International Students and the ASE Research Process: A Language Acquisition Approach to Research

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International Students & the ASE Research Process: A Language Acquisition Approach to Research

Kimberly Willson-St. Clair
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September 26, 2015
4th Week Spring Term 2015 – PSU International Students Top 6

Saudi Arabia  413
China         271
India         229
Brazil        111
Kuwait        111
Japan         109

Total enrollment - 1968

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

Welcoming the World to PSU

http://www.pdx.edu/international-students/
PSU – Waseda U
Transnational Partnership

Waseda University  >  Portland State University

Oregon University students  >  Waseda University

http://www.pdx.edu/transnational-programs/
Intensive English Language Program (IELP) at Portland State University

About IELP

The IELP is part of Portland State University, a community-oriented urban university with a diverse student and teacher population. The IELP offers you full immersion and integration into PSU while you improve your English skills.

http://www.pdx.edu/esl/about-ielp
Photograph by Jeffrey St. Clair (2012)
High Anxiety & Research & Libraries

• Defining “Library Anxiety” (Mellon, 1986).

• The “warmth” session (Mellon, 1986).

• Creating “an environment for learner readiness” (Vidmar, 1998).
International Student Anxiety

- Emotional dimension to transitioning to their host country
- Culture shock
- Financial burdens and visa requirements
- Viable transfer of credits
- Adjusting to the problem solving nature of higher education in the West
Home Base

http://library.pdx.edu/
• Library introduction
• Library building tour
• ASE research model
• Subject encyclopedias
Research Process

Analyze
your topic to **discover keywords**, related terms, or synonyms....Use scholarly, **subject encyclopedias** for background information.

Search
for books, articles, web sites, documentaries....**List** relevant databases, web sites....

Evaluate
the resource....**Is it relevant?** Is it current? Peer-reviewed? Scholarly or popular?

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May 4, 2015
Analyze

• Read entries in scholarly encyclopedias to discover the language of the discipline.
Search

• Search for books, articles, or videos....
• What databases are you using for your search? Are you looking for books, websites?
• List here:
Evaluate

• Is the resource current, reliable, authoritative, pertinent?
• Is it a primary or secondary resource?
• Is it a scholarly or peer-reviewed article?
Analyze

• Define / Refine your topic using keywords, descriptors, subject terms, and subject headings.
De-contextualized > Contextualized Language Acquisition

• Vocabulary instruction
• Word lists
• Rote memorization
• Flash cards

to

Informed learning in context through extensive reading.... Leading to a depth of cognitive processing.

(Nemati, 2009)
Task Based Language Learning

+ Scholarly Language of the Discipline

(Hughes, Bruce, 2013)
Synonymy & Related Terms

A functional unity grounded in referential logic allows us to consider languages as highly complex systems of synonyms.

(Filatova, 2010)
Keywords

• Native English Speakers > Natural Language

http://gamedev.uconn.edu/ and https://goalbookapp.com/toolkit/strategy/concept-mapping
Keywords

International Students > Discover Vocabulary
Culture shock emerged in the mid-1950s as a useful concept to help explain the emotional tension, adjustment problems, and difficulties immigrants, refugees, and foreign students face at school and in their personal lives when they are thrust into new environments. In the new setting, interrelations with friends, family members, and the broader community, as well as salient linguistic, cultural, and religious values, cannot be maintained or publicly practiced by these groups, since they often differ from the values and practices of the host society. In schools, culture shock has gained some attention due to the steady rise in the number of immigrants attending U.S. schools and the considerable differences between ethnic groups and mainstream student school performance.
Keywords Activity

Education AND leadership

Air pollution AND United States

Homeless AND United States
Bibliography


Analyze for Keywords Activity

**Bibliography**


