

Multidimensional Approach to Multi-Cultural Education and Diversity Education

Atsushi YAZAWA

Professor

yazawa@sendai-nct.ac.jp

Affiliated Societies

Japan Association of Student Counseling, Ahead Japan, The Tohoku English Language Education Society

Keywords

Inclusion and cohesive society (09060), School education (09010)



Research Topics

- Practical education environment for understanding cultural diversity
- Language practice environment to improve communication skills
- Cultural ethos of Australia

Research Seeds

○ System for student support

Regarding multiple cultures and diversity, relations with other countries and foreign people might be roundly discussed. However, personal relations in daily life reflect an important diversity of culture and communication. Education related to communication and culture must start with education about mutual understanding and coexistence in daily life. We investigate students' supporting needs and will try to set up desirable environment in which they can receive appropriate counseling services and advice.

○ Operation and management of a CALL system to improve communication skills

The core factor to improve communication skills is language education. To raise such skills, it is important for us to build an interactive language practice environment. We will study the necessary operation and management system to raise the effectiveness of the Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) system. Then we can study ways to use it in the most effective manner.

○ Geography education for understanding the diversity of culture and daily lifestyles

To improve communication skills, it is desirable for everyone to understand the culture and daily lifestyles in other places, and to try to coexist with people with different cultures. It is difficult to prepare such an educational environment using language education resources alone. We expect to construct geography education to help learners understand topography as basic knowledge for improving communication skills.

○ Cultural ethos of Australia: an advanced multi-cultural society

Australia is a country in which many immigrants live together. Australians respect the diversity of their immigrant population and recognize its social and economic benefits. They are positively trying to build an environment in which people with different languages and lifestyles can improve their communication skills. We examine the cultural ethos of Australia as a model of a society in which multiple cultures and ethnic backgrounds coexist.

As described above, combining benefits of the respective field, we expect to examine ways to build an academic education environment in which students can learn the diversity of culture and communication in more multidimensional and organic ways.

Related Technology

- Practical system for diversity education
- Information about culture and daily lifestyles in Australia