

## FORMATION OF SOCIO-CULTURAL COMPETENCIES IN TEACHING FOREIGN LANGUAGES IN UNIVERSITIES

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### ABSTRACT

The formation of socio-cultural competencies in the process of teaching foreign languages has become an integral part of the educational system today. Learning foreign languages develops not only knowledge of the language, but also the ability to understand and adapt to other cultures. This process allows students to acquire a wide range of knowledge and skills, and also forms the socio-cultural competencies necessary to successfully operate in a global society.

**Keywords:** Foreign languages, teaching methodology, competencies, cultural context, abilities, activity, knowledge, skills.

### INTRODUCTION

Socio-cultural competencies are important in the process of learning a foreign language. They help to introduce students to other cultures, to learn their values, customs and traditions. This, in turn, promotes cultural exchange among students and expands their worldview. In the process of teaching foreign languages, a number of methods and techniques can be used to form socio-cultural competencies. It is important to provide a cultural context when teaching a foreign language. The teacher should introduce students to cultural elements related to the language being studied, such as traditional dishes, holidays, Customs and other cultural characteristics. This, in turn, makes learning the language more interesting and meaningful to students. Teachers effectively support students' language acquisition process by introducing a cultural context in the classroom. The use of interactive methods in teaching foreign languages plays an important role in the development of socio-cultural competencies among students. Through Group Work, discussion, role-playing games, and other interactive activities, students have the opportunity to interact with each other. In addition to developing their communicative abilities, this also increases their ability to identify and accept other cultures. Interactive styles encourage students to actively participate and express their thoughts freely.[1]

Conducting cultural events in teaching a foreign language also helps to form socio-cultural competencies. Teachers can organize various activities such as Culture Days, film screenings, music and art exhibitions to introduce students to foreign culture. Such activities allow students to put the language being studied into practice and expand their cultural knowledge. In the process of teaching foreign languages, it is important to introduce students to cultural interaction. Teachers should show students what opportunities are opened by knowing a foreign language, the opportunities to study, work and live in foreign countries. This increases the practical importance of learning a foreign language for students and inspires them to achieve their goals. In the teaching of foreign languages, it is also important to organize the process of intercultural education. Students can help better understand each other by sharing their cultural experiences, presenting their own cultures, and exploring other cultures. This

process promotes friendship and cooperation among students, as well as expanding their cultural vision.[2]

The formation of socio-cultural competencies in the process of teaching foreign languages encourages students to study independently. Students have the opportunity to develop themselves in the process of learning a foreign language by understanding the differences between their cultures and those of other cultures. This, in turn, has a positive effect on their personal and professional development. Teachers should have a good understanding of their role in the formation of socio-cultural competencies in the process of teaching foreign languages. They are important in the development of socio-cultural competencies by teaching students cultural knowledge, encouraging and supporting them. Teachers should take into account the cultural context, interactive styles and cultural activities when planning their classes.[3]

It is also necessary to improve training programs in order to develop socio-cultural competencies in the process of teaching foreign languages. The curricula should have directions aimed at focusing on cultural characteristics, involving students in cultural activities and increasing practical experience in learning a foreign language. This makes learning a foreign language more interesting and effective for students. Teaching foreign languages in an interactive way occupies an important place in the modern educational system. This method allows you to make the learning process more interesting, effective and interactive. Interactive teaching methods help to activate students, develop independent thinking skills and improve communication skills. Interactive teaching methods encourage students to actively participate in the course of the lesson. Students can express their opinions, ask questions, and discuss the class rather than participate passively. This approach contributes to communication and cooperation among students, as well as increasing their mutual understanding and respect. In the process of interactive teaching, students will have the opportunity to learn from each other, and this will develop their self-learning abilities. One of the main advantages of interactive teaching is that it makes the material being studied more interesting and practical for students. Students will have the opportunity to practice language through cross sections. For example, through role-playing games, group discussions, and interactive games, students practice learned material. This speeds up their language acquisition process and increases their effectiveness.[4]

In the process of teaching foreign languages in an interactive way, various methods and techniques can be used. First, group work techniques encourage students to interact with each other. Students are grouped into subgroups to exchange ideas, discuss and find a solution together. This approach develops a collective spirit among students and increases their trust in each other. Role-playing games are of great importance in the process of interactive training. Students communicate in specific situations, imagining themselves in different roles. Through this method, they develop the skills of learning different cultures, expressing their thoughts and communicating. Role-playing games also give students the opportunity to practice language and improve their interpersonal skills. It is also important to use technology in interactive teaching. Through modern technologies such as presentation programs, video and audio materials, online platforms and mobile applications, teachers can make the course process more interesting and interactive. Students can interact via the internet, conduct video

classes, and access a variety of online resources. Such an approach will help to introduce students to modern technologies and develop their digital skills.[5]

In the process of interactive teaching, it is important to encourage students to self-assess and comment. Teachers should encourage students to express their opinions, make mutual assessments, and make constructive criticism. This process develops mutual respect among students and allows them to freely express their thoughts. Through self-assessment and feedback, students are able to more effectively manage learning processes. In interdisciplinary teaching, it is important to encourage students to engage in practical activities. Teachers are required to include practices such as interviews, interviews, discussions, and other activities in classes. This will help students put the studied material into practice and prepare it for life situations. Practical classes make the learning process more interesting and meaningful to students.[6]

The role of the teacher in the interactive teaching process is also important. The teacher should encourage students to actively participate, hear and encourage their opinions. The teacher must take into account the individual characteristics of the students and organize the classes so that each student has an opinion and the opportunity to communicate among themselves. The support and guidance of the teacher makes the learning process more effective for students. Teaching foreign languages in an interactive way occupies an important place in the modern educational system. This method encourages students to actively participate in the course of the lesson, develops their communication skills and allows them to put the studied material into practice. In the process of interactive teaching, it is important to use various methods and techniques, the role of the teacher and the motivation of students. Such an approach makes learning a foreign language more interesting and effective for students, and also has a positive effect on their personal and professional development. With the help of interactive teaching methods, the process of teaching foreign languages can be made more effective and meaningful. This increases students' chances of learning about themselves, communicating, and getting to know other cultures. Teachers can make their lessons more interesting and effective using interactive methods.[7]

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the formation of socio-cultural competencies in the teaching of foreign languages is an integral part of the educational process. This process makes it possible to introduce students to other cultures, develop their abilities and acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully operate in a global society. Teachers must take into account the cultural context, interactive styles and cultural activities in the process of teaching foreign languages, and also encourage students to cross-cultural learning. Through this, students get the opportunity to acquire not only language knowledge, but also socio-cultural competencies from learning a foreign language.



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