

International Linguistic Association

Monthly Lecture Series

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Usage-based Linguistics Meets Pedagogical Grammar

As a second language acquisition researcher, in the past 20 years I have witnessed great changes in the disciplinary understandings of what language is: from a formal or functional system, to jointly constructed social action, to a multi-semiotic repertoire. These differing views of the nature of language, or language ontologies, in turn inform key aspects of language teaching. Most particularly, they have consequences for the teaching of grammar in curricular contexts where grammar is still taught. In this talk, I consider how approaches to pedagogical grammar can be transformed by usage-based linguistics. I will examine some areas which can benefit from usage-based insights, including the ideal balance between form and meaning in instruction, the need to support linguistic confidence and harmonious bilingualism while teaching grammar, and the conflicted roles of authentic materials and native speaker models in language classrooms. Taking these ideas on board would move the field of grammar teaching from form-focused instruction to usage-inspired instruction.

Saturday, November 10, 2018 11 AM - 12 PM

(Note this is the 2nd Saturday of the month)

Hunter College, West Building, 904 Lexington Avenue, Room 424

New York, NY 10065

Directions

The West Building of Hunter College is on the south west corner of Lexington Avenue and 68th Street, right by the Number 6 subway station. Enter the building by the revolving doors on 68th Street and register with the security guards, whose desk is to the left of the doors. Then take the escalator up to the fourth floor. At the top, you will see a sign to your left pointing along a corridor to room 424. The room is on the right hand side of the corridor.

There will be a meeting of the ILA's Executive Board from 2:00p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the same day in room 1222 of the West Building.

NOTE: All attendees will be asked to show some form of ID in order to enter the college.