Parana speaks English: EMI experience at the State Universities


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Summary

• PSE Context
• Cambridge Assessment English Context
• The research project
• Partial results
• Expected outcomes
PSE Context

- Strategic Development Plan for Parana State
- Linguistic Policies
- Internationalization Policies
- Governmental and International Partnerships
Cambridge Assessment English context

- Cambridge Assessment English is part of the University of Cambridge
- University’s mission is to contribute to society through the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.
- Cambridge Assessment English’s mission is to help people learn English and prove their skills to the world
- As part of its HE strategy for working with Brazilian universities, which has as its core developing mutually beneficial relationships with Brazilian HE institutions
- To extend its research into EMI and other areas
The research project: EMI

Small scale research project: case study of professors in the 7 state universities in Paraná

Investigation prompted by following considerations:

For university teaching staff presenting their specialist subject in English can be a challenge, likewise for students receiving lectures because:

• it involves learning new lexis;
• following different conventions;
• having an adequate level of English to deliver lectures and for Brazilian students and students from different countries to understand clearly.
Research Questions

- **Research question 1**: What is the view of EMI from the point of view of the decision makers, professors and students?
- **Research question 2**: How prepared do professors consider themselves to be to deliver EMI classes?
- **Research question 3**: What additional support do professors feel they need to become more effective in the use of EMI/overcome challenges?
- **Research question 4**: What suggestions do students have with regards to the teaching of disciplines in the media of English?
Methodology

**Phase one:** selection of professors and understanding attitudes towards EMI in State Universities of Parana
- Selection criteria, Cambridge English Linguaskill, questionnaires

**Phase two: preparing professors to deliver lectures in English**
- Cambridge English Certificate in EMI Skills online course, questionnaires

**Phase three:** Delivery of lectures in English
- Group forums and questionnaires to reflect on experience
Partial results

QUANTITATIVE OF PARTICIPANTS

- UNESP: 21.4%
- UEPG: 7.1%
- UENP: 7.1%
- UEM: 21.4%
- UNICENTRO: 7.1%
- UNIOESTE: 14.3%
- UEL: 21.4%
AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE

- EDUCATION: 7.1%
- DEVELOPMENTAL: 7.1%
- ECONOMY: 7.1%
- DENTISTRY: 7.1%
- AGRICULTURAL: 7.1%
- HEALTH SCIENCES: 7.1%
- PHYSIOTHERAPY: 7.1%
- MICROBIOLOGY: 7.1%
- LETTERS: 35.7%
- MATHMATICS: 7.1%
Expected Outcomes

• Better understanding of the current status of EMI across Parana State universities, e.g. challenges professors face when delivering their classes in English and of students when receiving EMI classes;

• Development of guidelines for the teaching EMI in Brazil;

• Support Brazilian universities in their internationalization process;

• Contribution to further research on EMI in Brazil and abroad

• Strengthening of relationship between University of Cambridge and universities within Parana State
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Thank you!