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INTERCULTURAL AND TRANSCULTURAL AWARENESS IN LANGUAGE TEACHING

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Intercultural and Transcultural Awareness in Language Teaching

Elements in Language Teaching

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Abstract: The central aim of language teaching is typically to prepare learners to communicate through the language learnt. However, much current language teaching theory and practice is based on a simplistic view of communication that fails to match the multilingual and intercultural reality of the majority of second language (L2) use. This Element examines the relationship between language and culture through an L2 in intercultural and transcultural communication. It puts forward the argument that we need to go beyond communicative competence in language teaching and focus instead on intercultural and transcultural awareness. Implications for pedagogic practice are explored including intercultural and transcultural language education.

This Element also has a video abstract: www.cambridge.org/transcultural-awareness

Keywords: Intercultural communication, transcultural communication, intercultural and transcultural awareness, language teaching, applied linguistics

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