

Public speaking for intercultural education and metalinguistic development in ESP

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ESTG-IPG

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ERASMUS for EU students

- ***European Region Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students*** (a backronym!)
- EU's flagship education and training program enabling 200,000 students to study and work abroad each year
- Objectives
 - to help create a 'European Higher Education Area' and foster innovation throughout Europe
 - 3 million ERASMUS students by 2012 (currently 2.2 million have participated)

Statistics from the European Commission

Erasmus in the words of students

"I realised that the experience made a whole new person of me and that I would never look at the world and Europe, my home, as I did before."

"ERASMUS life for me is about opportunities. Every opportunity I had, I took it and I thank ERASMUS for it."

"It is true – when you're in ERASMUS, you find out a lot about yourself."

"ERASMUS is a lot more than a studying experience. For me it is a way to look at the world with new eyes, to feel and discover new emotions and learn what is not written in the textbooks."

"If I look at my experience from a distance, I can say that I would definitely do it again, and that apart from (or maybe because of) minor problems along the way, this semester has made me a stronger and more enthusiastic person!"

http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-programme/doc80_en.htm

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Local ERASMUS Reception

- Instituto Politécnico da Guarda (IPG) is small and **essentially monoethnic** despite some French family connections and <50 PALOP students
→ Just 1,000 immigrants registered with the SEF
- **Students are not prepared** to receive other students from different cultures.
- **Teachers are ill-prepared** to lecture content-classes in English
- A full-time translator was hired finally in 2008-09 to deal with testing documents.

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Erasmus students in ESP_{MMA} at the ESTG-IPG (2006-2010)

year	Erasmus students	nationality	M	F
2009-10	5	Polish Spanish	2 0	2 1
2008-09	1	Lithuanian	0	1
2007-08	3	Turkish	1	2
2006-07	2	Spanish	2	0
	11	TOTAL	6	5

ESP_{MMA} : English for Specific Purposes ... Marketing, Management, and Accounting

ESTG-IPG: Escola Superior de Tecnologia e Gestão do Instituto Politécnico da Guarda

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Total Students ESP_{MMA} (2006-2010)

year	nationality	M	F	Total
2009-10	Polish Spanish Portuguese subTOTAL	2 0 12 14	2 1 10 13	4 1 22 27
2008-09	Lithuanian Portuguese subTOTAL	0 18 18	1 14 15	1 32 33
2007-08	Turkish Portuguese subTOTAL	1 25 26	2 15 17	3 40 43
2006-07	Spanish Portuguese subTOTAL	2 22 24	0 21 21	2 43 45
	TOTAL 11 (7%) of which are ERASMUS	82 55%	66 45%	148

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Theoretical Perspective

Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity

created by

communication scholar **Milton J. Bennett** (1993)

and **Fisher-Yoshida's** (2005) approach

→ Objective: Reframe conflict as...

→ a constructive opportunity to engage with people we find different from ourselves

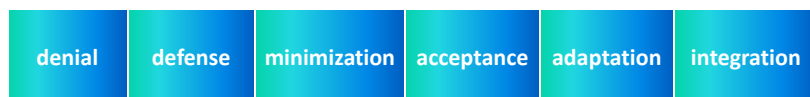
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Development of Intercultural Sensitivity

Experience of Difference

→ → → →



Ethnocentric

stages

Ethnorelative

Adapted from Bennett 1993

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Self-Reflectivity (Nagata 2005)

- Through feedforward written/oral activities
- Short analyses of the activity/experience
- Individual and group response (T-T; S-T; S-S)
- An iterative approach to:
 - increase self-awareness
 - develop self-management
 - increase will to communicate
 - Make language learning enjoyable

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Pre- and Post-tests

Choose your favorite English language learning activity:

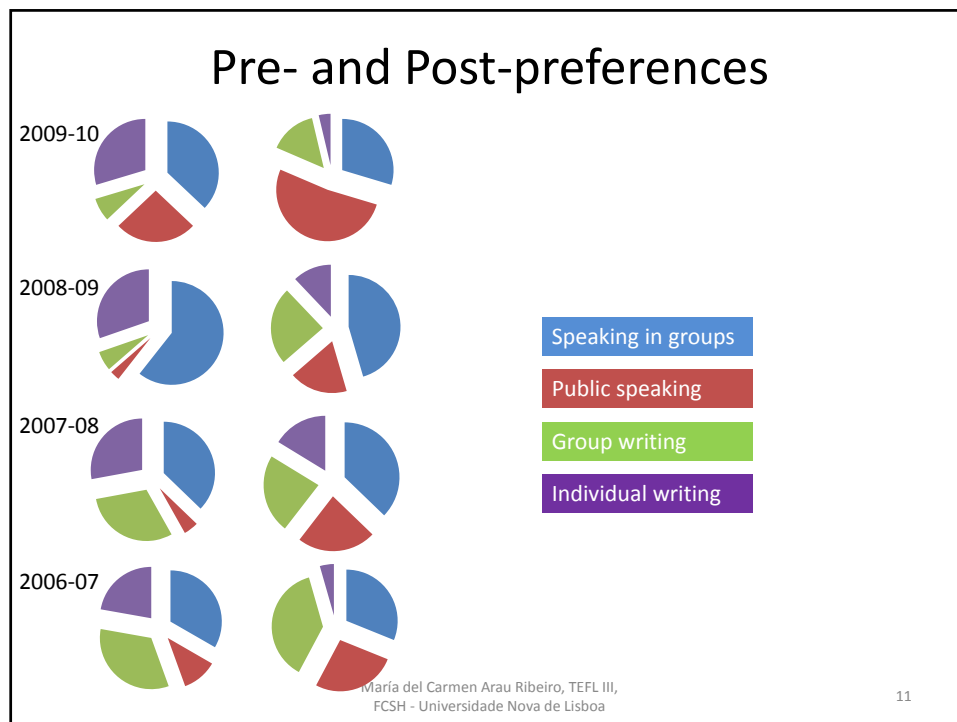
E	T	year	Speaking in groups		Public speaking		Group writing		Individual writing	
5	27	2009-10	10 37%	8 30%	7 26%	14 52%	2 7%	4 15%	8 30%	1 4%
1	33	2008-09	20 61%	15 46%	1 3%	6 18%	2 6%	8 24%	10 30%	4 12%
3	43	2007-08	16 37%	16 37%	2 5%	10 23%	13 30%	10 23%	12 28%	7 16%
2	45	2006-07	15 33%	14 31%	5 11%	12 27%	15 33%	17 38%	10 22%	2 4%
11	148	TOTAL								

Bold: the higher of two values

Yellow: post-test results

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Quick response on strategies

(Lam 2007)

- Paraphrasing
- Simplification
- Activating background knowledge
- Monitoring contribution
- Abandoning message
- Asking for help
- Taking risks
- Using gestures
- Resourcing
- Enhancing task knowledge
- Facilitating progress

- Seeking clarification
- Using fillers
- Monitoring turn-taking
- Elaborating
- Facilitating atmosphere
- Focusing on task
- Planning ideas in advance
- Seeking views

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ESP content!

- Business and Marketing...
- Business topics
- Case studies
- Research
- Historical perspectives
- Predicting the future
- Simulations

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Learning interculturally...

- ✓ alters the dynamics of the classroom
- ✓ enriches learning strategies
- ✓ contributes to an intercultural education
- ✓ increases input for adjusting materials
- ✓ develops language competence
- ✓ enriches each one of us as a person...
- ✓ ... and as a people.

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Useful Resources

- International Association for Intercultural Education
<http://www.iaie.org/>
- Paul C. Gorski's Critical Multicultural Pavillion Awareness Activities
<http://www.edchange.org/multicultural/activityarch.html>
- Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies: Breaking the Cycle of Humiliation
<http://www.humiliationstudies.org/>
- Judith E. Glaser, founder of Benchmark Communications, Inc.
<http://www.benchmarkcommunicationsinc.com/>

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