

Best Practices of Exemplary World Languages Instruction

Learner-Centered	Students learn based on needs and experiences and assume responsibility for engaging in the language learning process.
Interactive Learning	Instructional practice provides ample opportunity for students to participate in skills development activities. Instruction addresses student learning styles.
Interdisciplinary Approach	Instruction integrates knowledge and skills from other disciplines, expands horizons, maintains student interest, and promotes logical and creative thinking. Culture is systematically incorporated into instruction enabling students to develop positive attitudes towards cultural diversity.
Reality-Based/Relevant	Real-life situations, topics, and issues of interest create a learning-relevant environment for students. Teacher uses a variety of print and non-print materials, including authentic materials. Technology is used to facilitate teaching and learning.
Appropriate Assessment	Assessment, both formal and informal, reflects the way students are taught. Curriculum and assessment are aligned to promote learners' growth and are best achieved by multiple methods.
Reflections	Both teachers and students reflect, in either oral or written form, about what has been taught and learned.
Climate	Teacher establishes an environment conducive to learning by promoting trust and respect for teacher and students and establishes an affective climate in which students feel comfortable taking risks.
Knowledge of Self	Teacher chooses teaching, learning, and student strategies that work best for her or him and students. Teacher engages in continued professional development in the areas of language skills, cultural knowledge, and current methodology.
Flexibility	Teacher is willing to change methods, classroom activities, or time allotments depending on student needs. Teacher uses textbooks as tools not as curriculum.
Planning	Teachers plans and bases lessons and units to maximize student learning and ensures that students clearly understand linkages between lessons within units.