252: Final Paper

Length: 5 pages (1250 words)
Weight: 20% of your final grade
Format: MLA, Times, 12pt, Double Space, etc…

Sources: At least 3-4 sources as defined below + Observations
(you may have multiple articles/other sources, but must at least two
academic sources and at least some type of personal research/observation)

- **Academic Journal Article** – 2 REQUIRED
  (online or print; academic book also OK)

- **Other Source** (not required if you cite 3 journals)
  (textbook, academic website, news article, etc)
  (No encyclopedias, blogs or wikis)

- **Real-Life Observations** – Required
  (Not a source for your bibliography)

OPTIONS:

A) Research and investigate a **grammatical issue** discussed in the class and or
textbook (relative clauses, topic & focus, uses of the present tense…).

B) Research and investigate a **teaching issue** that relates to grammar. (teaching
grammar to mainstream or ESL students, teaching grammar through writing)

C) Grammar in **other aspects of life** (grammar in marketing, grammar in the way
engineers [or reporters, etc] write, grammar-related challenges in programming
language translation or grammar checking software, grammar related efforts of a
company that makes its money that way [e.g. GAP International, Cataphora…])

*** This option gives you “enough rope to hang yourself”… Please check with me
about your topic before you invest a lot of time and energy in it…

Target: Build on what we’ve discussed to tie GRAMMAR into real-life language
Practice: Implement grammatical issues that we have studied in your final paper
Avoid: Preaching about prescriptive rules
Grading: See separate rubric
Due Date: See schedule
OPTIONAL PRESENTATION

- 3 – 7 minutes
- Informal presentation, but keep us awake & *inform* us
- Based on the topic of your paper
- Includes key information from your research (but not all of it)
- Present early enough to allow yourself to do more research before submitting your final paper
- Expect and be ready to incorporate feedback from the class…
- Presentations will be made during the final four weeks of the semester…
- Extra credit is available for comments that the presenter/writer finds useful…