

SI658

Information Architecture

Meaning & Transformation

Session #13 — Understand How You're Being Understood

Winter 2026

<https://si658.info>

In Class Today:

PART 1: TROIKA CONSULTING

12:10 pm
01:00 pm

PART 2: TROIKA CONSULTING

01:05 pm
01:55 pm

PART3: TROIKA CONSULTING

02:00 pm
02:50 pm



A Note About Farewell / Congratulations

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 29 1PM
KLYN BUYS THE FIRST 3 PITCH-
ERS (sangria, beer, coke-a-cola)
AT **CASA DOMINICKS** AND WANTS
VERY MUCH TO SEE YOU
TO SAY CONTRATS**

TROIKA CONSULTING

You will work in groups of three to provide feedback on each other's projects.

Cycle 1 Troika Assignments

Group

- 1 Ashley Kang · Huda Hassoun · Siyu Zhong
- 2 Avery Schiff · Jenni Hewlett · Srivardini Reddy
- 3 Brenda Esquivel · Jess Cho · Vibhor Katiyar
- 4 Bridgit Jung · Jessica Tran · Yingduo Zhao
- 5 Cecilia Huynh · Jingle Chen · Yinjie Shi
- 6 Dahika Ahmed · Justin Mason · Yiyang Li
- 7 Elissa Li · Kelvin Chang · Zichen Zang
- 8 Eva Ivezaj · Kevin Xu · Zihui Qin
- 9 Faith Zimmerman · Jason Zhao · Mida Rahman

Step 1. One person is the **client**.

The client states their challenge to the other two, framed as a question.

Not a summary of the project. Not a description of how things are going. A question. The discipline of articulating what kind of help is needed turns out to be the hardest and most valuable part. This takes three minutes.

Step 2. The client turns around. Physically. Chair and all.

The two **consultants** then discuss the client's challenge, speaking to each other, not to the client. The client listens but does not respond, does not correct, does not interject.

This takes eight minutes.

Step 3. The client turns back. The client shares what landed: what was surprising, what was useful, what will change as a result.

This takes three minutes.

Step 4. Rotate. The next person becomes the client. The cycle repeats until all three have had a turn.

One complete cycle (all three rounds) takes approximately 40 to 45 minutes.

TROIKA CONSULTING

Step 1. The client states their challenge to the other two consultants.

Step 2. The client turns around. The two consultants then discuss the client's challenge, speaking to each other.

Step 3. The client turns back and shares what was surprising, what was useful, what will change as a result.

Step 4. Rotate. The next person becomes the client.

How It Works Each “Round”



- **3 minute “Client A” pitch**
- 8 minute “consultants conversation”
- 4 minute debrief
- 1 minute transition to next “client”

- **3 minute “Client B” pitch**
- 8 minute “consultants conversation”
- 4 minute debrief
- 1 minute transition to next “client”

- **3 minute “Client C” pitch**
- 8 minute “consultants conversation”
- 4 minute debrief

Debrief Format: 4 Minutes



- **I Like**

It is not praise for the sake of warmth; it is diagnostic, requiring the respondent to name the specific elements that succeed and why.

- **I Wish**

A wish is softer than a criticism and more actionable than a complaint, because it points toward a desired state rather than dwelling on a deficiency.

- **I Wonder**

Gives the respondent permission to ask questions, propose alternatives, or follow a hunch without the obligation to be right, and it gives the presenter something genuinely new to think about.

Session Sechedule



- Introduction
- Explanation of Activity
- 3 Rounds of Troika Consulting
- Announcements

WHAT ARE THE STRUCTURAL DYNAMICS OF MEANING IN THE TRANSFORMATION OF THIS INTO THAT?

CYCLE 1

**WHAT ARE THE STRUCTURAL
DYNAMICS OF MEANING
IN THE TRANSFORMATION
OF THIS INTO THAT?**

Client A Pitches Project



Other Clients Discuss Project A



Debrief Project A



Client B Pitches Project



Other Clients Discuss Project B



Debrief Project B



Client C Pitches Project



Other Clients Discuss Project C



Debrief Project C



SWITCH GROUPS

**WE WILL TAKE A BREAK UNTIL
1:25PM**

BEFORE WE START CYCLE 2

**WHERE ELSE CAN YOU USE
THIS PROCESS?**

CYCLE 2

**WHAT ARE THE STRUCTURAL
DYNAMICS OF MEANING
IN THE TRANSFORMATION
OF THIS INTO THAT?**

Client A Pitches Project



Other Clients Discuss Project A



Debrief Project A



Client B Pitches Project



Other Clients Discuss Project B



Debrief Project B



Client C Pitches Project



Other Clients Discuss Project C



Debrief Project C



BEFORE WE START CYCLE 3

WHAT HAS BEEN THE MOST VALUABLE ASPECT OF THIS PROCESS?

SWITCH GROUPS

CLIENT A → CLOCKWISE

CLIENT C → COUNTERCLOCKWISE

CYCLE 3

**WHAT ARE THE STRUCTURAL
DYNAMICS OF MEANING
IN THE TRANSFORMATION
OF THIS INTO THAT?**

Client A Pitches Project



Other Clients Discuss Project A



Debrief Project A



Client B Pitches Project



Other Clients Discuss Project B



Debrief Project B



Client C Pitches Project



Other Clients Discuss Project C



Debrief Project C



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**WHAT IS ONE WAY YOU ARE
GOING TO CHANGE YOUR
PROJECT?**

NAMES OF MODELS

- This term you have created **object relational models**
- “AS-IS” and “TO-BE” are not official names of models, and someone will probably not know what you mean if you use them

FINAL PRESENTATIONS

- **Will occur on Zoom, April 15th from 12-3pm**
 - Presentation order will be announced that day, so it is important to be on time
- **You will submit your slide deck on Canvas by 11am on 4/15.**
 - The assignment will be posted the end of this week
 - We will include the instructions on the assignment
- **You will be presenting to the whole class**

INCLUDING MODELS IN YOUR TALK

- **At least 1 object relational model**
 - No need to walk through the entire model
 - Can display it briefly during your talk
- **You don't have to focus on the whole story or structure**
- **You can choose to hone in on one aspect, for example**
 - *One Character*: Dorothy in various OZ stories
 - *Interpretation*: Straight vs Gay Relationship in MDZS

- 5 Minutes Total Presentation Time
- You Do Not Have To Use Prescribed Template But **Must Use Google Slides Format**
- Prompt:
*What Are The Structural Dynamics Of Meaning
In The Transformation of <P> into <WiQ>?*
- **Required Slide Content: Unit-Operations Model (by hand or using app)**
- *Optional Slide Content: Explainer Booklet, Other models or content*

P = Prior Extant Work (THIS)

WiQ = Work in Question (THAT)

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Hey 2026 Residential Grads!

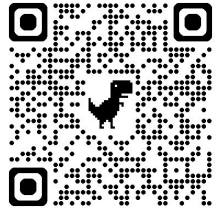
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