Teaching Methods for Foreign Languages

Meeting #2 (Thursday, 22 January 2004)

Chief topics: the professional network (organizations and publications); core book resources; learning styles; teaching methods and methodologies; ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines

summary of previous meeting:

Course introduction (goal: recognize that language teaching is an organized professional and academic area); library resources; survey of participants; scoring guides and first writing assignments

Assigned reading: Higgs, "Language Teaching and the Quest for the Holy Grail;" Oxford, The Role of Styles and Strategies in Second Language Learning."

Assigned activities: select, review, obtain textbook; examine websites of professional organizations; reflection: a language-learning experience (both due 22 January or before, with revisions to follow when necessary)

today:

Review results of previous meeting and check for gaps;
Questions about library facilities? Do we have
everyone's email? Can we distribute them to the class?

Professional organizations and related publications

The three "core" book resources (Omaggio, Lee/Vanpatten, Curtain/Pesola), and how the related assignment will be scored

Learning styles & strategies (Oxford article and personal inventory); background of people in this class (last week's survey)

(10-minute break)

Dinner / snack and video about images of language teaching & learning

Further reflection about learning styles

Methods and methodologies of language teaching (and another look at the video)

ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines (if time: introduction to Oral Proficiency Interview, with video)

Preview and assignments:

topics for next week: implications of language teaching as a profession; history of the language teaching (NOT literary scholarship) profession; second-language acquisition research; continuation of ACTFL guidelines and OPI discussion; our "clients"

ACTFL self-rating; background research on upcoming topics (specifications will be posted on course website and the news will be emailed to you)