English Composition 403 Language Pedagogy: Form, Meaning, & Function

The harmony between thought and reality is to be found in the grammar of the language.

- Ludwig Wittgenstein

NEW COURSE

WINTER 2017

Tuesdays 4:00pm to 6:50pm



Why a course on form, meaning, and function?

Speaking and writing in a language is a skill that all highly proficient users of a language can accomplish, but articulating why certain choices are made in lieu of others is a skill that evades most. This course is meant to be a setting in which teachers from all languages can come together to work towards both a better understanding of the languages we teach, and a better understanding of how to pedagogically apply them within our classrooms in meaningful ways.

What, specifically, is this course about?

English Composition 403 is a graduate seminar designed to enhance instructors' command of grammatical structures, the meanings those structures convey, and the pragmatic application of those structures in academic discourse. Some time will be spent reviewing typical and problematic structures in English, though all language backgrounds are welcome, as most of the general principles are the same. The remainder of the time will be spent exploring the relationship between grammar and its actual application within instructional settings. The larger framework for our explorations will revolve around grammar within composition courses, but instructors of all levels are welcome, as composition plays a role from early to advanced stages.

How can I learn more about this course?

Please feel free to contact me directly at your earliest convenience if you would like more information or if you would simply like to introduce yourself and inquire about how you, specifically, can benefit from this course. You can reach me at jkelley@humnet.ucla.edu.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Jeremy Kelley, PhD – Writing Programs