

# DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

11 – 15 April 2016, Muntelier (Switzerland)

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

## SPRING SCHOOL 2016 Writing Language in Society

**Prof. Eva Codó**, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

**Prof. Bonnie McElhinny**, University of Toronto

**Prof. Saskia Witteborn**, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

**Chair:** Prof. Alexandre Duchêne, University of Fribourg

### Abstract

In this residential workshop, PhD students in sociolinguistics, communication and discourse studies as well as linguistic anthropology will critically reflect on what writing for academia and writing about language in society mean. While addressing the ways knowledge is produced in academia and the social sciences in particular, this workshop is not meant to provide recipes and strategies on how to write a good dissertation, scientific paper or book. Instead this residential workshop is designed to give incentives to better understand how knowledge about language in society can be articulated and incorporated into academic texts, how it becomes politicized and which implications this might have for your own work. This includes individual workshops and discussions on publishing in scientific journals, how to turn your thesis into a book, or on communicating communication. Furthermore it incorporates your active participation, discussing and reflecting on your own texts in the form of group discussions, individual tuition as well as writing retreats.

Throughout these activities, three invited scholars whose work is centered on language in society from a number of perspectives will guide you through the various activities, provide incentives for future work and introduce their own research in the form of small lectures. In that respect, this Spring School offers you the unique possibility to receive extensive and individual feedback on your own academic work in order to improve your writing skills.

### How to apply?

Students are requested to stay in residence throughout the workshop if feasible. Interested PhD students are asked to send a draft of their own recent work to be discussed by the tutors three weeks before the Spring School starts. Furthermore you are required to provide a brief motivational letter, stating the reasons why you would wish to attend this residential workshop and what type of text you plan to discuss.

The main language of the Spring School is English, but drafts and motivational letters in either French or German will be considered as well. The linguistic repertoires of the tutors include these three languages.

Please send your letter of motivation to Dr. Sebastian Muth at [sebastian.muth@unifr.ch](mailto:sebastian.muth@unifr.ch) until February 19, 2016 the latest to be considered for participation. The drafts are due on March 21, 2016.

### Fees

It is free of charge for PhD students from Swiss Universities and includes accommodation in single rooms and full board. Please note that PhD students from the Universities of Fribourg, Bern and Lausanne will be given priority, but other interested doctoral students may apply.

## The invited tutors include:

### **Prof. Eva Codó (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)**

Eva Codó is a Professor of English and Linguistics and Vice Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain. Her main research interests include multilingualism in institutional settings, language, migration and social exclusion, and the sociolinguistics of English as a contact language in Spain.

### **Prof. Bonnie McElhinny (University of Toronto)**

Bonnie McElhinny is an Associate Professor of Anthropology and Women and Gender Studies at the University of Toronto, Canada. Her research focuses on historical and contemporary investigations of North American interventions into Filipino health care and childcare practices, on international and immigrant nurses working in indigenous communities in Canada as well as on the history of linguistic anthropology, with significant attention to political and economic contexts. She is founding co-editor of the journal *Gender and Language*, and Associate Editor of the *Journal of Sociolinguistics*.

### **Prof. Saskia Witteborn (The Chinese University of Hong Kong)**

Saskia Witteborn is Associate Professor at the School of Journalism and Communication at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, China. Her research addresses how diasporas create place and transnational interaction spaces and explore the meanings that those places and spaces have for them in the political, economic, and sociocultural sense. Relating to this, she also works on understanding how people engage in grouping processes transnationally and mobilize collective identities through mediated and non-mediated ways of communicating.

## Practicalities

The spring school will take place at the Hotel Bad Muntelier am See, located in Muntelier close to Murten-Morat on the shores of the picturesque Lake Morat. You can reach Muntelier or Murten-Morat very frequently throughout the day by regional train from Bern, Fribourg or Neuchâtel. Both stations are in walking distance to the venue of the spring school.

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