

strengthen school leadership, teacher engagement, and overall educational quality in diverse contexts. Adopting these approaches may not only improve student outcomes but also foster resilience, adaptability, and innovation in educational systems worldwide, preparing young learners to thrive in increasingly interconnected and multicultural societies.

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Strait D.

TEACHING CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN THE CLASSROOM: STRATEGIES FOR CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE EDUCATION

This study explores strategies for teaching cultural diversity in the classroom through a culturally responsive pedagogy. It emphasizes the importance of fostering respect for diverse cultures, promoting student engagement, and enhancing understanding of one's own heritage alongside others'. The research highlights practical classroom strategies, including the use of inclusive teaching materials, guest speakers, culturally relevant curricula, and interactive activities. Culturally responsive education is shown to improve student self-efficacy, social development, and preparation for participation in increasingly globalized work environments.

Keywords: *culturally responsive teaching, multicultural education, classroom diversity, inclusive pedagogy, student engagement, cultural heritage, intercultural competence, educational strategies.*

Culturally responsive teaching aims to cultivate students' respect and understanding for diverse cultures and peoples they will encounter beyond the classroom. This objective is increasingly important in a world characterized by complexity and diversity, which often exceeds the limited experiences students encounter in their immediate social environment. In typical educational and social settings, students tend to exhibit behaviors that reflect belonging or exclusion within peer groups. Generally, students feel comfortable with familiar individuals, ideas, and behaviors, while they often react with apprehension toward unfamiliar ones.

Culturally responsive instruction addresses these natural tendencies by helping students appreciate differences in perspectives and cultures rather than fearing or judging them. For example, teachers can demonstrate that individuals who look or behave differently from students are fundamentally similar, thereby humanizing diverse populations. Strategies to support this include classroom activities where students share stories about family traditions, holidays, and daily life, providing peers with insight into different cultural practices. Visual aids, such as photographs depicting people of various ethnicities, body types, and clothing engaged in common activities, further reinforce the recognition of shared humanity.

Inviting guest speakers from diverse backgrounds who have made meaningful contributions to fields such as science, arts, and politics helps dispel stereotypes and demonstrates that competence and influence are not confined to specific cultural or ethnic groups. Avoiding repetitive

examples of minority role models, such as athletes, ensures that students appreciate contributions across a wide range of disciplines and societal roles.

Classroom environments can be designed to promote cultural responsiveness by displaying non-stereotypical representations of diverse groups, marking students' ancestral countries on maps, and including multilingual signs. These seemingly small interventions create an inclusive environment in which students feel comfortable expressing their identities, fostering respect for others, and resisting stereotypical representations prevalent in media.

Culturally responsive education also emphasizes the importance of students understanding and valuing their own cultural heritage. Minority students may feel pressured to abandon cultural norms to conform, leading to disconnects between home and school experiences, which can adversely affect social and academic development. Educators can encourage heritage exploration through activities such as interviewing family members or documenting community experiences, thereby fostering cultural pride and self-efficacy.

Integrating cultural perspectives into core curricula enhances student engagement and achievement. Highlighting contributions of diverse individuals in math, science, reading, and writing, and accommodating preferred learning styles associated with cultural backgrounds, supports student performance and confidence. Inclusive lesson planning, student journaling, and leveraging social media for collaboration and participation further facilitate engagement in culturally diverse classrooms.

Overall, culturally responsive classrooms promote personal growth, intercultural understanding, and career readiness. Exposure to diverse perspectives allows students to develop communication and collaboration skills necessary for navigating the globalized workforce. By fostering an environment of respect, equity, and inclusivity, culturally responsive teaching equips students to thrive academically, socially, and professionally in diverse societies.

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INDIVIDUALISATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING IN THE DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT

The article explores individualisation in foreign language teaching within digital learning environments. It argues that digital transformation enables personalised learning trajectories that account for learners' proficiency, cognitive styles, motivation, and digital competence. The study examines theoretical foundations of individualisation, including constructivist approaches and learner autonomy, and analyses digital tools such as learning management systems, AI-based adaptive platforms, mobile applications, and immersive technologies. Particular attention is given to artificial intelligence, which enables real-time adaptation of content and feedback. The findings highlight the teacher's evolving role as facilitator and instructional designer. Effective