

Teachers College, Columbia University
The TESOL and Applied Linguistics Programs
in the Department of Arts & Humanities present our

2011 Applied Linguistics & Language Education (APPLE) Lecture

How the Language Teachers of the World Built a Data-Driven Web-Based Learning Tool

Professor Thomas Cobb
University of Québec at Montréal



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Milbank Chapel (ZB 125)

Reception to follow, Grace Dodge Hall 179

Every routine on the Lextutor website started life as a reverse-engineering of the language software used in a research study, but then developed in line with its many users'

suggestions, for research or teaching purposes or both. This presentation will trace the evolution of some of Lextutor's most heavily used routines, from the origins of each in a research paper to its modification for many unexpected purposes. Concordancing, Vocabprofiling, Reaction Time research, and Cloze passage building are the main software stories. Behind the stories, the presentation will question the supposed gap between research and practice in applied linguistics.

Thomas Cobb is a professor of applied linguistics and "didactique des langues" at the University of Québec at Montréal, where he teaches and researches topics related to the use of computers in language teaching and learning. In a previous life, he pioneered computer applications in several universities in Asia and the Middle East. His website The Compleat Lexical Tutor (www.lextutor.ca) is a record of past and current projects and is visited by two thousand teachers and learners per day.

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