

IMMERSION WEEK 2: INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCE IN LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION



DECEMBER 3-5, 2025 | 9:00-10:30AM CT | ZOOM

Registration Required: <http://bit.ly/4nX4qqk>

PRESENTED BY WEINBERG LANGUAGE RESOURCE CENTER, OFFICE OF THE VICE
PRESIDENT FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, AND MEDIA AND DESIGN STUDIO

Northwestern
WEINBERG COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
Language Resource Center

Northwestern
INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS

**Media and
Design Studio**



SESSION 1

Wednesday, December 3 | 9:00-10:30am CT



OPENING REMARKS

Dévora Grynspan, PhD, Vice President for International Relations

KEYNOTE

"Transforming (Language) Education: Teaching for Intercultural Citizenship"
Manuela Wagner, PhD, University of Connecticut

Current global challenges reveal our world's deep interconnection and the urgent need for students to engage in intercultural dialogue and collaborate on complex issues. Language education must foster intercultural citizenship and help make connections between teaching languages and preparing our students for the challenges they face as global problem-solvers.

SESSION 2

Thursday, December 4 | 9:00-10:30am CT



CULTIVATING INTERCULTURAL CITIZENSHIP ON CAMPUS: INSTITUTIONAL ALIGNMENT AND INSTRUCTOR PREPARATION

María Barros, PhD, Jennifer Gerrard, Sara McGuinn, Meghan Ozarowski, Rebekah Stathakis, Tracie Thomas

This two-panel session brings together campus partners – Office of the Vice President for International Relations, Global Learning Office, Roberta Buffett Institute for Global Affairs, Career Advancement – and language educators – Department of Spanish and Portuguese and School of Education and Social Policy to explore how intercultural competence supports institutional goals and student success. Panel 1 will highlight strategies for positioning ICC as a shared value and panel 2 will focus on mentoring pre- and in-service language instructors to embed ICC in their teaching.

SESSION 3

Friday, December 5 | 9:00-10:30am CT



TEACHING CULTURE, MEASURING IMPACT: INTERCULTURAL ASSESSMENT IN THE CURRICULUM

Manuela Wagner, PhD, University of Connecticut

This workshop bridges theory and practice to foster criticality and intercultural dialogue in language teaching. We'll explore activities and projects integrating skills for dialogue and problem-solving, applying frameworks like intercultural competence and citizenship, VR, UN SDGs, and concepts such as intellectual humility and critical thinking. Lessons learned on planning and collaboration will be discussed.

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST