

DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

12-13 November 2020, Institute of Multilingualism, Fribourg

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

Workshop: Assessing L2 pragmatic and interactional competences

Prof. Dr. Naoko Taguchi, Northern Arizona University

Dr. Daniel Lam, University of Bedfordshire

Chair: Prof. Dr. Anita Thomas, Université de Fribourg

Prof. Dr. Simona Pekarek Doehler, Université de Neuchâtel

Abstract

While SLA research looks back on a long tradition focusing on formal aspects of L2 development and use, pragmatic and interactional dimensions of L2 development have received comparatively limited attention. Recently, with the increased focus of developmental research on situated, spoken language use in real-life situations, the question of how to assess/test L2 pragmatic and interactional competences has moved to the forefront of current debates. In this workshop, we address two major issues:

- what do we know from existing research on the nature of L2 pragmatic and interactional competence and its development, and how do the two notions relate to each other?
- how can these competences be tested, what are currently the most promising testing models and what are the related challenges?

In this workshop, which is organized in collaboration with the University of Neuchâtel, Prof. Taguchi and Dr. Lam will present state-of-the-art discussions of the issues at hand. Presentations of work-in-progress by PhD students are planned as well. The workshop will be held in English. Due to the Covid situation, the invited speakers will join the discussion via video conferencing tools. If the situation permits, participants are invited to join in-person and to take along a laptop and headphones. However, they may also choose to participate online.

Participation

Doctoral students of the programme's partner universities (Fribourg, Bern, and Lausanne) are eligible to participate. Students from other Swiss universities may participate depending on places available.

Registration

To register, please contact Dr. Naomi Shafer (naomi.shafer@unifr.ch) by Oct. 20, 2020.

➔ www.institute-multilingualism.ch

PhD programme on Multilingualism

The event is part of the doctoral programme Multilingualism: Acquisition, Education, and Society. It is organized by the Institute of Multilingualism and the Department of Multilingualism and Foreign Language Education at the University of Fribourg and carried out in close collaboration with the Center for the Study of Language and Society of the University of Bern and with professors from the University of Lausanne.

Venue

Institute of Multilingualism, Murtengasse 24 /
Rue de Morat 24, 1700 Fribourg, Room K1.03

Required reading

Taguchi, N., Gomez-Laich, M. P., & Arrufat-Marques, M.-J. (2016). Comprehension of Indirect Meaning in Spanish as a Foreign Language. *Foreign Language Annals*, 49(4), 677–698. <https://doi.org/10.1111/flan.12230>

Invited speakers

Naoko Taguchi is Professor in the English Department at Northern Arizona University, where she teaches courses in applied linguistics. Her primary research interests include second language pragmatics, intercultural competence, technology assisted learning, and English-medium education. Her recent books include *The Routledge Handbook of SLA and Pragmatics* (Routledge, 2019), *Second Language Pragmatics: From Theory to Research* (with Jonathan Culpeper and Alison Mackey; Routledge, 2018), *Second Language Pragmatics* (with Carsten Roever; Oxford University Press, 2017), and *Developing Interactional Competence in a Japanese Study Abroad Context* (Multilingual Matters, 2015).

Daniel Lam is Lecturer in Language Learning and Assessment at the Centre for Research in English Language Learning and Assessment (CRELLA), University of Bedfordshire. His research interests include construct definition in language assessments, relationships between learning and assessment, and social dimensions of language test use. He is actively involved in test development and validation research projects for international language tests such as IELTS, TOEFL and Cambridge English Qualifications, while remaining passionate about conversation analysis (CA). He has delivered language assessment training in different contexts such as Germany, Ukraine, China and Egypt.

Programme

Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020

15:00 Welcome and Introduction

15:15 Naoko Taguchi:
"Comprehension of Indirect
Meaning: Theoretical Paradigms
and Empirical Findings",
followed by a discussion / activity
(cf. required reading)

17:00 Break

17:15 PhD Presentation

18:00 Break

18:15 PhD Presentation

19:00 End of Day 1

Dinner in Fribourg (optional)

Friday, Nov. 13, 2020

14:30 Welcome and Introduction

14:45 Daniel Lam: "Assessing
interactional competence: A
challenging opportunity?",
followed by a hands-on training
session with D. Lam

16:30 Break

16:45 PhD Presentation

17:30 Break

17:45 PhD Presentation

18:30 End of Day 2