

Intercultural Understanding Guide: Vietnamese Culture

Geographic context:

- Vietnam, officially known as the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, is located in Southeast Asia.

Language:

- Their official language is Vietnamese and it's spoken by 85 million people.

Religion:

- Vietnam is officially declared as an Atheist state.
- Only 19.2% of the Vietnamese population identified with a registered religion in the 2009 national census, while 81.8% identified as non-religious.

Values:

- China has influenced Vietnamese values, significantly shaping the composition of the country's traditional culture, for example the family system and the introduction of Confucian ideologies.
- The concept of "Face" is deep-rooted in Vietnamese society which influences people's behaviour in order to maintain reputation and status.

Social norms/structure/hierarchy:

- Similar to other East Asian cultures, family plays a fundamental role in Vietnamese people's life.
- Families are recognised as having a collective face whereby the act of a single individual may impact the perception of the family name by others.

Communication style:

- Vietnamese people are normally indirect speakers.
- People tend to use a lot of facial expressions, gestures, and different tones of voices to express feelings and emotions.
- Demographics in Australia:
- The Vietnamese community is one of the most well-established migrant populations in Australia. There are 334,785 Australians who have Vietnamese ancestry.



References:

- [Cultural Atlas](#); [Home Affairs](#)