



Erasmus+



Newsletter 2 – Culture Pursuit

INTERCULTURAL ACTIVITY

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Interculturality describes a set of multi-faceted processes of interaction through which relations between different cultures are constructed, aiming to enable groups and individuals to forge links between cultures based on equity and mutual respect. It is also linked with the idea of hybrid identities and fusion cultures, in which people and groups create and recreate new cultural patterns that take up elements of formerly distinct and separated norms, values, behaviours and lifestyles.

MULTICULTURAL COMMUNICATION AND COOPERATION THROUGH MULTICULTURAL DOBROGEA

An ethnic mosaic - this is the way Dobrogea has been described at the beginning of the XXth century. Together with the Romanian people, in Romania live other ethnic groups, each with its specific tradition, culture and religion. This article highlights the uniqueness of multicultural phenomenon, demonstrating the possibility of harmonious intercultural cohabitation as a model that can provide an algorithm for the interpretation of intercultural communication and cooperation. The psychological, sociological and historical interpretation provides an overview of the phenomenon addressed. At European level we search for solutions to improve multicultural environment. It is necessary that solutions be found just inside the European multicultural space and adapted to each scenario individually.



DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Diversity needs to take its true place in school. It must be recognized, accepted, valued and valorized in the direction of personality development. Intercultural education is not only an education for minority groups, it is not a new school discipline, nor is it confused with the times when minorities study their native language and culture of belonging. It mainly aims at forming positive and active attitudes towards other cultures. Intercultural education means interaction, exchange, communication, cooperation, the breakthrough of cultural barriers, solidarity, trust and mutual respect, and to define it, we can say that it is an approach to the teaching-learning process based on democratic values and beliefs that seek to promote pluralism cultural context in the context of diverse societies and an interdependent world.



M U L T I C U L T U R A L I T Y

Multiculturalism is nothing else but the coexistence, in one and the same cultural reality as a whole, of several particular cultures or subcultures. Examples include culture of the professions, age culture, house culture, ethnic culture, race culture, and so on. The concept of multiculturality suggests to cultural anthropology the need to carry out some ideological detached analyzes and interpretations, politically neutral and without emotionally passionate, coexisting cultures . Every fact of popular culture implies the decoding of some bijuvant relations between "the Romanians, the so-called Dicians", the Aromanians, the Moldavians, the Transylvanian shepherds and on the other hand the different populations established here (Bulgarians, Turks and Tartars , Lipovans and Ukrainians, Germans, Italians, Greeks). Each of these populations was both the emitters and the recipients of the message made up of the culture of the native places, and of the places where they either stood for a while or settled. Thus, it has developed a culture in which traditional folk formula discover acculturation process, and the process of internal growth, where - in fact - each population has shown originality. Over time, they created a civilization own this land, civilization is characterized both by common elements of all ethnicities, and the particular notes, each ethnic individual basis.



MULTICULTURALISM AND MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

Multiculturalism actually means richness. **Multicultural education** refers to any form of education or teaching that incorporates the histories, texts, values, beliefs, and perspectives of people from different cultural backgrounds. At the classroom level, for example, teachers may modify or incorporate lessons to reflect the cultural diversity of the students in a particular class. In many cases, “culture” is defined in the broadest possible sense, encompassing race, ethnicity, nationality, language, religion, class, gender, sexual orientation, and “exceptionality”—a term applied to students with specialized needs or disabilities. Multicultural education also assumes that the ways in which students learn and think are deeply influenced by their cultural identity and heritage, and that to teach culturally diverse students effectively requires educational approaches that value and recognize their cultural backgrounds. In this way, multicultural education aims to improve the learning and success of all students.

Recognising multicultural diversity is the aim of any democratic education system. As such, the diverse cultures in a nation should be reflected in the education system of a country. Multicultural education focuses on the transformation of the educational process to promote the ideals of democracy in a pluralistic society. Learners are taught to appreciate cultural diversity and differences as strengths and not as weaknesses.

Why is Multicultural Education Important?

1. the world we live in is very diverse, therefore it is critical that we as humans recognize, acknowledge, and embrace this. In order for us to understand diversity we must be educated on other cultures. The lack of multicultural education in our society is holding us back from understanding other cultures. In order for us to respect people who are different from us we should be exposed to their culture values, beliefs, and practices.
2. Multicultural education is key to becoming unified as humans. It is undeniable that the world we live in today is socially constructed. Understanding what this means is critical. We as humans, are the most complex and mentally capable of all mammals on earth, but we oftentimes do not question why the world is the way it is. If multicultural education was valued more in our society, it would bring us together as one race, the human race.
3. Multicultural education can change our social structure in a positive way. I whole heartedly believe that multicultural education is the key to understanding diversity and they key to bringing everyone, as human beings to-



The goals of multicultural education include:

- * Creating a safe, accepting and successful learning environment for all
- * Increasing awareness of global issues
- * Strengthening cultural consciousness
- * Strengthening intercultural awareness
- * Teaching students that there are multiple historical perspectives
- * Encouraging critical thinking
- * Preventing prejudice and discrimination



Goals of Multicultural Education:

- 1** Develop and foster a democratic and just society where all groups experience cultural democracy and empowerment
- 2** Improve academic achievement of all students
- 3** Help the students to develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills needed to function within their own and other micro cultures, and within global community
- 4** Provide opportunities to gain cultural competency

“the major goal of multicultural education is to transform the school so that the male and female students, exceptional learners, as well as students coming from diverse cultural, social-class, racial and ethnic groups will receive an equal opportunity to learn in school.”

James Banks

CHARACTERISTICS OF DOBROGEAN MULTICULTURALITY

The harmony of coexistence has always been the hallmark of the behavior of the traditional Dobrogea community.

Modern society has taken on this tradition of tolerance, which is why the "Dobrogean interethnic model" is happening.

Characteristics

- a) the unity of the traditional civilization in this area with that of the entire Romanian space;
- b) similarities and differences between the traditional Romanian civilization and that of the other ethnic groups, but it is difficult to emphasize the exclusive influence of the culture of one of the ethnic groups on the other;

The history and dynamics of social life, the mental manifestations in this area - over time - allow us to consider and define the area as an area of ethnic acceptance, which implies certain characteristics:

- Comprehensive co-existence
- ethnocultural reception
- an open intercultural model

These characteristics of the area of ethnic acceptance, which at the same time become phenomena of co-ethnicity in Dobrudja, do not exclude its aspects and are related to: the specificity of the respective ethnic group, the possibilities and modalities of cohabitation, the socio-historical and economic evolution of the common dwelling territory.

Culinary Dobrudja is a happy mixture of different culinary preparations. Dobrogea cuisine is light and fragrant and is always changing, but the flavor was not lost. Sweets are the same as a hundred years ago and are the sweetest sweets, the influence of the Turks brings baclavaus, sarails, house halva, and sweet cake.



TURKISH FOOD

DOBROGEA CUISINE

Dobrogean cuisine is light, tasty, much oil, butter and margarine are used to prepare them. The soups are acrylic with cabbage and vinegar, are made of vegetables and especially fish. A lot of fresh vegetable salads are used in the form of lettuce in combination with eggs, brine, cream. The sauces are colored with tomato paste, they are made from vegetables stuffed with flour dissolved in water and "quenched" with bone soup. The basic preparations are accompanied by rice, vegetables and pasta. It uses a lot of beaten milk, yoghurt and cheese that is consumed as such but also in other food preparation.



MEGLENO-ROMANIAN FOOD



GREEK FOOD



RUSSIAN LIPOVANS FOOD



Food brings people together on many different levels. It's nourishment of the soul and body; it's truly love.

FOOD AS AN INSTRUMENT FOR CONNECTING MULTICULTURAL SOCIETIES

True multiculturalism can only be realised when there is mutual dialogue with people of colour: about ourselves, our lived experiences, and recognising our communities that affirms a sense of belonging in the wider national conversation. Food is an essential part of people's lives, and as such is much more than just a means of survival. It is also the main factor in how we view ourselves and others.

When someone thinks of, or mentions food, the first thing that usually comes to mind is: where does it come from and how does it taste, and what is the story behind it? Giving the answers to these questions, people usually refer to the cultural context.

The term .culture. refers to the set of values, knowledge, language, rituals, habits, lifestyles, attitudes, beliefs, folklore, rules and customs that identify a particular group of people at a specific point in time.

Multicultural art is usually art that has connections to multiple cultures. Maybe the style of it is a combination of various cultural styles.

We can consider **food** as a form of **communication** because it is a nonverbal means of sharing meanings with others.

