

DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

Monday and Tuesday, 3–4 November, 2014

Multilingualism: Acquisition, Education, and Society
University of Fribourg | Institute of Multilingualism

Colloquium History of ideas on multilingualism

Abstract

Linguistic diversity is by no means a feature limited to the post-modern world, but an intrinsic aspect of the history of our contemporary societies. Therefore, in this conference, we want to move beyond a solely synchronic perspective on linguistic diversity by focusing on the history of multilingualism. The main goal of this two-day colloquium is to attempt a reconstruction of the ideas of multilingualism in different periods and contexts, including topics such as values attached to multilingualism or linguistic diversity, language attitudes, language ideologies etc. The invited speakers cover a very broad range of topics across time and cultural space, including the Graeco-Roman world, the Middle Ages, and topics from early to late modernity (colonialisation, standardisation, and the French Revolution, as well as the Third Reich and the Soviet Union):

- **Ardis Butterfield**, Yale University, New Haven, CT, US
- **Michèle Cohen**, University of Richmond, London, UK
- **Joseph Errington**, Yale University, New Haven, CT, US
- **Dirk Geeraerts**, University of Leuven, Belgium
- **Christopher Hutton**, University of Hong Kong, School of English
- **Alexandra Mullen**, University of Oxford, All Souls College, UK
- **Aneta Pavlenko**, Temple University, Philadelphia, US
- **Pierre Swiggers**, University of Leuven, Belgium

This diachronically broad approach will provide interesting insights into idiosyncratic constructs, but will also allow for the identification of recurrent topics across time and cultural space. It will give the opportunity for a critical reflection on contemporary ideas on multilingualism and linguistic diversity.

The colloquium is part of the doctoral programme “Multilingualism: acquisition, education and society” and offers general academic training in multilingualism research at the doctoral level (Module A). The format of the colloquium is designed to encourage a lively scholarly exchange of ideas.

PhD programme on Multilingualism

This colloquium for doctoral students is part of the doctoral programme Multilingualism: Acquisition, Education, and Society (module A, general academic training). It is organised by the Institute of Multilingualism and the study domain Multilingualism and foreign languages, at the University of Fribourg and carried out in close collaboration with the Center for the Study of Language and Society of the University of Bern and with professors of the University of Lausanne.

➤ www.institute-multilingualism.ch

➤ www.csls.unibe.ch

Participation conditions

The number of participants is limited. Doctoral students of the programme’s partner universities (Fribourg, Berne, and Lausanne) have priority. Students from other Swiss universities may participate if there are places left.

Registration

To register for this conference, send a message to the coordinator of the doctoral programme, andrea.ender@unifr.ch.

Deadline for registration

➤ Saturday, August 30, 2014

Local organisers

Raphael Berthele and Alexandre Duchêne

Preliminary Programme

Monday, 3 November 2014

- 9:00 Inscription, coffee
- 9:15 Raphael Berthele & Alexandre Duchêne: Introduction
- 9:30–10:45 Alexandra Mullen: A monolingual multilingual world? A Graeco-Roman contribution to the history of multilingualism
- coffee
- 11:15–12:30 Ardis Butterfield: Borderline borderlines: French, English and Anglo-French in the Middle Ages
- lunch
- 14:00–15:15 Pierre Swiggers: Whose words are we speaking? Multiple voices in one (?) language: use and abuse of words in the French Revolutionary period
- coffee
- 15:45–17:00 Michèle Cohen: 'Grammar is the pith and marrow of a language, not the mere jabbering taught by a bonne': Learning French and the problem of the 'oral' in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century England
- 19:00 Dinner

Tuesday, 4 November 2014

- 9:15–10:30 Dirk Geeraerts: Cultural models of linguistic diversity
- coffee
- 11:00–12:15 Joseph Errington: Native speakers and an un-native language: lessons from Indonesia
- lunch
- 14:00–15:15 Chris Hutton: Racial and linguistic theories of human diversity in the context of National Socialism
- coffee
- 15:45–17:00 Aneta Pavlenko: 'The right to think, feel, speak, and learn in the native language': Multilingualism in the Russian Empire and the USSR
- 17:00–17:15 Synthesis