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Cultural Competence: A Personal Journey to Becoming a Culturally Relevant Educator

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Cultural Competence: A Personal Journey to Becoming a Culturally Relevant Educator

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Abstract

This research project examines the researcher's cultural experiences and subsequent reactions toward them during a four-month study abroad program in Ireland. Daily experiences were recorded via journaling and then compared to research-based attributes of culturally responsive educators. The researcher compared the self-analysis of the journals to research-based attributes of culturally-responsive teachers in an attempt to discover what qualities and skills the researcher needs to further develop and improve. From the comparison, an action plan for the researcher's professional development with regard to becoming culturally competent has emerged. This research project is significant because the researcher intends to be an urban teacher and therefore will be working with students of many cultures. Understanding what is required to be culturally competent will allow the researcher to successfully work with all students.

Methodology

- Qualitative Study
- Daily Journals
- Intercultural Development Inventory

Setting

Tully Cross, Ireland



Culturally Relevant Education

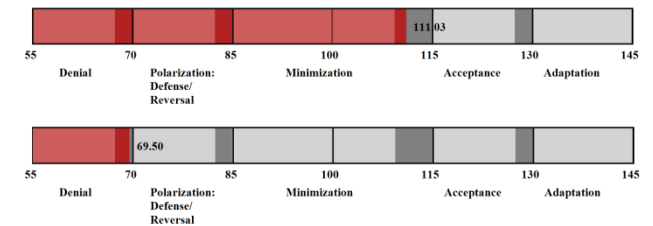
Characteristics

- Awareness and Acceptance
- Self-Awareness
- Dynamics of Difference
- Knowledge of Students' Culture
- Adaptation of Skills

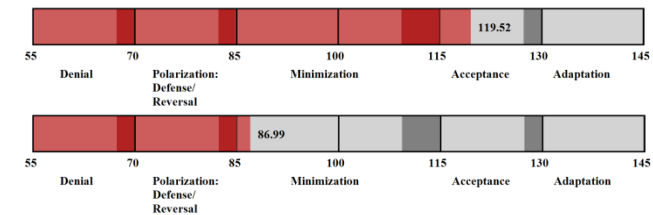
Results

Perceived & Developmental Orientation

Before Studying Abroad

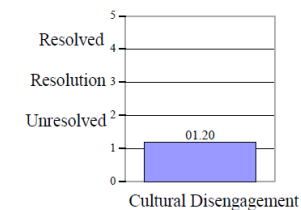


After Studying Abroad



Cultural Disengagement

Before Studying Abroad



After Studying Abroad

