

DEVELOPING INTERCULTURAL AWARENESS AND ATTITUDES
OF VIETNAMESE LEARNERS OF ENGLISH: CASE STUDIES

Author: Ho Si Thang Kiet

University of Foreign Language Studies, The University of Danang; kiet.ho@ufl.udn.vn

Abstract:

This paper investigates the development of intercultural awareness and attitudes through four case studies of Vietnamese second-year students of English major in two different learning contexts of an English Speaking course over a nine-week teaching period at the University of Foreign Language Studies, the University of Danang. Data collection methods include the students' reflective journals and individual interviews. The findings show that the students who actively engaged in the intercultural learning process developed a better understanding of the target culture and cultural self-awareness than those in the normal class. In addition, these students were able to minimize ethnocentric views and develop their intercultural competence with ethno-relativism. It is expected that this study can be used as a reference for implementing a language teaching and learning methodology with an intercultural stance in order to help learners succeed in intercultural communication.

Key words: Intercultural awareness; Intercultural attitudes; Intercultural competence; Case study; Ethnorelativism.