

**PREPARING STUDENTS FOR PARTICIPATING IN INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION
IN THE CONTEXT OF TRAINING SPECIALISTS IN CULTURAL MEDIATION**

The article highlights the process of students' intercultural training in the globalized context of contemporary world. It puts emphasis on the need to develop a professional who can act as a cultural mediator. It is considered to be a person, possessing knowledge about other cultures and the ways of intercultural communication. This is a person who is able to analyze cultural similarities and differences based on the values, habits and traditions that underlie them and to use this knowledge with the aim of achieving intercultural understanding. The article also overviews different approaches to the development of the above-named professionals, including linguistic, ethnocentric, policultural approaches. The main notions that are discussed in the article are: intercultural communication, the process of a professional-cultural mediator development, ethnocentric personality, mentality of tolerance, intellect of intercultural relations.