

DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

11-12 September 2024, Schloss Münchenwiler

University of Bern | Center for the Study of Language and Society
University of Fribourg | Institute of Multilingualism

SOCIOLINGUISTIC ANALYSIS CLINIC Broaching Problems in Sociolinguistic Research

Lecturers: Mi-Cha Flubacher Zurich University of Applied Sciences

Rodney Jones University of Reading

Organizers: Erez Levon and Alexandre Duchêne, Bern and Fribourg

Abstract

This workshop focuses on “problems” encountered in the research process in the field of sociolinguistics and how to overcome them. This includes all aspects of research, from conceptualizing a research project, to data collection, to interpretation and analysis. Based on concrete problems brought by the participants as well as by the invited lecturers, the workshop aims to provide participants with analytical tools for understanding, managing and/or overcoming research problems. Through small group consultations with our two seasoned lecturers as well as exchanges with peers, the workshop also aims to develop an understanding of “problems” as an inherent component of the research process, and of “troubleshooting” (in a metaphorical sense) as a valuable and productive tool for knowledge production.

Application

Participating students are requested to remain in residence throughout the 2-day workshop, if feasible. To apply to participate, please provide a brief description of your current research (max. 1 page). Note that space is limited and will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

For UNIFR participants: Please send the document to Philippe Humbert (philippe.humbert@unifr.ch) by August 10, 2024.

For UNIBE participants: Please send the document to Eva Kuske (eva.kuske@unibe.ch) by August 10, 2024.

Practicalities

The workshop will take place at the Schloss Münchenwiler, located in Münchenwiler close to Murten-Morat (<https://schloss-muenchenwiler.ch/>). You can reach Münchenwiler by regional train from Bern and Fribourg (contact & map).

Fees

The workshop is free of charge for PhD students from the universities of Bern and Fribourg and includes accommodation in single rooms and full board.



About the invited lecturers

Dr. Mi-Cha Flubacher

Mi-Cha Flubacher is Research Associate in Language Management and Globalisation at the ZHAW Department of Applied Linguistics, Institute of Language Competence. She is teaching, studying and writing on issues of multilingualism and work, migration and language, and language, gender and race/ialisation. She has published widely on these issues, e.g. as co-author of *Language Investment and Employability* (Palgrave, 2018) and as co-editor of the volumes *Speaking Subjects in Multilingualism Research* (2022) and *Language, Education and Neoliberalism* (2017), both with "Multilingual Matters".

Prof. Dr. Rodney Jones

Rodney H. Jones is Professor of Sociolinguistics in the Department of English Language and Applied Linguistics at the University of Reading. His research interests include language and digital media, health communication, language and sexuality, and language and creativity. His recent books include *Understanding Digital Literacies: A practical introduction*, 2nd edition (Routledge, 2021), *Viral Discourse* (Cambridge University Press, 2022), and *Introducing Language and Society* (Cambridge University Press, 2022). His new book, *Innovations and Challenges in Digital Literacies*, will soon be published by Routledge.