

Students' Perceptions and Practices of Spoken English Interaction at an EMI University in Asia

This research report will describe a proposed study which aims to explore the role of spoken English for communication, learning and identity at an English-medium of instruction (EMI) university in Asia through a case study approach. The proposed inquiry will have two research stages and will adopt a longitudinal case study approach. In the first stage, all of the first-year students in the Faculty of Dentistry will be surveyed about their educational background and current English language learning. Then twelve out of fifty first-year students will be interviewed about their spoken English interaction experiences in Hong Kong. In the second stage, the study will use a variety of means, including observations, audiovisual recording, interviews, and informal questionnaires, to follow six students' spoken English interaction experiences at the University of Hong Kong (HKU). Based on the analysis of a substantial body of qualitative data, it is hoped to better understand the spoken English interaction of different kind of students in different context; such a study will provide teaching staff and educational policy makers with useful information about, and better skills to deal with, Chinese learners in an EMI context.