

Editorial

The present volume, Vol. 6 Issue 2 (2018) of the *Nordic Journal of Modern Language Methodology*, includes the following three peer-reviewed articles in section A:

Edith Wegerle-Johansen

“Geschichte ‘von unten’ mit dem Bilderbuch *Die Lisa*” presents a theoretical framework for understanding Klaus Kordon and Peter Schimmel's picture book *Die Lisa* (1999) and offers concrete teaching and learning ideas that open up the possibility of exploring German history through the use of literary texts. This case study demonstrates that students in tertiary education as well as pupils reach a deeper understanding of history by dealing extensively with the characters and the plot of a book, and by developing their (inter)cultural understanding and tolerant broad-mindedness.

Gerard Doetjes

“Fransk, spansk og tysk i ungdomsskolen etter Kunnskapsløftet: styrket eller ikke?” presents a study of the development of the three main foreign languages in lower secondary school in Norway: French, Spanish and German after the introduction of the Knowledge Promotion Reform in 2006. The article presents the distribution of the languages, showing that there has been a certain decrease in the number of pupils choosing French, while the number of pupils choosing Spanish and German is more stable. The conclusion is that the political aim of strengthening foreign languages is only partly achieved and that there is a need for further initiatives to consolidate the position of foreign languages in the Norwegian school system.

Sigrunn Askland

“‘Too much grammar will kill you!’ Teaching Spanish as a foreign language in Norway: What teachers say about grammar teaching” investigates Spanish instruction in Norway by interviewing teachers and observing Spanish lessons in both lower and upper secondary school. The main findings are that teachers think that grammar instruction is important in the teaching of foreign languages and that a deductive approach seems to be preferred. The

observations also reveal that the language of instruction is primarily Norwegian, and when Spanish is used, the Spanish words and expressions are usually translated to Norwegian.

Editors:

Eli-Marie Danbolt Drange

Ingrid Kristine Hasund

Jan Erik Mustad

Inger Olsbu

Thorsten Pöplow