The Design and Research Potential of Crow in Language Research and Teaching

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The Corpus and Repository of Writing (Crow) is a database collecting diversified resources related with the First-Year Composition programs at Purdue University. Providing an online interactive interface, it will contain materials from both the perspectives of students and instructors, such as students’ writing process documents, papers, portfolios, instructors’ syllabus approaches, lesson plans, assignment sheets, rubrics, classroom activity organization skills, as well as pedagogical suggestions for beginner instructors, international teaching assistants and other possible audiences. Developers have also stressed the purpose that all the materials could be accessed by all the users in a personalized way.

Crow will be brought forth with combined efforts of researchers in two fields: Rhetoric and Composition, together with Second Language Studies. It is created to present multiple research opportunities in quantitative linguistic analysis of grammar and vocabulary, qualitative research possibilities in genre and rhetorical analysis, together with other probable areas. Crow will also act as an efficient tool for pedagogical training or instructors’ individual tool-kit building. With the hope of
assimilating contributions made by researchers in other related areas, the developers are striving to establish a model for resource sharing and database digitalization, meanwhile extending Crow’s potential to a larger domain.

**Key words:** Crow; Corpus; Language Pedagogy; Research Potentials.

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Sherri Craig is a doctoral student of rhetoric and composition. Her research involves rhetorical examinations of higher education documents, activity theory, and mentoring, training, and graduate student development practices within writing programs. She has recently published in the *Writing Program Administration* journal and has a forthcoming piece in *Composition Forum.*