Intercultural Training Cohort Program for Doctoral Students

GUSI Network · January–March 2027

1. Introduction

The Global Universities for Societal Impact (GUSI) network will offer a five-session, online intercultural training program for doctoral students from any discipline, open to students at Emory University, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (HUJI), the University of Bonn, and the University of St Andrews. This initiative aims to strengthen intercultural communication, deepen cultural awareness, and foster international research networks. Students will connect with peers across institutions and exchange perspectives.

2. Program Overview

- **Format:** 5 interactive online sessions (60–90 minutes each)
- **Timeline:** Tuesdays (Eastern Time), January – March 2027
- **Topics:** Cultural self-awareness; Understanding others' values; Intercultural competencies
- **Facilitators:** Intercultural Training Experts from Emory University and the University of Bonn

3. Session Plan & Provisional Dates

Session	Date	Time (ET)	Topic
1	Jan 26	9–10 AM	Opening session; introductions & program preview
2	Feb 2	9–10:30 AM	Cultural Self-Awareness
3	Feb 9	9–10:30 AM	Understanding others & cultural values
4	Feb 16	9–10:30 AM	Intercultural awareness / suspending judgement (competency building)
5	Mar 16	10–11 AM	Wrap-up & reflection

4. Learning Outcomes

- Understand what defines culture, intercultural communication, and competence
- Reflect on personal cultural values and communication styles
- Recognize how intersectionality and cultural lenses shape perceptions
- Distinguish between cultural stereotypes and generalizations
- Identify sources of intercultural misunderstanding
- Practice empathy, flexibility, and open-mindedness in cross-cultural settings

5. Eligibility & Cohort

- Doctoral students from all subject areas (preferably 2nd–3rd year, but open to others)
- A small group of students from each institution, selected by each university. Participants earn a digital badge and certificate upon completion of the final session.

6. Application Details

Applications will close on December 10, 2026. Applicants are expected to hear back before winter break. If applications exceed capacity, we will prioritize representation across the participating universities and disciplines.
Apply here!

7. Contact Information and More Information

For more details, please contact Natalie Cruz at Natalie.cruz@emory.edu. Visit our website to view more details about the GUSI Network.