

# LAMiNATE Talks

Spring 2021

February 23

**Gerardo Ortega** (University of Birmingham)

*The role of gesture in the acquisition of a sign language as a second language*

Learners of a second language (L2) commonly rely on their first language (L1) to break into the novel linguistic system. But what happens when hearing adults who acquired a spoken L1 (e.g., English or Dutch) go on to learn a sign language as L2? It could be argued that the L1 cannot be exploited to scaffold a novel L2 because of the modality differences between speech (oral-aural) and sign (manual-visual). In this talk I will argue that instead, learners use their gestures at the earliest stages of sign learning to break into a new linguistic system in the manual modality.

March 9

**Sergio Rojo** (Lund University)

*The Development of Linguistic Stereotypes: An Experimental Set-up*

When children acquire their first language, they do not only learn its grammar, phonology and vocabulary. They also learn the social norms around it. This knowledge includes learning to associate different accents to different stereotypes, a topic in the field of developmental sociolinguistics. Unfortunately, there is very little knowledge about how this knowledge is acquired during first language acquisition. Therefore, I chose this topic as the subject of my PhD dissertation. In this seminar, I will briefly discuss the background for my first Research Question within the project and provide a demonstration of the experimental set-up I created to answer it.

March 23

**Henriette Arndt, Jonas Granfeldt, Marianne Gullberg** (Lund University)

*Capturing language exposure and use with the LANG-TRACK-APP*

Frequent language exposure and use are among the most important conditions for successful language learning. While these concepts have been studied extensively in the context of formal, classroom-based learning and teaching, much less is known about when, where, and how much learners are exposed to and use their target languages in informal contexts, including during study abroad. Furthermore, existing research has primarily relied on broad-strokes methods, which require participants to recall and summarise their past language experiences over extended periods of time, often long after they occurred. In this talk, I will introduce the LANG-TRACK-APP project, which focuses on a new approach to studying language exposure, the 'Experience Sampling Method' (ESM; Hektner et al., 2011). The ESM holds great potential to strengthen the study of everyday language use and exposure by providing richer and more accurate data. A central part of our project is the development of the eponymous LANG-TRACK-APP mobile application to facilitate the implementation of this methodology. The talk includes the presentation of preliminary findings from the first study conducted with the LANG-TRACK-APP in a study abroad context, in which learners were prompted several times per day, via the aforementioned app, to report on the activities in which they were engaged at that time (e.g., what they were doing, for how long, and which languages, if any, they had been using).

April 6

**Elin Nylander** (Lund University)

*Individual multilingualism in the non-mainstream English classroom: Work in progress*

In this talk, building on earlier presentations, I will present further ideas and work in progress related to my ongoing PhD project concerning individual multilingualism in the context of non-mainstream English classrooms. I will outline potential components of the study, and give examples of research gaps that the project can address. Practical considerations and theory informing the research will also be discussed

April 20

**Li Wei** (University College London)

*Translanguaging and Multicompetence*

This talk explores the connections between the concepts of Linguistic Multicompetence (Vivian Cook) and Translanguaging and the implications for second language teaching, learning and research. I will discuss a study of self-directed online learning of Chinese as a foreign language.

May 4

**Luuk Suurmeijer** (Saarland University), **M. Carmen Parafita Couto**

(Leiden University), & **Marianne Gullberg** (Lund University)

*Structural and extralinguistic aspects of code-switching: Evidence from Papiamentu-Dutch auditory sentence matching.*

Despite a wealth of studies on effects of switch locations in code-switching (CS), we know relatively little about how structural factors such as switch location and extralinguistic factors such as directionality preferences may jointly modulate CS (cf., Stell & Yapko, 2015). Previous findings in the nominal domain suggest that within-constituent switching (within the noun phrase) may be easier to process than between-constituent switching (a structural effect), and that there may also be directionality effects with switches preferred only in one language direction (an extra-linguistic effect). In this study we examine a different domain, namely how VP-external (preverbal) vs. VP-internal (postverbal) switch location and switch directionality affects the processing of Papiamentu-Dutch mixed subject-verb-object (SVO) sentences. We manipulated switch location (preverbal/postverbal), and directionality of switch (PD/DP) and tested 45 Papiamentu-Dutch bilinguals on an auditory sentence matching task. The results from the mixed conditions showed no effect of switch location. Instead, we found only an effect of directionality and in an unexpected direction for this population, with switches from Dutch to Papiamentu being processed faster than switches from Papiamentu to Dutch regardless of switch location. The results highlight the importance of taking extralinguistic factors into account, but also the challenges of studying CS, particularly in lesser studied speech communities, and the need for a data-driven, cross-disciplinary approach to the study of CS.

May 18

**Kari Kinn & Marie Lund Stokka** (University of Bergen)

*New approaches to Norwegian as a heritage language: Norwegian across the Americas*

This talk is a presentation of the project Norwegian across the Americas: New perspectives on heritage languages, funded by the Research Council of Norway. The project investigates Norwegian as a heritage language from new angles. Whilst previous research has focused on Norwegian in North America, spoken by the descendants of emigrants who left Norway in the 19th and 20th century, this project will, as the first of its kind, investigate heritage Norwegian as spoken in Latin America, in countries where Spanish is the majority language. Moreover, the project encompasses a diachronic strand which will study in depth how heritage Norwegian in North America has developed over time by making use of a unique resource, namely recordings of previous generations of North American Norwegian speakers made by the linguists Einar Haugen, Didrik A. Seip and Ernst Selmer in the 1930s and 1940s. The project is in its initial phase; in the talk, we will focus on our aims and methods.