

Managing Projects Across Cultural Boundaries

Why do we need this?

Many organisations undertake projects where the members of the project team are not just physically distant from the project manager, but may also come from cultures different from the project manager. This opportunity of diversity comes with a risk, and this course offers both a theoretical understanding of the components of 'culture', and considerable practical guidance on dealing with this situation.

Course Description

This 2-day project management course is based upon the project management methodology propounded by the Project Management Institute (PMI), but with a clear focus on the detailed problems caused by multi-cultural teams. One of the mandatory requirements set out by the PMI is that in order to take a PMP examination a candidate must first satisfactorily complete 35 Profession Development Units (PDU's). This course will provide 13 PDU's.

Course Objectives

On completion of this course delegates will be able to plan how to take advantage of the strengths of diversity, and to avoid some of the associated pitfalls.

Who should attend?

Project Managers, Project Team Leaders, and Project Team members who are required to accomplish project objectives using a team of people from a range of cultures.

Further requirements

None

DURATION 2 DAYS



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Course Contents

Course Introduction

Administration, Objectives.

The Personal Cultural Filter

An examination of the way we view other people's cultures, and how this can colour our vision

The Components of Culture

An in-depth look at several of the classic and well-respected analyses of the components that make up a 'culture'

Project Initiation

The project manager must consider multi-cultural attitudes and behaviours right from the start of the project

Project Team Development

An examination of the standard work on how teams develop, and the roles of the project manager in driving this process

Kick-Off Meetings and Team Induction

Practical guidance on running kick-off meetings, and how to deal with one or two people who join a project team half way through

Culture and Creativity

Many people find the traditional western approach to creativity (noisy, hectic and ill-mannered) completely overwhelming. This session identifies a practical way around this potential problem

Project Issues

In many cultures the concept of reporting problems in a project is poorly understood. This session shows how the project manager can tackle the situation in a non-confrontational manner

Leadership Styles

The leadership style of the project manager can be crucial in contributing to a successful project. Practical approaches to identifying and modifying personal styles are considered

Progress Monitoring

Strategies for getting accurate progress information from distant and/or diverse team members are identified and practised.