Living and Working in an Intercultural Environment
Trainee: Fadja Ehlaïl

The acquisition of intercultural competence in academic contexts is a specific and challenging task. Working in a multinational scientific environment requires a differentiated understanding of cultural concepts and culturally determined perception. Misunderstanding between members of different cultures may result in irritations and evoke insecurities on all sides – colleagues, students, teachers or advisors.

This workshop aims at creating cultural awareness to facilitate decision making and a thoughtful approach to intercultural situations at the academic workplace. The participants will learn how to deal with different values and expectations as well as with the culturally determined structures of communication and ways of interaction.

Group work, simulations and role-plays will help the participants to gain a profound understanding of cultural processes. At the end of the workshop, the participants will have developed their own individual ways of how to make intercultural encounters in the classroom and other environments more successful.

Methods:
- Simulation
- Role-plays
- Critical incidents
- Inputs of the trainer
- Discussion
- Group work

In the end of the workshop participants will have learned and experienced:

- that our cultural background determines our way of thinking
- that differences are valuable and enriching
- that different cultures have developed different strategies to solve problems
- that communicational patterns vary significantly in different cultures
- that a list of do’s and don’ts don’t get us very far
- that culture is a process that just happens unconsciously

Seminar Venue:
Alexander von Humboldt-Guesthouse, Eichendorffring 5 (near campus)
Seminar Schedule:
Friday, February 18th from 12h30 until 19h00
Saturday, February 19th from 9h00 until 16h30

Participation is cost-free.
Drinks and snacks will be served!

The Welcome Centre asks for applications to this workshop until Monday, February 7th either via email (welcome-centre@uni-bayreuth.de) or via phone-call to 0921-55-7604.

Please bring your German colleague along. We explicitly welcome the registration and participation of German scientists at this workshop!