

Title of Workshop: Culturally Responsive Teaching Strategies

Since much of my academic work has been on the teaching pedagogy for American Indian children, I draw excerpts from an article that is available on ERIC Digest, ED 482325 2003-12-00. The title is "Culturally Responsive Teaching for American Indian Students."

Summary of Workshop: Culturally responsive teaching cannot be approached as a recipe or series of steps that teachers can follow to be effective with ethnically diverse students. Instead, it relies on the development of certain dispositions toward learners and a holistic approach to curriculum and instruction. This presentation will use a five-part conceptual framework first derived from the broader multicultural literature by Nawang Phuntsog and tie these concepts to recent research on culturally responsive teaching pedagogy. These concepts include 1) cultural literacy, 2) self-reflective analysis of one's attitudes and beliefs, 3) caring, trusting, and inclusive classrooms, 4) respect for diversity, and 5) transformative curriculum to engender meaning. After reviewing the research and discussing the mentioned concepts, participants will identify frameworks that best reflects their respective teaching populations.

Objectives of Workshop:

1. To introduce teachers to the evolving changes in ethnic student demographics
2. To reflect upon teacher's own beliefs about ethnically diverse students
3. To examine the history of United States from the peoples' perspectives
4. To understand the use of language usage in schools
5. To introduce teaching strategies in implementing language differences for the classroom
6. To introduce culturally responsive teaching strategies
7. To introduce the dynamics of ethnically diverse families
8. To introduce valuable resources to teachers

Teacher Learning Outcomes from Workshop:

1. Overview of definition of terms and nomenclature of student populations
2. Professional reflections of teachers as "cultural beings"
3. Learn more about what teachers believe and how they think *and* about what teacher may need to change in order to teach culturally diverse students more effectively
4. Recognize that societal oppression of many underserved populations still continues today and often is perpetuated by our educational institutions in the U.S. As culturally responsive teachers and educators, we are responsible for recognizing these areas of injustice and actively work to eliminate them
5. Understand that there are differences in certification for bilingual and ESL teachers
6. Learn how to create an environment that facilitates and celebrates language development
7. Learn the guiding principles for culturally responsive teaching
8. Understand parent involvement from the perspective of the parents
9. Recognize that there is valuable knowledge base for culturally responsive teaching