About the Researcher
Callie Mady has taught French in various settings for 19 years. Her doctoral research compared allophone students’ French proficiency to that of Canadian-born students. She is presently seconded to the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto where she teaches Intermediate/Senior French and French Immersion.

Content of this Podcast
Callie Mady explores ways to enhance French as a Second Language learning for multilingual students.

Facts
✓ The diversity of language backgrounds in Canada is growing.
✓ A 2006 study (C. Mady) showed that, in general, allophone students outperform their Canadian-born peers despite the Canadian-born students’ advantage of five previous years of French study.
✓ Prior language learning experience can facilitate further language learning.

What you can do as a teacher to help your allophone or multilingual students:
- When many students share a common language, you can become knowledgeable about their language and facilitate linguistic connections.
- In a class where many languages are represented, you can encourage your students to access their knowledge of other languages and share this knowledge with others.
You can help your students incorporate past learning strategies into their current French studies.

In addition to recognizing your students’ linguistic backgrounds, you can provide connections to their cultural background.

**Further Reading**


