

Chief topics

- review & check for gaps
- rating the Oral Proficiency Interview; evaluating your own proficiency
- second language acquisition
- our clients, ourselves
- preparing for group projects

summary of previous meeting

- ✓ The ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview
- ✓ Language teaching methodologies - history and principles
- ✓ Major foreign language teaching methods
- Worksheet: Our clients, ourselves
- ✓ SLA survey & small-group discussion

today

- (15') review & check for gaps: value of working with peers
- (60') audit OPIs and learn how to rate the sample; specifications for evaluating your own proficiency; mini-"OPIs" for help with collecting your sample
- (10') break
- (15') Our clients, ourselves - what are we trying to match up?
- (20') discussion of journal article assignment
- (60') language learning theories (Krashen, Chomsky, cognitive theory)
- (15') formation of groups and choice of topics for group project (speaking, listening, reading, writing, grammar, culture - with majors issues of organization to settle here!) - we'll rank the topics according to our level of interest in them and then form into groups accordingly (but also with an eye to balance of languages, etc.)
- (5') Preview and assignments (upcoming classroom observation)

materials used / distributed for use in this class (paper unless otherwise noted)

- worksheet: our clients
- specifications for proficiency self-evaluation
- article: Benjamin Rifkin (for next week)
- outline for searching for information in your core text
- grid: language learning theories: characteristic features

Next meeting (preview)

- lesson planning; video tour of classrooms and other instructional settings
- OPI audits
- group project (continuation) - apportioning of sub-topics (problems associated with the topic; theoretical/conceptual background; assessment; practical teaching resources; textbook reviews; classroom demonstration
- SLA research at PSU (if guest available)
- introduction of major individual assignment: grammar feature / guidelines / textbook

Assignments (due at next meeting unless specified otherwise)

- (postponed from previous deadline) ACTFL self-rating (~2 pages): Evaluate your speaking and writing proficiency in one of your non-native languages. Matters to address: function, content, accuracy; you must provide specific evidence of your proficiency.
- generic assignment: check what your core books have to say about lesson planning
- read Rifkin article

News of profession, etc.

- Portland Public Schools teacher development day is Friday, 13 February. The PPS World Language teachers will gather at Jefferson High School (north Portland between Alberta & Killingsworth just east of I-5) from 8:30am-3:30pm. The "umbrella" topic is k-16 articulation, but they will also spend a lot of time on curriculum, assessment, pedagogy, etc. Methods course participants are very welcome there, and if you have even the slightest interest in K-12 teaching or the large questions of language-program development, you'll find the meeting both valuable and enjoyable. See you there!
- Several of us are going this Saturday to the PASS meeting for second-language faculty (K-16); the focus is scoring guides and work samples for speaking, writing and reading.