

PROPOSAL FOR: Partnership for Learning Conference for CPR-trainers and Supervisors

February 27-March 2

Rabat

Individual Demonstration (1 hour)

Name: Russell Barczyk
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Topic: Including Western Cultural Components in Secondary English Classrooms in Morocco

Target audience: Secondary school teachers, CPR trainers, Inspectors

Objectives: Participants will analyze and discuss benefits and potential risks of including Western cultural components in secondary English classrooms in Morocco. Questions pertinent to a paper "Design decisions of the cultural content of a secondary English course for Morocco" by K. Adaskou, D. Britten, B. Fahsi published in ELT Journal in 1990 will be raised and reopened for consideration, taking into account changes in Morocco since its publication.

Materials from Books in the Box: Dave Sperling's Internet Guide
The Modal Book (Around the world with Joe and Lisa)
Do As I Say
The ESL Miscellany

Curriculum goals: I will give examples of ways in which some of the books mentioned above can be used in communicative language teaching and at the same time demonstrate cultural components which should motivate students and promote empathy towards the target language community. Teachers will finally be asked to suggest some activities of their own which both highlight Western cultural elements and develop students' communicative competence. General guidelines for including Western cultural components will be given and discussed.

Methodology: I am advising fourth-year university student, Younis el Cheddadi, currently investigating this topic. My presentation will begin with a guided discussion of questions he is including in questionnaires to English teachers (see attached document) in order to gather data. I will continue with demonstrations from the books of classroom activities that include cultural components before asking the participants to give their own applications with parts of the materials in question.