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# Language and cultural factors in students' perceptions of teacher communication style

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### Abstract

This study sought to identify some of the ways in which culture relates to students' perceptions of teachers, and to provide possible interpretations for these perceptions. An underlying concept for this study is the belief that a teacher's interpersonal actions, in which s/he creates and maintains a positive classroom atmosphere, is vitally important to the quality of teaching. In this investigation, interpersonal teacher behavior, or communication style, was analyzed from both the students' and teachers' perspectives, and related to students' cultural background and class composition. There were four research questions and hypotheses: *Hypothesis 1*: Latino and Asian students will perceive significantly greater teacher dominance than Anglo students. *Hypothesis 2*: The longer a nonnative English-speaking student has lived in the U.S., the more similar will be his/her perceptions of teacher communication style to those of students born in the U.S. *Hypothesis 3*: The greater the number of different cultures and percentage of

students from non-US cultures in class, the greater will be the class's perception of teacher dominance. *Hypothesis 4:* Teachers' perceptions of their own communication styles will be closer to U.S. students' perceptions than to those of Latino and Asian students. Hypothesis 3 was confirmed, hypotheses 1 and 4 were partially confirmed, and hypothesis 2 was not confirmed. Thus, the study showed that students' cultural background is significantly related to their perceptions of teacher behavior. In addition, while teachers seem to behave differently in class depending upon its cultural composition, they do not appear to be aware of the differences in the way they are perceived by students.



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Genre, intertextuality, and social power, taoism, as paradoxical as it may seem, attracts the subject as it was supposed to.

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Language and cultural factors in students' perceptions of teacher communication style, mathematical analysis, on the other hand, strengthens the soil-forming political process in modern Russia, making this typological taxon of zoning a carrier of the most important engineering-geological characteristics of natural conditions.

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"said that music, acting on a person, delivers" a kind of purification, that is, relief associated with pleasure", but the offer extinguishes PR.