

Kiersten O'Leary Teaching Philosophy

I believe in providing students with a fun, safe environment to practice English and expand their knowledge of the world. My language classroom will encourage learning by offering plenty of opportunities to practice perception and production of language. Students will grow accustomed to hearing the language by listening to songs, recordings, movies and more. Offering students authentic material can help them in real world situations. In my language classroom, it is important that students make mistakes and feel comfortable doing so. They will be encouraged to self correct and receive both guided and explicit correction. My language classroom will be student oriented

Exposing students to as much input as possible, my teaching materials will encompass aspects of culture as well as language. My classroom materials will expose my students to a variety of topics related to the English language including cultural literature, current event news articles, jokes, and historical articles. By varying the subject matter, students will be given opportunities to learn an array of topics through varying methods of language learning. Some content may include explicit metalinguistic instruction, while other activities are focused on form.

In order to be an effective language teacher, I will model authentic language use and integrate culture into the classroom everyday. Greeting my students each class in English and using English as much as possible is beneficial for the students because they can practice using English to communicate. As a teacher I will be approachable, helpful, and kind, and listen to my students.

I believe that everyone can succeed in learning. With a positive language role model, a fun environment for learning, and plenty of exposure to English, learners can be successful. Language can be difficult to teach and difficult to grasp, but the reward of communicating,

understanding, and sharing culture is immeasurable and worth it! I wish to share my passion for language with others, encouraging them to connect themselves to others through language.