



LANGUAGE VARIATION AND CHANGE ACROSS BORDERS International Conference

25-26 NOV 2021

University of Salerno, Italy

CALL FOR PAPERS

The International Conference on *Language Variation and Change across Borders* will be held on 25th-26th November 2021 at the University of Salerno, Italy.

Submissions are invited for oral presentations on the topics described below. Contributions should focus on results from completed as well as ongoing research, with an emphasis on current approaches, methods, and perspectives, whether descriptive, theoretical, sociolinguistic or corpus-based. **Deadline for abstract proposals: 31st August 2021.**

LVC2021 CONFERENCE AIMS:

- to create a space for the discussion of new and ongoing research and projects on language variation in the context of global movement and language contact
- to encourage interactions between researchers with different research perspectives and methodologies

TOPICS:

The *Language Variation and Change across Borders* Conference is the second conference in the field of Language Variation and Change to take place at the University of Salerno. Following the success of the Language Variation and Change in Postcolonial Contexts Conference (R. Calabrese, J. Chambers & G. Leitner, *Variation and Change in Postcolonial Contexts*, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2015) we continue our discussion on the role of language in the contemporary world where spatial and language barriers are becoming increasingly permeable. The 'complex and multifaceted interaction of localism and globalism' (Dissanayake 2006) has produced significant changes that lead us to question the role of language in the conceptualisation of belonging, identity/ies and otherness in the context of global movements. As a matter of fact, the notion of social identity and its construction by means of linguistic devices may show great variability as a form of identity construction in language contact situations. Identity as the 'representation and negotiation of social roles' (De Fina 2003) can be seen

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as intrinsically related to specific linguistic choices and strategies at both community and individual levels. The study of movements of people from one country to another implies that “creating and recreating one’s identity is a constant, dynamic process which requires continuous rethinking and repositioning of oneself in the light of changing parameters in one’s surroundings [...]. This is by no means a simple process, because individuals as members of varying social groups assume different social roles and thus overlapping, hybrid, and at times even conflicting identities” (Schneider 2003). Within the complex context of contemporary/postmodern societies, also translation practices must be viewed ‘holistically as a form of three modes of cultural exchange, namely representation, transmission (or transfer), and transculturation’ (Ji 2021). According to this enlarged notion, ‘translation is not merely the product and process of carrying meanings across linguistic and cultural boundaries’ (Laviosa 2021), rather it is ‘a form of social practice which is believed to be fundamental to achieving sustainability, accessibility, inclusion, plurilingualism, and pluriculturalism’ (ib.).

Over the course of the two day conference, we will explore the role of language in spatial mobility across geographical and cultural borders in order to reach some conclusions on how new linguistic practices challenge existing norms and categories of belonging. Keynote speeches will be presented by leading scholars in linguistics, sociolinguistics, translation and post-colonial studies.

We invite the submission of papers on original and unpublished studies including, but not limited to the following topics:

- language contact issues in migration contexts and their impact on language change
- language, identity and belonging
- language and mobility
- translation and translanguaging in migration and diasporic contexts
- language variation and change in migration and diasporic contexts
- all aspects of language variation and change in New Varieties of English in migration contexts
- synchronic/diachronic analyses/perspectives in the domain of LVC and migration
- interdisciplinary studies covering different registers and genres

CONFIRMED KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Bill Ashcroft

Jack Chambers

David Crystal

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE:

Paola Attolino

Giuseppe Balirano

Rita Calabrese

Mikaela Cordisco

Mariagrazia De Meo

Siria Guzzo

Rossella Latorraca

Katherine E. Russo

Send your abstract (max 400 words) and biodata (max 100 words) to:

rcalabrese@unisa.it and rlatorraca@unisa.it by 31st August 2021.