

Abstract 28

Three Projects, Three Pillars: Experiential Learning in a Multicultural Environment

A multicultural education campus can be viewed as emerging organically within a diverse community in a process that activates and connects various stakeholders, including particularly teachers, students, administration and staff. At JAMK University of Applied Science's International Business Degree Programme we support our international community by combining theory, research and student-centered pedagogical innovation. We place particular emphases on creating an informed and culturally nuanced approach to ethics and responsibility; develop novel approaches to teaching intercultural communication (ICC); and facilitate a meaning-centered, experientially oriented pedagogical approach in which students learn and benefit from their inter- and multicultural experiences. In this presentation we will describe how we presently 1) engage a diverse student body to respond to challenges related to academic integrity, 2) combine innovative pedagogy and research to activate and reinforce ICC theory and learning, and 3) activate students to respond to and make sense of their shared experiences, for example by guiding them to create research-based ICC teaching and learning tools. The results comprise a base of free-to-use resources for other teachers and students using an Internet connection and World Wide Web browser software.

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