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Developing Intercultural Competence in English Language Learners through AI: A Case Study in Vietnamese Higher Education

Sunday, 19 May 2024 11:30 (30 minutes)

Intercultural competence is an essential component of effective communication, particularly in foreign language education like English, where learners engage with diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds. Research highlights the importance of integrating intercultural competence with linguistic proficiency, empowering learners to confidently share their perspectives and enrich the meaning-making process in communication. Our presentation delves into the findings of our research on the impact of ChatGPT on Vietnamese English learners, with a specific emphasis on intercultural competence development. Through interviews with two English-as-a-foreign-language (EFL) teachers and six EFL university students, we explore their perspectives on integrating ChatGPT as a language input source for overall language production. Grounded in Deardorff's (2004) pyramid model of intercultural competence and Coleman's (1968) push and pull framework, our investigation aims to unveil areas of agreement and divergence between teachers and students concerning the optimal use of ChatGPT for enhancing intercultural attitudes, knowledge, and skills. Our discussion emphasizes adapting to the evolving global landscape influencing diverse language use and addresses ethical conflicts related to intellectual property and students' academic integrity. The presentation concludes with reflections, implications, and recommendations for future research, emphasizing a nuanced understanding of technological advancements in foreign language education within non-English speaking countries.

Is this a sponsored session?

Keywords

intercultural competence, ChatGPT, academic development, academic integrity, Vietnamese higher education

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