

Mila University

Dr A. Zemieche

Faculty of Letters and Languages

Department of Foreign Languages

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Lecture 01: Content Knowledge and Pedagogical

Content Knowledge

(Knowledge and Know-how)

Part 2(PCK)

What is Pedagogical Content Knowledge?

- Knowing that a good mastery of the subject matter(content) is very crucial for anyone wishing to experiment on the teaching profession, one needs to know also that a mastery of knowing how to deliver that content is mandatory. In other words, it is never enough to know everything about your subject matter. Rather, you should also be able to adequately share your knowledge with your learners in a way that suits all members in your class no matter what background they came from, and no matter what differences exist among them.

- In addition to content knowledge, any teacher who aims at being an effective one should have the needed pedagogical content knowledge which mainly refers to the skills, techniques and strategies fused together with content knowledge that he/she should possess.

- PCK is defined by Shulman as: « that special amalgam of content and pedagogy that is uniquely the province of teacher, their own special form of professional understanding. »
(Shulman, 1987)

Importance of Pedagogical Content Knowledge

- Teachers' improved understanding and ability to tackle students' misunderstandings more effectively.
- More engaging teaching/learning environment
- Teaching becomes more effective through implementing effective strategies that best suit different learners

- PCK also helps with critical thinking and problem solving through helping learners see the connection between learning experiences and real life situations
- PCK helps teachers apply to learners' needs
- Lifelong learning
- Improved learner achievement

References

- Main, P (2023, January 26). Pedagogical Content Knowledge. Retrieved from <https://www.structural-learning.com/post/pedagogical-content-knowledge>