 hours of personal study time for a 4 CP subject”.

### **Teaching:**

- F2F Lectures/Tutorials
- Weekly Virtual classroom sessions (Includes contribution to online case based discussion)
- Student self-paced online study

**Assessment:**

- Activities and case study responses – submitted online
- Virtual classroom contributions
- Written Assignment(s)/Research report

Assessment task	Weight	Subject Learning outcomes assessed	Curriculum Learning Outcomes	Due date
Tutorial 1 (Online exercises)	10%	1 - 4	BLO 9 – 10/LO 19 – 21, 23	TBA
Tutorial 2 (Online submission – Activity)	10%	1 - 4	BLO 9 – 10/LO 19 – 21, 23	TBA
Tutorial 3 (Online submission – Activity)	10%	1 - 4	BLO 9 – 10/LO 19 – 21, 23	TBA
Tutorial 4 (Online submission – Activity)	10%	1 - 4	BLO 9 – 10/LO 19 – 21, 23	TBA
Tutorial 5 (Online submission – Activity)	10%	1 - 4	BLO 9 – 10/LO 19 – 21, 23	TBA
Tutorial 6 (Online submission – case study activities)	35%	5, 6	BLO 9 – 10/LO 19 – 21, 23	TBA
Written Assignment: Research report	10%	7	BLO 9 – 10/LO 19 – 21, 23	TBA
Discussion: Case and/or webinar Contribution	5%	All	BLO 9 – 10/LO 19 – 21, 23	Assessed Weekly

**Recommended Resources:**

Each online tutorial:

- References appropriate research and journal articles. These should be accessed and reviewed in all cases.
- Contains contextualized inbuilt case studies
- Contains inbuilt video resources which are available for download for private study.

## Curriculum Mapping:

### DOMAIN 4: Professional Qualities

**BLO 9:** Evaluate the needs of diverse patients, colleagues and communities from both cultural and linguistic perspectives to provide and promote the most appropriate health care.

**BLO 10:** Design and deliver safe, high quality health care and research according to ethical codes of practice and legal obligations

### Learning outcomes

**LO 19:** Develop effective communication with patients, their families and/or carers, other health care professionals and the community.

**LO 20:** Evaluate the impact of culture on health outcomes in order to act sensitively to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients and **patients from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.**

**LO 21:** Advocate for health and for disease prevention with individuals and communities.

**LO 23:** Evaluate ethical frameworks in clinical practice and research, **including critical reflection on personal values and behaviours** in the context of relevant legislation