TELAC Spring Institute 2016

Common Ground: Teachers supporting ELL students through culturally and linguistically responsive teaching practices.

Saturday April 23, 2016 9:00 am-2:30 pm
Arizona State University, Tempe Campus
Lattie F. Coor Hall

Keynote Speaker

Mary Carol Combs
Associate Professor
Department of Teaching, Learning, and Sociocultural Studies
University of Arizona

The Metaphorical Eating Machine: Arizona’s Obsession with ‘Accelerated’ English Acquisition

Arizona policy regarding English language learners requires that all materials and instruction be in English, and that ELLs are segregated for four hours daily of grammar and vocabulary instruction in order to become fluent in one year. Ostensibly, these requirements will accelerate the learning of academic English and enable ELLs to compete with English-speaking peers. This presentation argues that theoretically and practically, academic language acquisition cannot (and probably should not) be accelerated, and that in Arizona acceleration mandates are motivated by legislative funding priorities and ideological folk myths about language acquisition.

Interactive Session

Margarita Jimenez-Silva
Associate Professor
Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College
Arizona State University

Ruth Luevanos
Teacher/Department Chair, Pacoima Middle School,
Los Angeles Unified School District
National Board Certified Teacher

What does Culturally Relevant Teaching (CRT) look like in content classrooms?

In this interactive session, the presenters will share three examples of lessons designed using a CRT framework. Furthermore, they will discuss challenges to implementing CRT from the perspectives of teachers as well as strategies for addressing those challenges. They will also discuss students’ experiences when engaging in lessons grounded in CRT. Participants will also have an opportunity to share their own experiences with CRT and brainstorm possible future lesson ideas.

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