SESSION 10: ESL Studies and the Cross-Cultural Issues

Readings to complete before class:


Discussion notes:

(1) Morris: “Differences in ESL Writing”

- This study shows that women tend to succeed because they are good at obeying rules. Why does that make them “better” at leaning languages and not, say, math – which relies even more heavily on sets of rules than language does?

(2) McGroaty:“Cross-Cultural Issues in Adult ESL Classroom”

- How effective are classroom techniques in overcoming cultural gender inequalities?

- How can teachers respect cultural differences while also ensuring that all the students receive an equal education? (e.g. Sitting in circle, looking at wife.)

- How is doing that different from trying to overcome American traditions of gender inequality?