

De-centring Language in Language Studies (part 2)



Workshop

Prof. Dr. Ruanni Tupas

University College London (UK)

Chair: Prof. Dr. Alexandre Duchêne, UniFR

Thursday 15/02/2024

Institut de plurilinguisme (and online)

Université HEP Fribourg

Rue de Morat 24, 1700 Fribourg

📍 room K1.03

POSTPONED

My lecture and discussion are focused essentially on de-centring language in our study of language. Sociolinguistics, applied linguistics and related fields are primarily concerned with unpacking the complex role of language in the lives of people, especially in how it is mobilized to create, affirm and transform social relationships. It is almost a truism in our respective fields that language is embedded in the social life of individuals, thus many of us seek to find ‘solutions’ to social ills and educational ‘problems’ through the lens of ‘language’. In the process, our knowledge-making practices are centred on – and I also say, obsessed with – ‘language’ as the entry point and end point of our investigations. This narrows, rather than broadens, the lens through which we see the world in which language is embedded. How might our research questions and practices change through a de-centring language stance? Is this stance, in fact, transformative, or simply a return to the basics of language research? My lecture and the discussion that follows are an invitation to dialogue on why we ask the questions we ask, and do the research that we do.

Program

(online participation is possible)

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| 10.15 | Welcome (A. Duchêne) |
| 10.30 | Lecture (R. Tupas) |
| 12.15 | Lunch |
| 14.00 | Workshop, part I (R. Tupas) |
| 15.30 | coffee break |
| 16.00 | Workshop, part II (R. Tupas) |
| 17.00 | End of Workshop |



PhD programme on Multilingualism

The event is part of the doctoral programme Multilingualism: Acquisition, Education, and Society (more information here: <https://institut-plurilinguisme.ch/fr/programme-doctoral>)

Participation

Students and PhD students from Swiss Universities are eligible to participate.

Contact & Registraton

To register, please contact Dr. Philippe Humbert (philippe.humbert@unifr.ch) by **February 7, 2024**.

Biography

Dr. Ruanni Tupas is a Filipino language scholar who works mainly in the area of Sociolinguistics of Education. He has extensive work in teaching, research and teacher education in Southeast Asia, on topics related to inequalities of multilingualism.

More information (publications, current research): <https://profiles.ucl.ac.uk/71281-ruanni-tupas/about>

