

Developing Formal/Argumentative Paper Assignments

Questions to consider towards developing an assignment that will work for YOUR class

What will you be asking students to do for their argumentative paper?

- **Develop an argument that *uses* code-meshing** (that is, your students will be meshing - Stella Wang's Code-Meshing Multi-Modal Research Project may be a good model)
 - How will you help them get started?
 - Can have students practice code-meshing as a way of emphasizing or reiterating a point made in scholarly language - this is often a natural "starting point" for those interested in meshing. (e.g. my "translate this scientific study for your mom" informal assignment)
 - Other ideas?

- **Develop an argument about a particular example of code-meshing**
 - Who will be choosing the example text?
 - Instructor: Which text(s) spring to mind as being good ones for this?
 - Students: How will you help them find texts that are good for this?

 - How will you help them get started?
 - Specific discussion about code-meshing?
 - What will you focus on?
 - Code meshing as a response to Race/Class/Power issues
 - Code meshing as a matter of Linguistic/cultural identity
 - General discussions about writing-related topics relevant to meshing:
 - audience, purpose, genre?
 - race, class, and power?
 - linguistic choices?
 - Informal writing about their reaction to a particular text? (e.g. my "Untranslatables" assignment)
 - Other ideas?

- **Develop an argument that explores code-meshing itself, or related issues, not tied to a particular text:**
 - Research papers asking directly about code-meshing/code-switching (see Graeme's research paper)?
 - Various perspectives could be relevant: psycholinguistics, sociolinguistics, cultural studies, race, class, power, politics, etc

 - Research papers looking at questions relating to language/culture/power/etc that are not necessarily directly about code-meshing, but may have connections?
 - e.g. language within religious traditions (see. Esty's research proposal), various questions relating to translation, second language learning and early childhood education, language preservation, etc