Implementing Collaborative Teaching Among Japanese Language Instructors

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Abstract

Collaborative teaching, which involves cooperative planning, delivery, and assessment by two or more educators, has been widely recognized as a strategy to enrich students' learning experiences, enhance instructors' professional growth and networking, and optimize the use of available learning resources. The potential of collaborative Japanese language teaching lies in its ability to integrate diverse teaching styles, while supporting both native and non-native instructors in refining their pedagogical approaches. This report aims to present the implementation of collaborative teaching practices for the Japanese language course. This project indicates that Japanese language instructors significantly gain new insights, share resources, and enhance their pedagogical skills, leading to more effective language teaching strategies. It also shows that collaborative teaching notably improves student engagement, language proficiency, and cultural awareness. However, several challenges were identified, including mismatched teaching schedules, limited institutional support, communication, and mutual understanding among instructors for successful teaching collaboration. There is a need to explore various collaborative opportunities that can be tailored to diverse institutional contexts, thereby promoting a more dynamic and inclusive learning environment.