**Linguistic Diversity at Mason: Supporting Students in and Beyond the Classroom**

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**Ideas generated during the discussion**

Classroom strategies for working with multilingual/international students:

* Slow down!
* Use accessible speech – make sure to explain idioms/cultural references
* Group-pair-share
* Preview topics and questions
* Write down key concepts, ideas, terms
* Include visuals
* Make slides available
* Record lectures so that students could listen to at their own pace
* Break down instructions into steps to ease comprehension
* Use examples related to other countries, international businesses, etc.
* Be ready to explain concepts in multiple ways
* Ask specific open-ended questions instead of “Is it clear?”
* Have multiple assessment modes
* Use interactive online tools to check comprehension (e.g., Kahoot, Pollev)
* Do discussion boards online before discussing information in class
* Have multiple drafts to encourage revision
* Encourage peer review for writing assignments
* Be aware of cultural backgrounds of students
* Remember that language proficiency is not an indicator of intellectual abilities

Resources to help students with their writing and language:

* The Writing Center (see the handout on specific programs for multilingual writers)
* INTO Learning Resource Center
* [Valuing Written Accents](https://writtenaccents.gmu.edu/#main) website
* INTO Mason courses
* Online resources (see the handout on different online tools)
* Community ESL classes (off campus)