

Title: Building Satisfying Intercultural Relationships & The Role of Acculturation Strategies

Presenter: Adam Komisarof, Ph.D.

Date & Time: July 5th, 19:00 – 21:00

Venue: Obirin University Yotsuya Campus, Room Y309

Language: English

Fee: Members free; non-members 1,000 yen; member students (undergrad & postgrad) free; on-member undergraduate students free; non-member postgraduate students 1,000 yen.

Pre-registration is encouraged to insure your place: programs@sietar-japan.org

Program Abstract

How can Japanese and non-Japanese people cultivate more satisfying intercultural relationships? The aim of this talk is to facilitate such relationships between people working and/or living in multicultural environments in Japan through a better understanding of acculturation strategies. Acculturation strategies have great power to actualize positive intercultural relations, and they can be used as a tool for integrating non-Japanese into their work organizations and communities. Unfortunately, the many effects of acculturation strategies on intercultural communication dynamics are often overlooked. In this talk, participants will learn how acculturation strategies affect intercultural relationships and how to leverage an understanding of them to improve the effectiveness of multicultural teams at work and the quality of intercultural communication in broader society. Finally, the implications of a deeper consciousness about acculturation strategies will be outlined: the new discourses which arise regarding what it means for Japanese and non-Japanese residents to mutually promote Japan-based globalization, and also how acculturation strategies impact Japan's efforts to retain the workers that the country so desperately needs to offset the potentially disastrous effects of a rapidly depleting workforce.

Participants will learn

--what are acculturation strategies and their influence on intercultural communication.

--about their own acculturation strategies through guided exercises and discussions.

--how to align acculturation strategies in order to improve intercultural relationships at work and in other contexts.

Presenter: Professor Adam Komisarof

Adam Komisarof, PhD is a professor in Reitaku University's Department of Economic Studies and Business Administration. During the 2012-13 academic year, he served as a senior associate member of St. Antony's College, University of Oxford, and conducted research as a visiting academic at the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies. As a bilingual intercultural trainer (Japanese and English), he has performed scores of workshops for large companies and governmental organizations in Japan, the United States, Southeast Asia, and Europe. Dr. Komisarof has over 40 publications—including academic papers, English textbooks, and articles in the mass media. His first book, *On the Front Lines of Forging a Global Society: Japanese and American Coworkers in Japan* (2011), earned him Reitaku University's Excellence in Research Award for 2012. His latest book, *At Home Abroad: The Contemporary Western Experience in Japan* (2012), has been positively reviewed in the mass media, including *The Japan Times*.

Place: Obirin University Yotsuya Campus. Take the Chuo Line to Yotsuya Station. The Yotsuya Campus is three minutes' walk from the Yotsuya Exit of Yotsuya Station.

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