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# USD Teacher Residency Program Impact: Culturally Responsive Pedagogy

Ben Schaap  
*University of South Dakota*

Amy Schweinle  
*University of South Dakota, Amy.Schweinle@usd.edu*

Karen J. Kindle  
*University of South Dakota, karen.kindle@usd.edu*

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# USD TEACHER RESIDENCY PROGRAM IMPACT

USD's year-long Teacher Residency Program involves teacher candidates in a full year of teaching experience incorporated into their four-year program. This provides teacher candidates a real-life teaching experience that allows them to connect theory to practice. USD's residency program is nationally recognized for its innovation and success in preparing teachers.

Ben Schaap, Ed.D., Amy Schweinle, Ph.D., Karen Kindle, Ed.D.

## USD TEACHER RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The faculty in the School of Education have identified three core values and seven professional competencies to which coursework and fieldwork are aligned.

### Core Values:

1. Cultural Responsiveness

2. Differentiated Instruction

3. Instructional Technology

### Competencies:

1. Planning and Preparation

2. Learning Environments

3. Instructional Support

4. Classroom Management

5. Assessment

6. Student Engagement

7. Professionalism

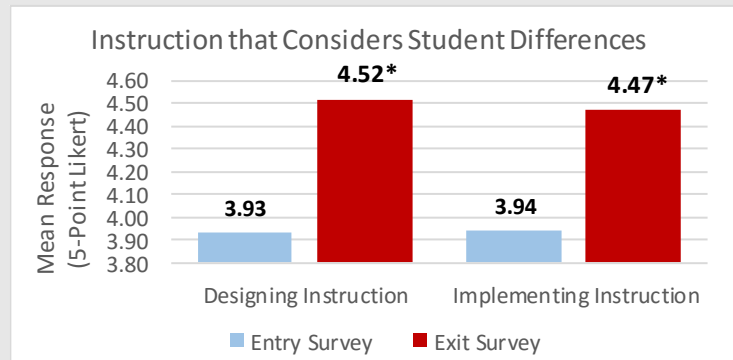


## CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE PEDAGOGY

The act of teaching has evolved from a single schoolhouse to a multi-building endeavor. As the times have changed, so too have the students. The content and its delivery also need to adapt to these changes in order to truly engage students in the learning process. Teachers must be prepared to enter a classroom with the tools necessary to customize their instruction so students from different backgrounds can get the most out of their learning experience.

USD teacher candidates were asked after their first and second semesters of residency about their ability to confidently design and implement instruction that incorporates students' readiness, background, and culture, among other factors. The results were analyzed using a One-Way ANOVA, identifying a statistically significant difference ( $p < .001$ ) in their confidence between the end of a teacher candidate's first and second semesters. Effect sizes were **.889** for designing and **.982** for implementing instruction that considers individual student differences, both large effects.

Effect Size	Relative Meaning
0.2	Small effect (cannot be seen easily observed)
0.5	Medium Effect
0.8	Large Effect (can be seen easily observed)



## IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE

Culturally responsive pedagogy actually involves three components: institutional, personal, and instructional. The personal and instructional components center on the teacher, while the institutional centers on the policies, community, and culture of the school and its district. While a teacher's personal and instructional components are critical, the policies and culture in an institution play a vital role in determining how successful culturally responsive pedagogy can be.

