

Assessing Intercultural Competence in Higher Education: Approach, Analyze, and Act.

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Introduction and Overview

- Richard Griffith, Ph.D.
- What is Intercultural Competence (ICC)?

How well are we measuring ICC?

New evidenced based model of ICC

Improving methods of ICC measurement



Intercultural Competence (ICC)

 ICC "reflects a person's capability to gather, interpret, and act upon different cues to function effectively in a multicultural situation" (Earley & Peterson, 2004)

Critical, but complex life skill for 21st century success

- Many assessments of ICC have been designed
- How well have we measured the construct(s)?





Gabrenya et al. 2012

Imprecision in defining construct

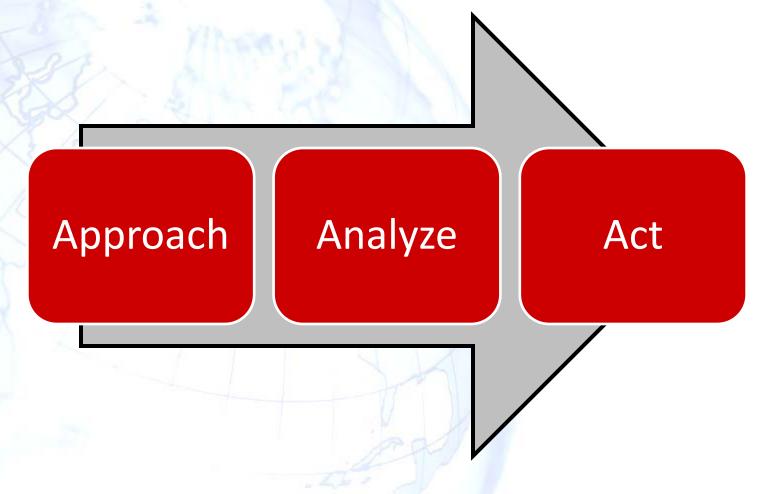
Absence of precise operationalization & over reliance on Likert scales

Gabrenya et al. (2011) evaluated 34 measures

 Few demonstrated acceptable construct or criterion validity (criterion problem)



3 Stage Process Model





Griffith, Armon, Wolfeld, Liu, & Rios (*in press*). Assessing Intercultural Competence in Higher Education: Existing Research and Future Directions. *ETS Research Report Series*.









Approach

Tolerance for Ambiguity

Ability to maintain composure & well-being in uncertainty without compromising effectiveness

Positive Cultural Orientation

Evaluation of cross-cultural situations as favorable

Self-Efficacy

Degree to which an individual believes that he or she can achieve a goal











Analyze

Self-Awareness Degree to which an individual understands the impact of their own culture, values, and previous experiences on his or her cognitive and behavioral responses

Social Monitoring

Attention to the others' verbal, non-verbal and contextual cues and responses during a social interaction



Analyze (cont.)

Perspective Taking Active consideration of others' potential viewpoints / Active refrainment of preconceived cultural schema interfering with information processing.

Cultural Knowledge Application

Utilization of relevant declarative cultural knowledge in an interaction.







Act

Emotional Regulation The ability to monitor and revise emotions in an automatic or controlled manner.

Behavioral Regulation Active monitoring and revision of behavior to activate culturally appropriate behavior and inhibit culturally inappropriate behavior.











I am not sure what was going through his mind at the time, but I guess if I were in his shoes...





Summary

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Thank You!

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