

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORM

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Name(s) of Author(s)	Derek Martin. MA (Applied Language Studies) (Hons), HDE, CELTA
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Abstract Title	A Cultural Imperialism? English Only in the ESOL Classroom
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Abstract (approx 250 words)	<p>The dramatic increase in recent years in the teaching of English as a second language (in contradistinction to English as a foreign language), both worldwide and in the New Zealand context, has been associated with an almost dogmatic adherence generally to a combination of the direct and communicative methods of language teaching, constituting generally an immersion approach. Increasingly however, researchers have drawn attention to the value of a bilingual approach. The present study sought to explore ESOL professionals' (both teachers' and language school managers') evaluations of these approaches, from both a local and an international perspective. In doing so, the study took into account the professionals' own foreign language skills and overseas work experience in assessing whether these factors were involved in their perceptions of the relative usefulness of the two broad approaches. Additional factors such as the linguistic background of students and the gender of teachers and managers were investigated in relation to differences in perceptions between the two professional groups. Finally, implications for the enhancement of the local language school industry were considered on the basis of the study's conclusions.</p>
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Presenter Biography
(approx 100 words)

Derek has taught English to Zulu speakers in South Africa; new immigrants from Bangladesh in inner-city London; middle school students in Korea; and Polynesian immigrants and international students in Auckland. Derek worked as manager of New Zealand's largest English language school, and foundation principal of another Auckland language school before taking up his current role as National Registrar at BCNZ.

Derek completed the Cambridge/RSA CELTA in 2000, followed by an MA (Applied language Studies) from AUT University in 2006. His thesis is entitled "Perceptions of Teacher Bilingualism". Derek's research interests include inter-cultural communication, socio-linguistics and language use in professional organizations.