NEXT-GEN WORLD LANGUAGE LEARNING

World language acquisition is an important component of global competitiveness and, beyond that, global competency. The latter is necessary for students if they are going to thrive in an interconnected world in which college and career readiness increasingly demands cultural fluency and world language fluency. The growing availability of high-quality online and blended learning resources empower schools with a new set of tools that can expand student access to world language instruction and improve global competency.

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ability to understand the world, appreciate interdependence and act on issues of global significance

GLOBAL COMPETENCE =

> *All students should have access to high-quality foreign language programs starting in the earliest grades. If all Americans grew up proficient in at least one language in addition to English, and if instruction about other countries' histories and culture were built into the standard K-12 curriculum, young people would develop better understandings of world cultures and be better equipped to converse, collaborate and compete with peers worldwide.*
>
> COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Is training in a second language and multiculturalism needed to remain globally competitive?

97% — 100 K-12 leader respondents — YES

96% — 100 Higher Education leader respondents — YES

(Source: Center for Digital Education Research Survey, October 2012)

Who can converse in a 2nd language other than their official native tongue?

53% Europeans | 18% Americans

(Source: 2010 speech by US Secretary of Education Arne Duncan)

What is the biggest barrier to implementing a language program?

69% say limited funding — 100 K-12 leader respondents

75% say limited funding — 100 Higher Ed leader respondents

(Source: Center for Digital Education Research Survey, October 2012)

In America, developments in technology coupled with the shift to common college- and career-ready standards and the next generation of student assessments create an unprecedented national opportunity to make a renewed commitment to global competence. The development that holds the greatest promise for improved world language proficiency is combining the access and flexibility of online learning with the support and motivation of on-site teachers. Technology can help teachers to create a 21st century global environment for language study by driving student engagement -- which, in turn, motivates students to higher levels of success with the language.

DESIGN PRINCIPLES FOR NEXT-GEN WORLD LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION

- Active immersion
- Mobile learning
- Student-centered collaboration
- Interdisciplinary work
- Game-based learning & augmented reality
- Standards-based grading
- Competency-based learning
- Reorganization of physical space

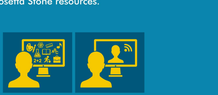
> *If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart.*
>
> NELSON MANDELA

BLENDED-LANGUAGE MODELS

According to a 2011 report, blended language environments offer successful learning outcomes because students receive more personalized attention whether from the teacher or from the Rosetta Stone resources.

Fully online with options for face-to-face instruction

Curriculum primarily online with some class/lab time



Curriculum primarily online with regularly-scheduled class/lab time

Classroom instruction with required online components outside of class

Classroom instruction with optional online resources

> *"To prosper economically and to improve relations with other countries, Americans need to read, speak and understand other languages. It's absolutely essential for the citizens of the United States to become fluent in other languages and schools, colleges and universities must include producing bilingual students as a central part of their mission.*
>
> U.S. SECRETARY OF EDUCATION ARNE DUNCAN

Increasing students' world language skills and cultural/global competency is no longer a luxury; it is a 21st-century necessity. American students, both elementary and secondary, need access to high-quality world language instruction. School and district leaders can harness the power of blended learning language tools to create the next generation of American graduates ready to collaborate, compete, and connect on the global stage.

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GETTING SMART
by Tom Vander Ark

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Download the full version of **"The Next Generation of World Language Learning"** White Paper (available 10/15/2013)