Students can develop the following intercultural competencies* when working in culturally diverse environments.

1) Intercultural motivation:
You are curious about new surroundings and cultures and actively seek out learning opportunities.

You demonstrate intercultural motivation when you:

- welcome the opportunity to learn more about the geography and culture of your work term city, region and country
- take initiative to explore your environment
- actively network with people from different cultures
- take interest in current events in your work term country
- engage with people in your employer organization and community
- network with potential international employers and inquire about the competencies valued by these companies
- recognize your strengths and seek areas to improve

2) Intercultural knowledge:
You have a good understanding of how cultures are similar or different.

You demonstrate intercultural knowledge when you:

- recognize and respect cultural diversity
- learn appropriate, effective ways to communicate with people from different cultural backgrounds
- know how to be diplomatic and sensitive to the dynamics of a cross-cultural workplace
- understand how to communicate with people who speak or write a different language
- know how to be adept in a new environment
- understand ways to cope with constant change
- learn phrases in a new language, or learn a new language
3) **Strategic thinking:**
You use your knowledge and understanding of different cultures to plan effective intercultural interactions.

You demonstrate strategic thinking when you:

- are conscious of your assumptions relating to cultural issues and question them at all times
- think about how you can take initiative to learn from co-workers from different cultural backgrounds
- plan how to pursue networking opportunities with people from different cultural backgrounds
- consider new strategies during each cultural encounter
- check for opportunities for cultural growth
- consider how your area of study is applicable in a global context

4) **Appropriate behaviour:**
You demonstrate flexibility in your interactions and are able to recognize and adapt to cultural nuances in the workplace and beyond.

You demonstrate appropriate behaviour when you:

- display a positive attitude towards change and new environments
- adapt to different cross-cultural communication norms
- change your verbal and nonverbal behaviours according to different situations
- demonstrate that you acknowledge the human, interpersonal and technical sides of a problem
- show flexibility and explore possible solutions in an innovative and creative way

*These competencies were informed by research on 'Cultural Intelligence' conducted by the Cultural Intelligence Centre (Copyright, 2005).*