

The Cross-cultural Adaptation Experience of Foreign Scholars in China

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Abstract : This research aims to examine several vital issues relating to the foreign scholars' cross-cultural adaptation in China, including how they perceive about the adaptation process, what the affecting factors are in the adaptation, and which strategies they will apply to deal with perceived cultural differences. The target population of this research is academics regularly working or long-term visiting in these joint colleges, and semi-structured interviews are used in data collection. Moreover, the theoretical perspectives mainly include Ward's sociocultural and psychological adaptation theory, Berry's adaptation strategies and Black and his colleague's expatriate's adjustment model. This research offers an in-depth profile as well as theory-based analysis about this unique group, and the results of this research are profound in offering directory suggestions for foreign scholars to facilitate their adaptation in China better and for the Chinese universities to eliminate intercultural obstacles, and optimize the international cooperation programs in China.

Keywords : cross-cultural adaptation, foreign scholars, expatriates

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