



2023 Master internship at University of Gdańsk



TITLE : THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING CULTURE IN THE ADAPTATION PROCESS OF STUDENTS AT FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES

LAB & PEOPLE

- Name of the hosting lab: Social Rehabilitation
- General activities of the lab: Multidisciplinary research mainly in contemporary social problems social inclusion and rehabilitation.
- Website: https://old-en.ug.edu.pl/universytet/struktura_ug/faculty_social_sciences/institute_education/division_social_pathology_and_social_rehabilitation
- Number of staff / PhD: 7 researchers/ 1 lecturer
- Supervisor name and contact: Robert Opora – robert.opora@ug.edu.pl, Marta Pięta - Chrystofiak – marta.pieta@ug.edu.pl

TOPIC OF THE INTERNSHIP

- Scientific context of the internship (max 20 lines)

Learning culture refers to a set of values, beliefs, norms, and practices related to learning that exist within an educational environment, such as a university, school, or student group. Learning culture influences how students engage in the educational process, undertake tasks, communicate with fellow students and instructors, and develop their skills and knowledge. Learning culture can be significant for the process of adaptation at the university. Many students choose to study abroad, changing their place of residence, language, culture, and lifestyle. Student cultural adaptation is a process in which students adjust to a new cultural environment in which they pursue their studies. Cultural adaptation can be a challenging task, but it is also a crucial element of a healthy and successful student experience. As part of the project, we plan to explore and describe the significance of learning culture for the adaptation process of students studying outside their home country, the challenges they face, and the strategies that can assist them in the adaptation process and achieving academic success.

Keywords: adaptation, culture of learning, education

Bibliography:

- [1] Blasco, M. Making the tacit explicit: rethinking culturally inclusive pedagogy in international student academic adaptation. *Pedagogy, Culture & Society*. 2015, 23(1), 85-106.
- [2] Gu, Q.; Schweisfurth, M.; Day, C. Learning and growing in a 'foreign' context: intercultural experiences of international students. *A Journal of Comparative and International Education*. 2010, 40 (1), 7-23.
- [3] Scherto, G. Overseas students' intercultural adaptation as intercultural learning: a transformative framework. *A Journal of Comparative and International Education*. 2007, 37(2), 167-183.
- [4] Zhou, Y.; Jindal-Snape, D.; Topping, K.; Todman J. Theoretical models of culture shock and adaptation in international students in higher education. *Studies in Higher Education*. 2008, 33 (1), 63-75.

Tasks and duties entrusted to the student:

Contributing to determining the relationship between the culture of learning and the process of adaptation of foreign students at the university, especially their educational success and psychological well-being.

Skills to be acquired or developed:

Qualitative methods

Program coordination

Knowledge about strategies of adaptation to the learning environment and benefits, risks of studying abroad

Communication in a multicultural program

PROFILE OF THE DESIRED STUDENT

- Minimum level of study required: Master degree
- Field(s) of study: Social Science (education, social work, psychology, sociology)
- Scientific skills: qualitative methods, writing and analysis skills, scientific curiosity for the subject matter

- Language skills required : English

THE INTERNSHIP ASSIGNMENT:

Desired duration of the internship (in months): 5 months

Desired Starting date of the mission: *(please indicate the level of flexibility)* currently october/
november 2023

Indicative weekly schedule: *35h / week*

Remuneration:

Erasmus grant: could be asked to your own university

Internship agreement: *an internship agreement will be signed.*

To SEA-EU students:

*If you're interested please send your CV and letter of motivation to the scientist in charge,
robert.opora@ug.edu.pl/ marta.pieta@ug.edu.pl before the date 10/09/2023.*