

Babel

LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL TRAINING



Our **Doing Business in France** programme will help you gain an understanding of France's work culture and business organisation so that you will become more effective when working with your French counterparts. We will provide tips for communicating clearly and offer opportunities to practice work situations to allow you to build rapport, influence and reach agreement with your French colleagues more easily.

The programme is led by experienced cultural trainers who have an appreciation and understanding of cultural differences having lived and worked overseas for many years. It will provide you with a framework of practical, actionable advice.

Programme objectives:

This tailored programme will help you:

- Gain an understanding of French culture, communication style and working practices to be more effective when working with your French colleagues
- Analyse your preferred communication style and identify how you need to modify it when dealing with French people
- Have opportunities to practice work situations which will allow you to build rapport with people more easily

DOING BUSINESS IN FRANCE

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Design

This course is designed to be delivered either face-to-face or in live online modules and offers opportunities to contribute to polls, annotate slides, take part in exercises, and participate in group discussions.

Course Duration

Face-to-face: 1 day or half day
Online: Two x half-days or four x 90-minute modules.

Group Size

We recommend a maximum group size of 14 but larger groups can be accommodated.

Course Fee

Our fees depend on the course duration, how many participants will be attending and the scale of the overall program. We are happy to work within a defined budget.

Contact

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Understanding Key French Cultural Values

- French Universalism
- Egalité
- Security
- Work/Life Balance
- Roots, Family, Regional Identity
- Intellectual Approach
- Hierarchy/Order
- Image

French Business Organisation

- Business hierarchy – recognising who has power
- Leadership and management styles
- Overcoming bureaucracy (Le système D = débrouillard)
- Formality/Protocol
- Logic and rationality
- Analytical decision-making
- Process over results and action
- Context-based wit
- Pride in French style
- The notion of time

Communication

- Forms of address, greetings, use of tu/vous
- The meaning of “non”
- Need to complain (“râleur”)
- Using your French language skills
- The structure of meetings, techniques, closing and following up a meeting
- Sharing information/being part of the ‘inner circle’
- Telephone/Web-conferencing in virtual teams:
Best Practice
- Email communication in virtual teams: Best practice

Remotely Managing and Working with the French

- The authority of the Team Leader
- Strong hierarchy/direct instruction
- Developing trust by being “sérieux”
- Socialising – going to “pots”

Strategies for Working Effectively Together:

Delegates put together an action plan of practical dos and don'ts with useful tips that will help cement relationships and get the best out of multi-cultural working.



Language Training

Babel offers inspiring and interactive lessons in all major languages from Beginners to Advanced. Tailored to your own specific goals and scheduled at a convenient time, you'll receive support and motivation from your own native-speaking tutor.

Cross-Cultural Training

Cultural competency is a skill for anyone working in a global organisation. We help people recognise and understand the inevitable cultural differences they encounter and develop the skills necessary to successfully manage these differences.