**Contents**

Dedication ................................................................. iv

Acknowledgments .......................................................... v

1 Introduction ........................................................................ 1

2 The Role of Culture ............................................................ 7

3 Applying the Principles of Second Language Acquisition ............... 23

4 Assignments and Assessment ............................................. 39

5 Empowerment of International Students ................................. 55

Appendices

A Classroom Activities .......................................................... 71

B Rubric Design and Implementation .......................................... 75

C Practice Exercise for Writing Effective Exam Questions ............... 79

D Grammar Support .............................................................. 80

E Assigning Participation Points .............................................. 81

F Additional Resources .......................................................... 82

References ........................................................................ 87
This book is dedicated to our colleagues and students, who inspire us every day to become better teachers.
We would like to thank our many colleagues from various institutions and disciplines who share our commitment to international student support and empowerment. We would also like to thank the students we have had the honor of working with in our classes and as participants in our research projects. We are also tremendously grateful to our editor, Carol Edwards, for her guidance and encouragement throughout the editorial process, and to the anonymous reviewers whose suggestions helped to clarify our thinking and improve our work.

Shawna would like to thank her co-authors Rai and Zuzana for developing the vision for this project and giving her the opportunity to join them as a collaborator. She is also grateful to her former colleagues, students, and research participants at the University of Washington, who contributed a great deal to her understanding of the needs of international students and best practices for supporting them. She wishes to acknowledge her colleagues in the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Research at Middlebury College, who have encouraged her to experiment with new ideas for academic support and curricular innovation. Finally, she would like to recognize her parents, Steve and Sheilah Shapiro, whose lifelong dedication to education inspired her to choose this career path, and her husband, Garrett Kimberly, whose love, support, and patience help make this work not just manageable, but truly gratifying.

Rai attributes her ability to contribute to this book to the experiences she has shared along the way with language learners, language teachers, colleagues, and mentors. She is particularly grateful for the many opportunities she was afforded at the University of Utah as a language teacher, language teacher educator, and faculty consultant. She wants to thank Shawna and Zuzana for a wonderful collaboration while writing this book. She enjoyed the process and is proud of the product. She is also indebted to her family and friends, who supported her throughout the journey from novice graduate student to professor. Her loving parents, John and Colette Farrelly, have been instrumental in all of her successes, and she wishes to thank them for being her rock throughout her entire life, but especially as she rounded the bend in graduate school and made the decision to move across the world for a faculty position at the American University of Armenia. Finally, she wishes to acknowledge
Seamus, her best friend and furkid of 14 years, who reminded her every day about what really matters in the world. She’ll carry his spirit with her always.

Zuzana would like to thank her husband, Aleksandar Tomaš, who valiantly tackled all the household and childcare responsibilities during the many weekends Zuzana spent working on the book. She would also like to acknowledge MaryAnn Christison and Adrian Palmer for supporting her throughout her career, and Rosemary Weston-Gil for helping her succeed in her position at Eastern Michigan University. Zuzana is also grateful to her coauthors, Rai and Shawna, for the fun ride writing this book. Finally, Zuzana would like to acknowledge her parents, Viera and Dušan Šarík, without whose love and selflessness she would have never been able to pursue education and build a life in the United States in the first place.