Edited by Luisa Martín Rojo and Alfonso Del Percio

Language and Neoliberal Governmentality

LANGUAGE, SOCIETY AND POLITICAL ECONOMY

Presentation

With the publication of our 2019 book on *Language and Neoliberal Governmentality* (Routledge, Language, Society and Political Economy), we aimed to open a debate and advance scholarly theorizations of capitalism, power and changing conditions of language. The global pandemic has meant for many scholars like us forms of social and intellectual disconnection which have prevented us to fully engage in the debate we had started with this book.

With this seminar series jointly organized by the Center for Applied Linguistics at University College London and the MIRCo (Multilingualism, Discourse and Communication) at Universidad Autónoma de Madrid we intend to reopen this debate.

Contact:
Alfonso Del Percio a.percio@ucl.ac.uk
Luisa Martín Rojo luisa.rojo@uam.es
Laura Villa laura.villa@uam.es

Contents

In a series of three events, we invite book contributors and international scholars in the field of language, power and political economy to engage with the following sets of pressing questions which will allow us to deepen our understanding of the transformations we are living through:

• *How, in the language studies, do we address the question of capitalism and what does neoliberalism add to this debate?*

• *With what understanding of power and control do we need to understand contemporary notions of governmentality?*

• *What is language in our work, and what changing visions of language are taking root in society, in connection with the transformations observed in the previous two points, and their effects?*

To this end, we have designed this seminar series around three changing processes:

I.   **Capitalism and neoliberalism**
II. **Power and securitization**
III. **The very changing concept of language in society**

For each event of this seminar series, we will put a basic text from our book for discussion on the table, which will be discussed by invited speakers with somewhat different intellectual positions.

Authors

Luisa Martín Rojo
Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Alfonso Del Percio
UCL Institute of Education

Bonnie Urciuoli
Hamilton College

Sessions

Power and securitization
April 28, 2022 (2-4pm CEST) - UCL Institute of Education

Text: Martín Rojo, L. (2019). The 'self-made speaker': The neoliberal governance of speakers. In L. Martín Rojo & A. Del Percio (Eds.), *Language and Neoliberal Governmentality* (pp. 162–189). Routledge.

Moderator: Miguel Pérez Milans, UCL Institute of Education.

Invited speakers:
Luisa Martín Rojo, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
Joan Pujolar, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
Ben Rampton, King's College London
Lionel Wee, National University of Singapore

Language in Society
May 26, 2022 (2-4pm CEST) - Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Text: Urciuoli, B. (2019). Leadership communication 'skills' and undergraduate neoliberal subjectivity. In L. Martín Rojo & A. Del Percio (Eds.), *Language and Neoliberal Governmentality* (pp. 91–109). Routledge.

Moderator: Eva Codó, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona.

Invited speakers:
David Block, ICREA & Universitat Pompeu Fabra
Alfonso Del Percio, UCL Institute of Education
Joseph Park, National University of Singapore
Bonnie Urciuoli, Hamilton College

Sessions

Capitalism and neoliberalism
June 9, 2022 (5-7pm CEST) - UCL Institute of Education

Text: Martín Rojo, L., & Del Percio, A. (2019). Neoliberalism, language, and governmentality. In L. Martín Rojo & A. Del Percio (Eds.), *Language and Neoliberal Governmentality* (pp. 1–25). Routledge.

Moderator: Laura Villa, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid.

Invited speakers:
Monica Heller, OISE, University of Toronto
Miyako Inoue, Stanford University
Luisa Martín Rojo, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
John O'Regan, UCL Institute of Education

Materials and link to online meetings provided after registration.

Registration