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Citizenship Learning in a Shifting Society

Social and Civic Competences



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In order for citizens to be capable of fully engaging in civic and political life, they must possess a minimum of civic skills.

- Comber 2003 -



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WHAT ARE SOCIAL AND CIVIC COMPETENCES?

Social and civic competences are the core components of active citizenship. They help people navigate their daily lives and make sense of the world around them. They also allow people to participate in society more fully by understanding how different systems work and how to participate in those systems.

Academic experts speak
on civic competence:



[Play video](#)



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Social and civic competences are essential for success in life, and they are also necessary for a healthy democracy: if citizens do not have the ability to participate in the democratic process, they cannot make informed decisions that affect their own lives or their communities.





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GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Having social and civic competences and being a **global citizen** are closely related. Simply put, a global citizen is someone who has awareness of and concern for global issues and wants to be part of the solution. Examples of people who are considered global citizens include politicians, activists, and educators, but **anyone can be a global citizen.**



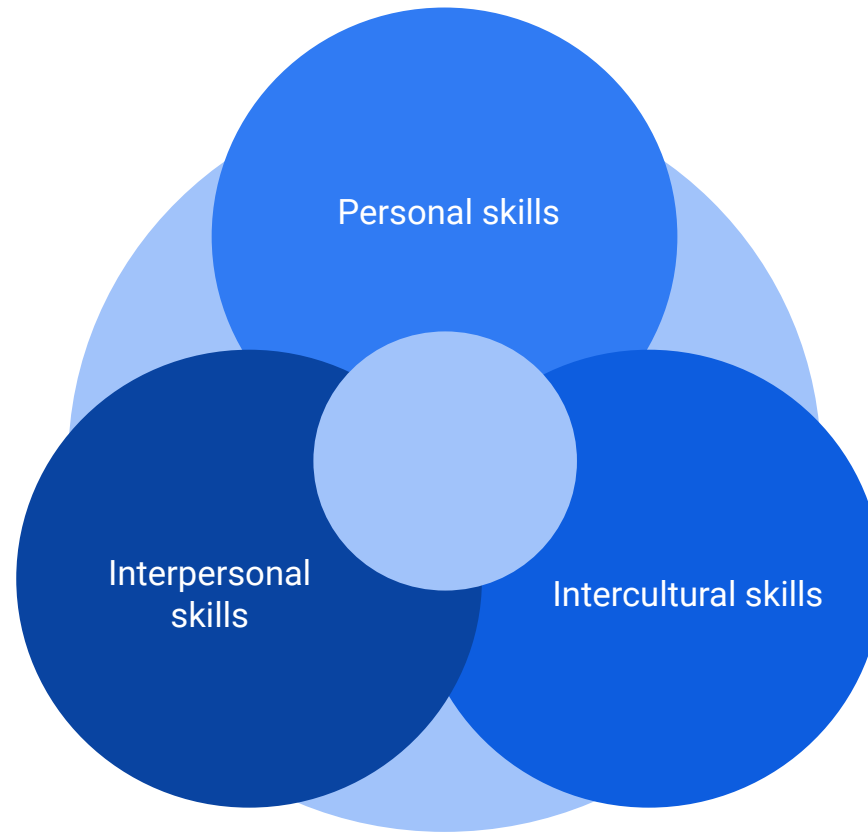
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Civic competence includes...





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EXAMPLES OF SOCIAL AND CIVIC SKILLS

Problem-solving
Decision making
Mediation
Empathy
Collaborating with others
Negotiation
Communication
Tolerance
Assertiveness
Stress management
Conflict resolution
Ability to critically think about civic and political life

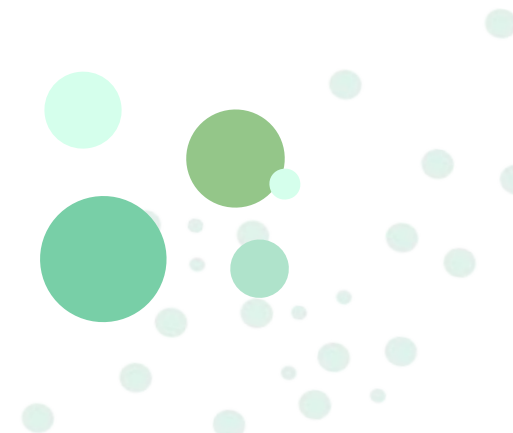


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TIPS TO DEVELOP YOUR SOCIAL AND CIVIC COMPETENCE

- 1 Know your rights and responsibilities as a citizen
- 2 Be aware of your environment, who is around you and what they need
- 3 Learn about the different groups in your community (e.g., religious groups) and their role in society





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