

March 20, 2018

The Teaching and Scientific Council
Faculty of Philosophy
University of Niš

Review of:
Teaching Languages and Cultures: Developing Competencies, Re-thinking Practices

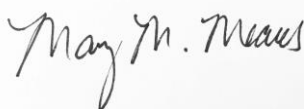
Edited by Nina Lazarevic, Tatjana Paunovic, Ljiljana Markovic, and Milica Savic

I'm pleased to have the chance to review this manuscript as it relates to two areas of my own background, language learning and culture. While I no longer teach and research in the language classroom, my research and teaching in the area of intercultural communication includes language as a vital component. These two topics are intrinsically intertwined; however, they are often studied as separate issues, within differing disciplines. This volume, therefore, addresses the interconnection between language teaching/learning and culture in relevant and important ways.

Addressing such subjects as textbook and digital resources for language learning, contributions from theory, and assessment, the manuscript provides a rich and useful set of analyses. The manuscript provides examples from different languages, including Spanish, Hungarian, Norwegian, Finnish, English, and Slavic languages, as well as multiple methodological perspectives. With some more conventionally focused papers addressing listening, speaking, reading, and reflection, paired with work addressing topics like argumentation, emotion, and process drama, the depth of expertise and experience is impressive. I enjoyed reading the individual papers, but would also argue that collectively they make a statement about the need to balance a focus on the mechanics of language with a deeper, cultural approach.

I commend the editors for their stewardship of this project. Based on my review of the papers, I strongly recommend publication.

Sincerely,



Dr. Mary M. Meares
Associate Professor