

A Different Perspective into Collaborative Teaching: A Mentor's Observations

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Abstract

This research was conducted at the University of Turkish Aeronautical Association; Department of Foreign Languages in Ankara. The study involved first-year engineering students and aimed to explore the impact of collaborative teaching on improving students' communicative abilities in English for Specific Purposes (ESP) courses. The research focused on the collaborative efforts of three experienced English instructors, each with approximately five years of experience in teaching English as a second language. These instructors co-taught the "English for Engineers" course, employing various team teaching models, including parallel teaching and alternative teaching. Team teaching procedure including five steps such as *Preparation, Research, Planning & Implementation, Evaluation, and Dissemination* was used as an approach. The study investigated the benefits, challenges, and overall effectiveness of collaborative teaching in the context of ESP, highlighting its potential to enhance student engagement and academic performance. Findings suggest that collaborative teaching fosters a dynamic learning environment but also requires careful planning and collaboration between instructors. The research contributes to the growing body of knowledge on the effectiveness of collaborative teaching in specialized English programs.

Keywords: collaborative teaching; communicative abilities; ESP; team teaching; student engagement