

ABSTRACT

Intercultural communication competence is an important factor in the adaptation process of overseas students, especially for students from Medan who study at Telkom University Bandung. Differences in culture, language, and communication styles are often a challenge in interacting. This study aims to analyze the role of intercultural communication competence in the adaptation process of Medan students using a qualitative phenomenological approach. Data were collected through in-depth interviews with migrating students from Medan.

The results illustrate that the three main components of intercultural communication competence, namely, attitudes, knowledge, skills play a role in the adaptation process. The attitude of openness to new cultures, understanding of cultural differences, and skills in adjusting communication styles are the main things in the success of student adaptation. In addition, the competence of migrants in the adaptation process is certainly accompanied by an adaptation phase. The stages of adaptation experienced by migrants include the honeymoon, frustration, readjustment, and resolution phases, each of which is influenced by personal experience and the social environment.

Keywords: *Intercultural Communication Competence, Adaptation Phase, Culture, Migrant Students.*