

# ● IMMIGRANT COMPLEXITY

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1.1 Culture Concept



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# LECTURERS



# CULTURAL ADAPTATION

## U-Curve

# U-Curve Models

- Underlying assumption: when people enter a new environment, they will normally go through four stages on the way to final adaptation.
- Process resembles a U-curve with the honeymoon and mastery phases at the uppermost points of the U marking the beginning and end of the sojourn, culture shock and adaptation phases at the lower middle period.
- As a theoretical tool for understanding a process it serves a greater utility

# ● Stage Theories of Cross-Cultural Adaptation

**Lysgaard** (1955) stated adjustment as a process over time seems to follow a U-shaped curve. Adjustment is felt to be easy and successful to begin with; then follows a «crisis» in which one feels less well adjusted, somewhat lonely and unhappy; finally one begins to feel better adjusted again becoming more integrated into the foreign community.

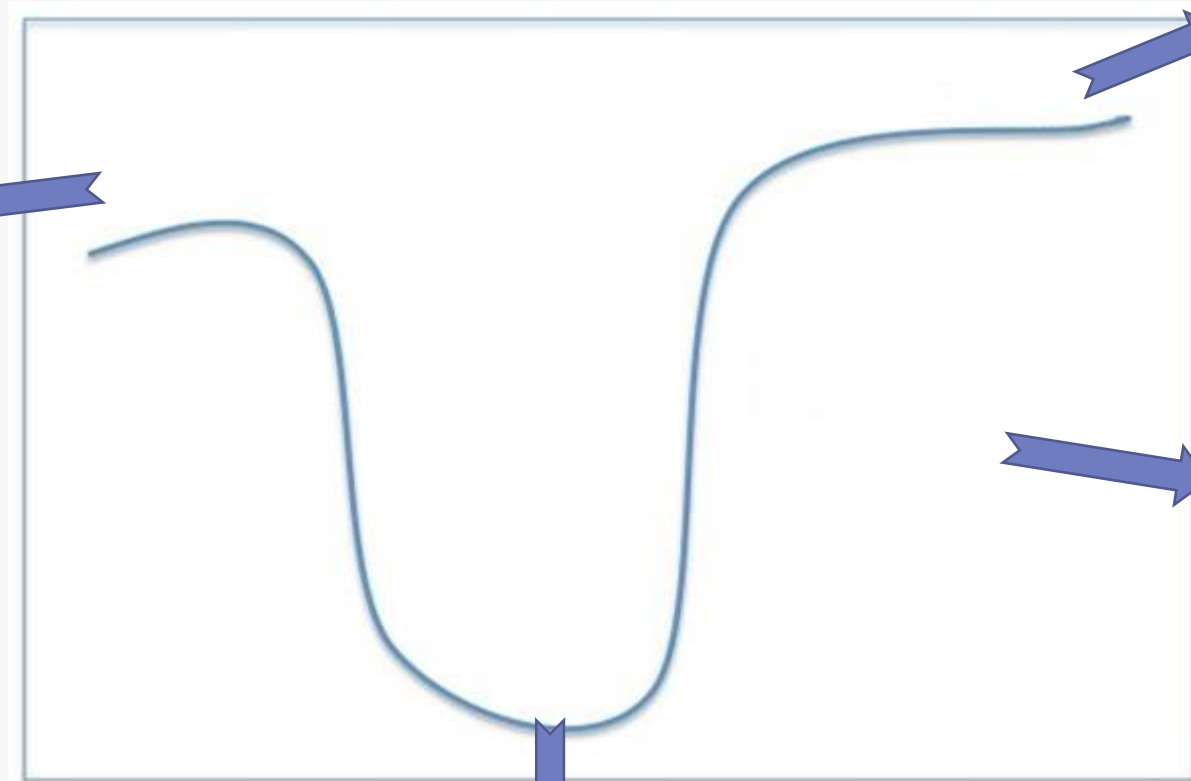
**Oberg** (1960) has described «culture shock» as an «occupational disease of people who have been suddenly transplanted abroad» which can be represented by a U-curve as Lysgaard's.

# Stages of U-Curve



## Honeymoon Phase:

Soon after entering a new culture  
Excitement and happiness  
Superficial involvement in the host culture



## Culture shock phase

Overly concerned and stressed out by problems  
Feelings of being helpless and frustration  
Hostile and aggressive attitudes to the new culture

## Mastery Phase:

Feeling of comfort with the new life and culture  
New culture is seen as «another way of life»

## Adjustment Phase:

Although there are some problems there are also feelings of comfort with the new life and culture



# CULTURAL ADAPTATION

## Acculturation

# ● Acculturation

Acculturation is the dual process of cultural and psychological change that takes place as a result of contact between two or more cultural groups and their individual members.





# ● Why Is It Important to Career Counsellors



Immigrants in a new culture will experience some discomfort because their original cultural values and norms are usually not appropriate for the cultural context of the host society (conditions in the workplace or norms of social relations etc.)

=> As a result, they will attempt to reduce this discomfort by accepting different attitudes which will affect the counselling sessions and socio-economic adaptation of immigrants

# Berry's Acculturation Framework

Berry's (1997) formulation of cultural adaptation represents the pioneering and the most influential work on acculturation

He described the strategies facing immigrants in terms of maintaining their own culture, and/or adopting the culture of the country they settled, and the implications that flowed from the balance of these forces

The strategies adopted by acculturating groups or individuals is the coping attempts they adopt to manage their relationship with the host/dominant cultural group

# Acculturation Strategies (Berry, 1997)



## Assimilation

immigrants fully accept the values and norms of the host culture, abandon the norms and values of their own culture.



## Integration

immigrants identify themselves with their own culture and the host culture.



## Separation

the denial of the host culture while maintaining identify with one's own culture. Immigrants prefer a greater or lesser degree of isolation from the culture of the host country.



## Marginalization

loss of migrant identification with their own culture, and the lack of identification with the culture of the host country

Is it considered to be of value to maintain cultural identity and characteristics?



Is it considered to be of value to maintain relationships with other groups?

	YES	NO
YES	Integration*	Assimilation
NO	Separation	Marginalization

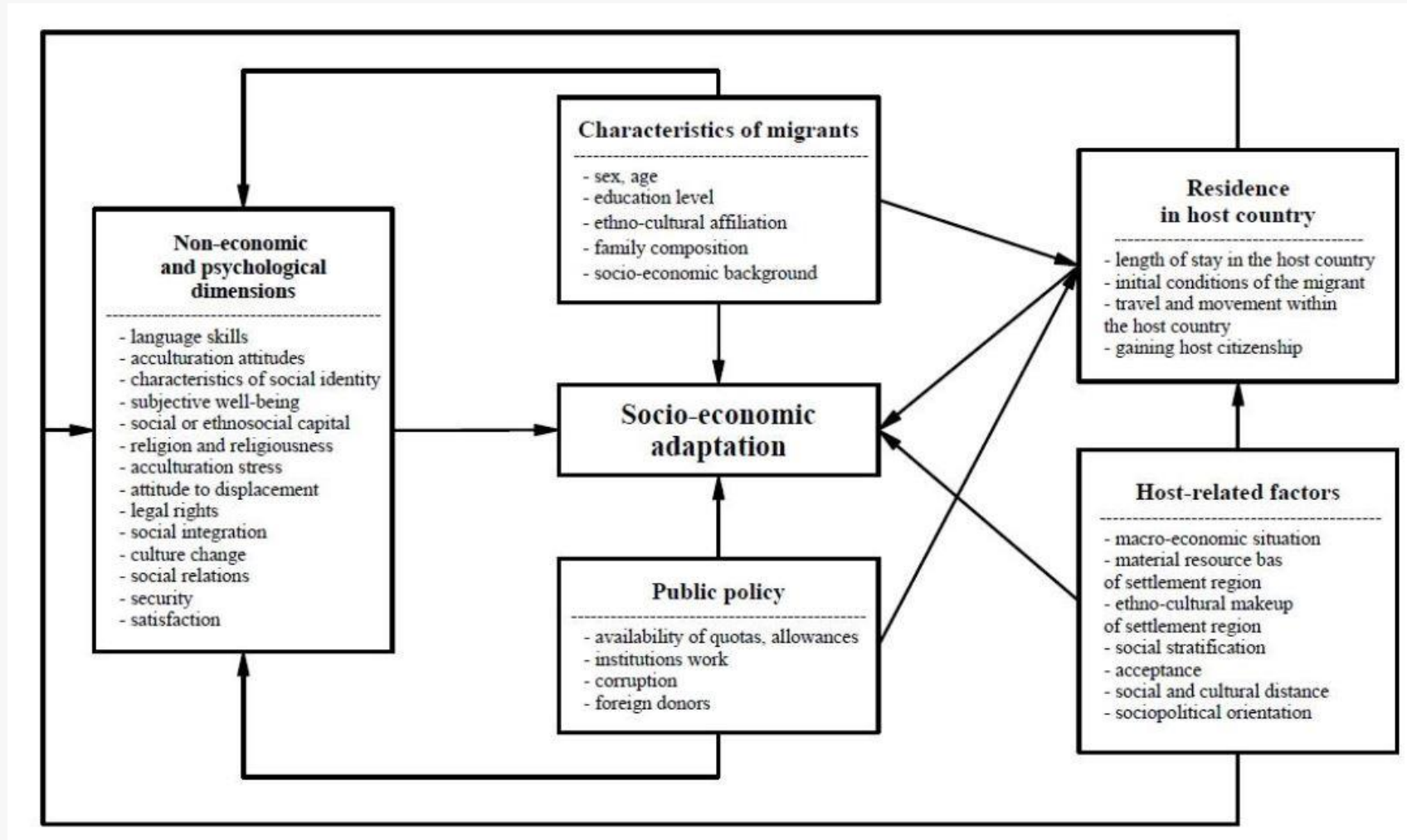
\*Integration is the preferred mode of acculturation, followed either by assimilation or separation, while marginalization was the least preferred mode of acculturation

# ● Socio-Economic Adaptation of Immigrants

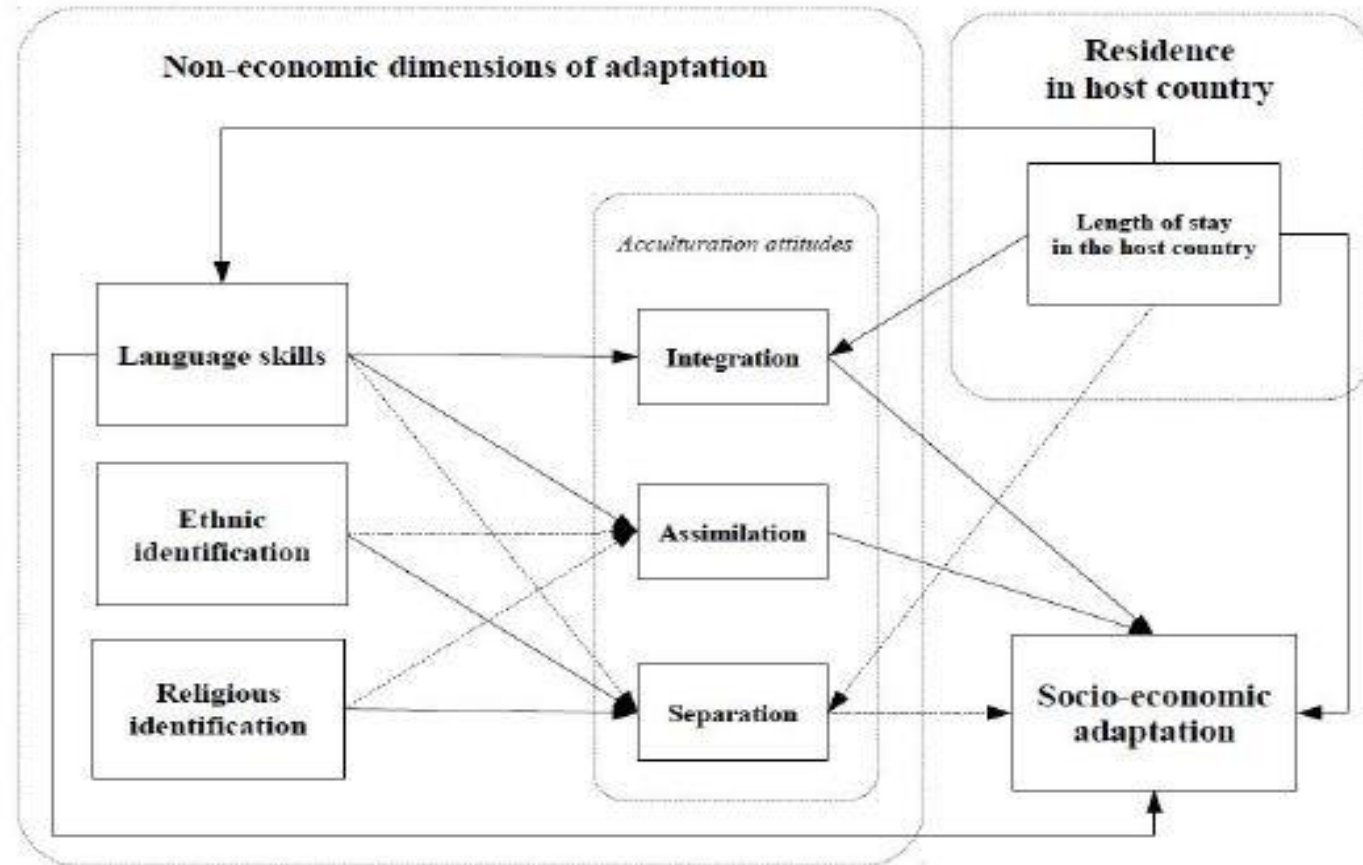
"**Socio-economic adaptation** (SEA) can be defined as the result of advances in acculturation toward such socio-economic positions that allow immigrants to completely participate in the social and economic life of the host society".



# Factors of SEA of Immigrants (Grigoryev, 15)



# SEA Model of Immigrants (Grigoryev, 15)



Note: The solid lines indicate the positive links, the dotted lines, negative links.

# CASE STUDY

 See the document «case study 2»





**Thank you for the  
Attention.  
Questions?**

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