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INTERACT WITH SPANISH-SPEAKING COMMUNITY THROUGH CREATIVE PROJECT DEVELOPED IN SMALL GROUPS ENHANCE MEDICAL SPANISH LEARNING

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Interact with Spanish-speaking Community Through Creative Project Developed in Small Groups Enhance Medical Spanish Learning.

Synopsis:

During the presentation I will share my experience that how since 2006, the students have enjoyed learning medical Spanish by creating projects in which they apply course material to “real life” situations and share important health information with the Spanish-speaking community in Merced, Atwater and Planada which allows them to have a significant learning experience.

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Since 2006, the students have enjoyed learning medical Spanish by creating projects in which they apply course material to “real life” situations and share important health information with the Spanish-speaking community in Merced, Atwater and Planada.

The class provides the students an active and cooperative learning environment where they can learn together by working in groups of three. This group size has provided, in this class, the best team work results. The three students develop constructive and supportive peer relationships where each student has a specific roll and different responsibilities. For their project, first they write a proposal following the instructor guidelines. This proposal is presented to the whole class to get constructive comments from the other class teams that allow them to improve their proposal. Each group works in their own project during some class sections and outside until finishing. As soon as the project is ready, it is presented again to the class and immediately following the presentation they receive the feedback from their classmates using a specific rubric provided by the instructor. Almost all students improve their oral presentation, listening and writing skills significantly and they are ready to present their project to the community.

Students have reported an increase in their ability to understand Spanish medical terminology in a variety of medical contexts, and their reading skills to interpret and translate medical-related literature in Spanish after they develop their group project. Students want to make the difference in the Central Valley.