Multicultural USC: How to work effectively in multicultural teams in the classroom and beyond

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USC is one of the most international schools in the country; students come from around 80 different countries. 25% of USC students have a non-American background. This diverse composition is a great resource, but it also presents challenges for the collaboration of students in the classroom and beyond. The goal of this seminar is to develop an understanding and awareness of intercultural and diversity factors that impact the communication process of multicultural student groups when working together on class projects. More specifically, students will learn and analyze how culture influences our own behaviors as a foundation to becoming aware of others’ culturally influenced patterns of thinking and behaving. We will practice strategies how to successfully communicate in a multicultural student team, ultimately leading the team to high performance and success. At the end of the seminar, students will know how to approach the multicultural environment at USC as a valuable resource rather than an obstacle.