

The Connection Between Interculturality and Foreign Language Education

Hello, we are CSU Monterey Bay Japanese majors Hatty Gardner and D'Andre Thompson. For our Capstone, we are researching Foreign Language Education. Please help us complete our research by taking our survey! It should take you about 10 minutes.

All questions in this survey are about foreign language classes you have taken in your home country. All answers are anonymous.

This survey is geared towards American students who have studied a foreign language. If you are NOT American and/or have NOT studied a foreign language, please exit this survey.

If you are a Japanese student, please do NOT take this English survey. We have another survey written in Japanese that we would love for you to take.

* Questions with an asterisk are required

1) What is your nationality? *

- American
- Other:

2) What is your age? *

- 17-19
- 20-22
- 23-25
- 26-28
- 29+

3) Please select your gender. *

- Male
- Female
- Other:

4) How many foreign languages have you studied? *

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4 or more
- Never studied a foreign language

5) What foreign language(s) have you studied? *

- Japanese
- English

- Spanish
- French
- German
- Chinese
- Korean
- American Sign Language
- Other:

6) What is the total amount of time you have spent studying a foreign language? *

Please base your answer on the foreign language you have spent the most time studying.

- <6 months
- 7 months-1 year
- 1-2 years
- 2-3 years
- 4-5 years
- 6-7 years
- 8-9 years
- 10+ years

7) What is the highest level of foreign language class you have taken in your home country? *

- Beginning
- Intermediate
- Advanced

8) How would you rate your experience with foreign language classes in your home country?

- Very Positive
- Somewhat positive
- Somewhat Negative
- Very Negative

9) Why did you rate your experience this way? *

10) What do you think about the following situations in your foreign language classrooms? *

Strongly Agree

Agree

Disagree

Strongly
Disagree

a) I am afraid my
language
teacher will
correct my
mistakes

b) I never feel
very sure of
myself when
communicating
in a foreign
language

c) I panic when I
have to speak
without
preparation in
class

d) No matter
how long I
studied, I am not
able to
communicate in
the target
language

e) I feel under a
lot of pressure to
get good grades
on tests

f) I do not
perform well on
tests

g) I feel other
students are
always better

than me

11) When thinking about the way you were taught foreign language in your home country, how do the following apply to you? *

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly Disagree

a) There was more pair/group work than individual work

b) There were many opportunities to communicate with native speakers of the language outside of class

c) There were many fun/engaging activities

d) I easily understood the teacher's instruction

f) My language classes have connected me to the real world

12) The most recent foreign language class I took in my home country was taught in... *

- the target language the majority of the time
- my native language the majority of the time
- half in the target language and half in my native language

13) In the most recent foreign language class I took in my home country, culture was.... *

- mainly taught in my native language

- mainly taught through the target language
- not taught at all

14) Which of the following best describes your reason for choosing the language(s) you did? *

Please pick your top 3 reasons.

- I was interested in the pop culture
- I was interested in the history and traditional culture
- It is part of my heritage
- to better understand my own culture/country by learning about another
- to know more of what is going on in the world
- to better serve my community
- I know native speakers of the foreign language
- to create relationships with international people (friends, etc.)
- I want to go to certain countries (that speak the language)
- To increase my job opportunities (at home or abroad)
- My friends took it
- Its an Educational requirement
- Other:

15) Do you want to continue/Have you continued your foreign language studies beyond the educational requirement and if so, why? *

Please pick your top 3 reasons.

- to further my interest in the history and traditional culture
- to further my interests in the pop culture
- To increase job opportunities (at home or abroad)
- to obtain a specific job involving the foreign language (ie. teacher, translator, interpreter, etc.)
- to know more about the world from a different perspective
- I want to live abroad
- I like learning languages
- to better contribute to communities
- to challenge myself
- I don't want to take any more foreign language classes
- Other:

16) In your language classes did you have some sort of project/experience that connected you to a community, such as... *

- Volunteering/Service Learning
- Pen Pal
- Communication with an international Sister-school
- Visiting a community event of target culture (ex. a festival)
- Visiting a site (ex. target culture restaurant)
- I did not have such a project/experience

- Other:

17) Using my foreign language skills, I can... *

I can do this easily

I can do this with
difficulty

I can't do this

a) ...communicate
using single words &
phrases (ex. yes/no
questions)

b) ...communicate
using a variety of
words & phrases (ex.
basic info about my
daily life)

c) ...communicate
using phrases &
simple sentences (ex.
giving basic
directions)

d) ...handle short
social interactions
(ex. talking about
hobbies & interests)

e) ...handle short
social interactions,
like requesting
services (ex. repair
for a computer)

f) ...participate with
ease & confidence in
conversations (ex.
asking for & following
directions to a place)

g) ...talk in an
organized way & with
some detail (ex.

interviewing for a job)

h) ...confidently
handle routine
situations (ex.
explaining an illness
& getting help)

i) ...express myself
freely, spontaneously
& accurately in
situations (ex. in a
debate)

18) In the target language, using my knowledge of culture, I can... *

I can do this easily

I can do this with
difficulty

I can't do this

a) ...usually accept
and refuse invitations
in a culturally
accepted way.

b) ...usually offer and
receive gifts in a
culturally accepted
way

c) ...respond in a
culturally accepted
way when someone
sneezes, toasts, or
pays me a
compliment, etc.

d) ...use some
appropriate cultural
conventions such as
body language,
turn-taking,
interrupting,
agreeing, etc. when
talking with others.

19) Do you agree or disagree that your foreign language education in your home country has:

Strongly Agree Agree Disagree Strongly
Disagree

a) Improved your understanding of the world

b) Connected you to a multicultural community

c) Made you more understanding and accepting of other peoples and cultures

d) Helped you create relationships with native speakers of the language

e) Helped you understand more about your home community

f) Improved your communication skills.

20) If applicable, please describe how you have been connected to a multicultural/multilingual community through foreign language education.

This question is NOT required, but if you've had an important experience, please share! :)
