

Cultural Transition Program for International Students (60 mins)

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Awareness of own intercultural skills and also awareness of the host country culture is one of the key factors to successful transition of International students when they commence studies. Better understanding of the environment empowers students with sufficient knowledge necessary to settle in.

At UNSW we have divided the Cultural transition program into two parts. The Cultural Transition sessions during Orientation and Culture of Oz during the semester

The first part enables students to identify individual skills and intercultural skills that will help in their transition. Students are also able to identify values beliefs and behaviour of their own culture as well as the host country culture.

The Culture of Oz series of workshops during the semester aims to help international students develop their understanding of the Australian culture. Guest speakers are invited to these workshops to talk to students on topics such as Indigenous culture and history, Colonisation in Australia, Geography and Australian symbols, Australian Public Holidays and their history, Australian Slang, Sport, Academic culture and Australian work place culture.

Student support services units within the university as well as local / international cultural mentors and Indigenous students assist in facilitating these Cultural Transition sessions.

This workshop will enable participants to identify international student's cultural transition needs. Through discussions providers will be able to share experiences and thoughts on developing suitable programs to enhance student experience.

Key Words

Culture, cultural transition, student experience, Australian culture, intercultural skills