Administrators as Scholars Seminar: Wordplay

November 13, 2019
9am-11:30am

Already young children delight in playing with words, and taking pleasure in the ludic side of language is part of many adults’ everyday experiences. This interactive seminar is for you if your morning is not complete without the daily crossword, if you are known for your terrible puns, or if you’ve admired the perverse (?) virtuosity of Georges Perec’s 1969 French novel La Disparition (“The Disappearance”), which — like also Gilbert Adair’s English translation, A Void — lacks the letter e. All forms of linguistic expression involve constraints (this description must be under 200 words, for example, and a Shakespearean sonnet must have 14 decasyllabic verses), but some of these are more difficult to manage, more remarkable, and just plain stranger than others. In our morning together, we will consider in a hands-on way, by means of mental exercises, how people — poets, spelling bee contestants, Scrabble mavens, you — manipulate the letters, sounds, and words of English (and, if time permits, of other languages as well) for purposes that range from the very silly to the very serious. Join in the fun and decide for yourself whether wordplay is a wry plod.

This seminar is recommended for administrators, supervisors, principals, and superintendents.

Joshua T. Katz, Ph.D.
Department of Classics

Joshua T. Katz is a linguist by training, a classicist by profession, and a comparative philologist at heart. He received a B.A. from Yale, an M.Phil. from Oxford, and a Ph.D. from Harvard. At Princeton, where he has taught since 1998, he is a Cotsen Professor in the Humanities, Professor of Classics, and the former Director of the Program in Linguistics. Broadly interested and published in the languages, literatures, and cultures of the ancient, medieval, and to some extent also modern world, he has received many honors for his scholarship but is especially proud of the awards he has won for his teaching, which include the President’s Distinguished Teaching Award (2003) and Phi Beta Kappa Teaching Award (2008) at Princeton and a listing in The Best 300 Professors (Random House, 2012).
Administrators as Scholars Registration Form  (Principals, Supervisors, and Superintendents)

You are invited to represent your district at the Administrators as Scholars seminar on: November 13, 2019.

Joshua T. Katz, Ph.D., Department of Classics will present a seminar entitled, "Worldplay". The seminar will be held at Prospect House, Washington St., Princeton, NJ 08540, from 9:00am until 11:30am. A light breakfast will be served. You may park in Visitor Parking Lot 21 on campus. Alternatively, you are welcome to park on the street. Meter parking is available on William Street, Nassau Street, Prospect Street, Olden Street and Charlton Street.

To register, please visit https://teacherprep.princeton.edu/TASapplication or complete this form and e-mail it to Anna Jacobson, Ph.D, Assistant Director, World Languages and Social Studies, at atj@princeton.edu, or fax it to the Program in Teacher Preparation at 609-258-4527 by October 11, 2019. We will send you directions and logistic information. We hope you are able to join us!

Name: ____________________________________________________________

District: _________________________________________________________

Address: _________________________________________________________

Telephone: _____________________________ Ext. _______________________

Fax: ____________________________________________________________________

E-mail: ____________________________________________________________

If you have any questions about Administrators as Scholars, please contact the Program of Teacher Preparation at 609-258-3336. We hope you find your experience with Administrators as Scholars to be enjoyable and rewarding, and we look forward to your participation!