



Synopsis

As the title suggests, this video explores the concept of competencies for teaching in multicultural classrooms.

According to Byram et al (2005), intercultural competence is comprised of three strands: openness, knowledge and adaptability. The process of developing these competencies begins with reflection and introspection. Moreover, educators must model a genuine interest and respect for the diverse learners in and beyond their classrooms. Being open to diversity, learning about cultures and adapting one's actions are key practices that today's educators can embrace. By doing so, we model empathy, life-long learning, and community building.

It is important to approach diversity from a strengths-based perspective and to see the collective learning opportunities inherent in difference. Language teachers are uniquely positioned to promote and value the development of intercultural competencies.

Professional Learning Conversation Guide

Competencies for Teaching in Multicultural Classrooms Intentional Language Teaching Series [Video 3](#)

Pre-Viewing Activation Questions:

1. What does it mean to be culturally competent?
2. How can teachers acknowledge cultural diversity in and beyond their classrooms?
3. How could culture be used as a resource for (language) learning?

Post-Viewing Extension Questions:

1. What is the role of introspection in developing one's intercultural competence?
2. What strategies would you use to leverage the diversity present in your classroom, school and community?
3. Why does having intercultural skills matter in today's classrooms and how can we see difference as an asset?

Selected Resources:

Strategies to Support Diverse Learners -
<https://www.unb.ca/fredericton/second-language/resources/pdf/StrategiestoSupportDiverseLearnersInteractive.pdf>

Youth for Understanding. (2016). *Coloured Glasses: Manual for Intercultural and Global Citizenship Education*. Collaborative Partnership- Erasmus+, Council of Europe of the European Union.
https://training.yfu.org/uploads/editorial_desk/document_album/document/file/392/Coloured_Glasses_Manual_2016.pdf