



Tübingen International & European Studies (T-IES)

Doshisha EU Campus European Studies Program

September 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026

Course title:	Insight Germany: Reflecting on Intercultural Experiences
Date:	September 4 – December 1, 2025
Language of instruction:	English
Lecturer:	Alexandra Dick, Christopher Zysik
Contact hours:	26

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to provide international students with a set of skills to understand transnational experiences and develop cross-cultural dialogues. We will discuss how cultural estrangement can promote a deeper understanding of foreign cultures and our own. Students will develop various tools to navigate their intercultural experiences and gain a critical and reflective perspective on culture. In an intercultural journal, students will reflect on what they are learning in this course and how it might apply to their own life in Germany.

Session	Date	Topic
1	04.09. 11:00-12:30	Introduction to the course and getting to know each other, culture and stereotypes
2	08.09. 09:00-10:30	Intercultural competence and single stories
3	15.09 13:15-14:45	Intercultural communication and culture shock model
4	22.09. 13:15-14:45	University cultures
5	29.09. 13:15-14:45	Youth culture (excursion city museum Tübingen)
6	06.10. 13:15-14:45	Pop cultural dialogue (film, music)
7	20.10. 13:15-14:45	Midterm evaluation, introduction to project work

8	27.10. 13:15-14:45	Project work and group fieldwork
9	03.11. 13:15-14:45	Project work and group fieldwork
10	10.11. 13:15-14:45	Preparation of presentations
11	17.11. 13:15-14:45	Preparation of presentations
12	24.11. 13:15-14:45	Presentations
13	01.12. 13:15-14:45	Presentations; wrap-up and feedback

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Understand the influence of cultural contexts on how you and others view and inhabit the world.
2. Deepen your awareness of your and others' cultural identities and values.
3. Build your skills in communicating and connecting effectively across cultures.

PREREQUISITES

The course does not require any special knowledge. The course is designed for undergraduate students from Doshisha University with different academic backgrounds who are generally interested in learning about culture and intercultural connection. A very good command of English and the willingness to actively participate in the course and during field work are required.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADING

The grade of the course will be calculated by the result of the project presentation (70%), assignments as well as active participation in class (30%). Active participation in class as well as during field work includes: attendance, asking questions, taking part in discussions and group work, showing interest, giving presentations.

INFORMATION ON THE LECTURERS

Alexandra Dick is a PhD candidate in Islamic Studies at the University of Bochum. She holds a BA in Cultural Anthropology and Islamic Studies from the University of Tübingen and an MA in Social Anthropology of Development from SOAS, University of London. She has previously worked in research groups in Mainz and Tübingen, focusing on online extremism and the role of religion in peace and conflict processes, and regularly conducts workshops on intercultural competence.

Christopher Zysik is a PhD candidate in Music at Paderborn University and research assistant at the University of Tübingen. He studied Popular Music and Media, Media Studies, and Philosophy. In 2024, he was visiting researcher at Yale University. His research interests include Japanese and Korean popular music and film, aesthetics, cultural psychoanalysis and cultural phenomenology, postcolonial theory and globalization.