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Culturally responsive teaching in UK higher education



**CHARACTERISING FEATURES OF
CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING.**

AN ACADEMIC APPROACH

Aims of this paper

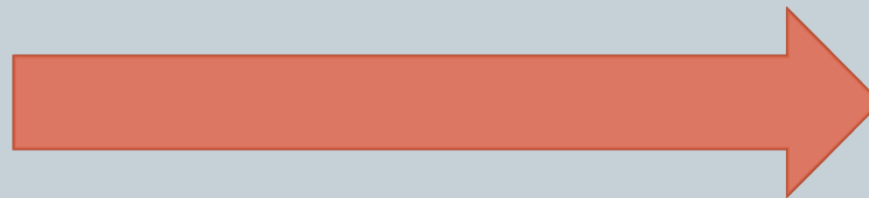


- Explore the relevance of culturally responsive teaching in UK higher education
- Examine the Methods and mechanisms of pedagogy in H.E. for equality and diversity
- Identify the characteristics of culturally responsive teaching

Ethnicity?



Bridging the gap



5 Pillar framework to bridge the gap



Characteristic	Description	Literature
Cultural Consciousness	Academics should have empathy and understanding with the students they teach.	Villegas & Lucas (2002) Howard (2003) Kirkland (2003) Durden (2008) Gay (2002)
Curriculum resources	Academics should have affirming and validating views of their students and identify resources that are important to them.	Villegas & Lucas (2002) Kirkland (2003) Said (2007) Ruiz (1991) Gay (2002)
Moral Responsibility	Academics should see themselves as agents of change, with the ability to make a difference in the lives of their students.	Villegas & Lucas (2002) Ladson-Billings (1995) Durden (2008) Gay (2002) Nieto (1999)
Cultural Bridging	Academics should be able to help students construct and scaffold knowledge between what they do know and what they do not.	Villegas & Lucas (2002) Howard (2003) Durden (2008) Gay (2002)
Higher Education Curriculum	The organisation should support the academic in the development of pedagogy that is fair and consistent	Nieto (1999, 2000), Modood (2006, 2002, 2003) Villegas & Lucas (2002) Said (2007) Howard (2003) Tomalin (2007)

Cultural consciousness



*validating &
affirming*

*reflective &
disruptive*

*understanding
& empathy*



resources



*credibility, experts
of knowledge*

*Culture as a
resource not as a
obstacle*

*targeted
resources*



Moral responsibility



agents of change

*commitment to
making success
happen*

*confidence in
themselves and
in the
academic*



cultural bridging



*Passion to engage
students in knowledge
construction*

Cultural mismatch

*Build on what
they do know,
not on what
they don't*



HE Curriculum



*Policies and
practices*

White syllabus

*Ingrained
climate of
failure*



ethnic minority issues?

- *pressure to succeed from parents*
- *One upmanship*
- *Expected to marry young*
- *Expected to have an arranged marriage*
- *forced to flee for their safety*
- *Forced to work at young age to support their parents*



Conclusion



- Too early to determine best practice, but my early research hints that culturally responsive teaching:
 - can create equality not preference
 - can build bridges between the academic and the student
 - Can allows students to recognise content that is meaningful to them, thereby validating what they already know
 - Can provide consistency that encompasses and underpins the pedagogy

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