

# AASK Conference 2017

## **Understanding ESL and International Students**

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# Objectives

- create awareness of ESL & international students
- understand their challenges
- be better able to support them

# Challenges

- language barrier
- cultural differences
- cultural adjustment
- mental wellness and learning disabilities
- academic motivation and success

# Stages of Culture Shock

1. honeymoon
2. rejection
3. understanding
4. independence/biculturalism
5. reverse culture shock

# Supporting Strategies

- foster good relationships with students
- encourage English skills enhancement
- use/collaborate/create other resources (institution, community, faith-based) for academic and non-academic supports

# Communication Tips

- visuals, diagrams, writing, props, examples, maps, steps, names
- face-to-face is best
- plain, simple English
- reduce idioms
- clear messaging (orally and written)