

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.