

Pathway to Global Citizenship: The role of private English schools in the Internationalization of higher education

Abstract

The private English language teaching sector is a significant part of international education, yet it is regularly overlooked by scholars. The majority of international students in British Columbia are from countries where English is largely considered a foreign language, and ELT schools take the largest share of annual enrollments. Analysis indicates a main purpose of ELT is the acquisition of symbolic capital. English is positioned as the key to an elite imagined community of global citizens. Including ELT within discussion of internationalization highlights the connection between language, access to knowledge, and power that must inform classroom practice to national policy.

Summary

The private English language teaching sector is a significant part of international education, yet it is regularly overlooked by scholars. Discourse on the internationalization of higher education reduces English language teaching (ELT)