Book of Abstracts – Programme – Maps - Information

Supported by:
Lancaster University, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
and the North West Doctoral Training Centre.
Thanks to the North West Doctoral Training Centre which contributed to the cost of the BBQ.
Welcome to Lancaster University’s 2017 Faculty of Arts and Social Science Intellectual Party.

The 2017 Intellectual Party programme includes:
- Workshops on Researching Social Practices; Health and Care, and Urban Infrastructures
- The Linguistics and Language teaching conference
- Open sessions in which participants present on any topic
- Themed Panels on changes in violence and society, politics and international relations and living with digital technologies
- A programme of open workshops, held in Bowland North Seminar Room 4, on writing a research proposal (Clare O Donnell, Research Support Office); getting an academic job (Jude Towers, Sociology); establishing an intellectual identity (Katy Mason, LUMS), publishing your first academic article (Allison Hui and Stan Blue) and approaching the task of writing a PhD (Joanne Wood, FASS/Sociology). Just come along.

The sessions on researching social practices and urban infrastructures are for participants who have applied to join them, as are the first and last sessions of the health and care workshop. All other sessions and events are open to all participants.

This is an exciting, multidisciplinary event spread over the full two days. Take the chance to meet new people and learn about their work – whatever your discipline or background.

- Chat during the tea and coffee breaks*, over lunches, or at the wine reception and evening BBQ.
- Join us for a game of floorball – like hockey but with plastic sticks, a plastic ball and no rules. Great fun.
- Come along to the three minute thesis competition and vote for the best presentation.
- Enjoy the Faculty book launch and meet the authors (with special prizes in surprise categories).
- Come to the spectacular grand finale – an interdisciplinary version of ‘call my bluff’ in which members of staff compete for the coveted Intellectual Party Trophy.

Practical information:

Twitter handle is @LUsummerconf – please tweet a lot.

You can connect to the internet via eduroam. You can fill your water bottles, or refill jugs from the taps in the kitchen areas (follow the signs). Some sessions are ‘self-chairing’ – we have provided a note on what this involves in each room. If you have any questions speak with any of the organisers who are wearing the nice purple T shirts.

Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESEARCHING SOCIAL PRACTICES</th>
<th>2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGE TEACHING</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHANGES IN VIOLENCE AND SOCIETY</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URBAN INFRASTRUCTURES</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEALTH AND CARE</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIVING WITH DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL OPEN SESSIONS</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDEX OF PARTICIPANTS</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Based on past experience we have deliberately under-ordered tea and coffee (apologies in advance if it runs out)
RESEARCHING SOCIAL PRACTICES
Workshop for registered participants, 26th June, Bowland North Seminar Room 20.

To prepare: Read the 4,000 word documents which have been circulated in advance.

10.00-11.00 Presentations on theories of practice and methodological implications (Elizabeth Shove and Katy Mason).

11.00-11.30 Coffee break – with everyone

11.30-12.30 Comparing strategies: Each person will have three minutes to explain their own theoretical approach and method of studying and researching social practices. Make notes about the approaches and ideas that are being used. What counts as a practice or practices? How are practices being ‘observed’ or recorded?

12.30-13.30 Lunch – with everyone

13.30-15.30 Mapping ideas: we will collectively produce a map depicting the ‘landscape’ of practice theoretical concepts and approaches using the notes made from before lunch.

15.30 – 16.30 Coffee/ Floorball – a bit like hockey with plastic sticks and plastic ball, almost no rules, no experience needed, just shoes you can run around in.

16.30-17.30 Comparing projects: based on the exercise above, the day will end with a series of focused small group discussions involving participants whose projects were located in similar part of the map of ideas. These sessions will be based on the 4,000 word readings and will provide a chance to consider the challenges of working with theories of practice in greater detail.

ABSTRACTS

Huey Fen Cheong
Lancaster University, UK, Linguistics and English Language, h.cheong@lancaster.ac.uk

Knowledge-Action Approach: Integrating Theory, Practice, and Performativity for a Comprehensive Analysis of Practice in Marketing Discourse

This paper aims to propose a knowledge-action approach to study practices involved in the marketing discourse. It is written in response to Shove and Araujo's (2010) practice-based approach and Mason, Kjellberg, and Hagberg's (2015) theory-practice gap as well as calls for research on marketing performativity. Both articles highlight the gap in marketing studies, i.e. lacking consideration of the practice. The knowledge-action approach aims to bridge this gap by integrating theory, practice, and performativity as well as analysing the relationship among them. The 'theory' refers to the taught/shared knowledge in marketing and/or social practice. 'Practice', on the other hand, is what we associate with the notion of 'social' as it refers to the common social actions of wide or specific communit(ies). Lastly, 'performativity' refers to individual's actions that vary across individuals. Drawing from Fairclough's (2016) dialectical-relational theory on discourse, I perceive all three elements as dialectical and relational with each other. The second part of my paper will illustrate how the knowledge-action approach is applied in my research on male grooming marketing discourses in product packaging and facebook brand pages. Since both theoretical concepts and research subjects are drawn from multiple disciplines (i.e. linguistics, marketing, and sociology/gender studies), I anticipate a multidisciplinary debate from concepts (e.g. 'performativity', 'discourse', 'context', and 'practice') to research approaches (e.g. different theories, methodologies, and gaps that caused by the nature of the disciplines). The ultimate aim is to reflect the beauty of interdisciplinarity in broadening the knowledge and boundaries of the specific discipline.


How do entrepreneurs working at the bottom of the pyramid manage to make new, powerful, associations that overcome the barriers of Rio’s stigmatised markets? What do entrepreneurs do to make up an un-stigmatised market? Adopting a market studies approach we explored how agencements, ie, powerful associations in markets (Callon, 2016; Kjellberg and Helgesson, 2006), come into being, are held stable and fall apart to understand which barriers are at play in the favela market and how they can be overcome. A two-phase study with data collected over the period of six months online and on site in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, interviewing micro-entrepreneurs across favelas, revealed barriers due to stigma of territory (Wacquant, 2007, Goffman, 2009). While phase 1 allowed the emergence of a concern around stigma, informal conversations with a micro-entrepreneur in Rocinha revealed deliberate actions focused on changing the images associated with favelas. Phase 2 consisted of framing a more detailed data collection following this specific actant (Latour, 2005), to understand the actions he is performing to attempt at resolving the concern of stigma. His focus is on promoting Rocinha as a great place to be; an alternative image to the socio-spatial stigmatized favela (Fernandes, 2014). This paper makes three main contributions:
- it extends the literature on agencements by exploring their temporal nature;
- it contributes to the understanding of how stigma is held in place by analysing it as an agencement;
- through the notion of agencement, it sheds light on ways of thinking about exchange among social worlds and bring about social change in Brazilian favelas.

Benjamin Hennchen, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany Institute of Environmental Social Sciences and Geography, benjamin.hennchen@envgov.uni-freiburg.de
An analysis of local food systems as fields of knowledge and practice

My thesis is an integral part of the transdisciplinary research project "KERNiG", which has the overall goal to initiate and monitor a sustainability transformation of the food system in two small cities in southern Germany. In this context, the focus of my research is set on different behavioral routines and related types of knowledge. With the help of social practice theory, I plan to identify and reconstruct elements of food practices and their structural development in an urban setting. Furthermore, I intend to investigate, what role knowledge plays within food practices and how it is distributed through social networks. My research will provide information about the challenges of knowledge diversity within governance strategies on a local level. Finally, results can be used to promote sustainable food practices with regard to knowledge integration and social learning processes. In cooperation with local stakeholders, I will begin by identifying potential cases: direct marketing, involvement with national organizations, societal initiatives (e.g. urban gardening, foodsharing), or educational activities for sustainable development. On this basis, practices related to topics of agricultural land use, food distribution and preparation, or food waste management will form my potential research objects. Therefore, meanings, rules, as well as explicit knowledge can be collected by qualitative methods such as semi-standardized interviews and document analysis. In addition to these categories, ethnographical observation methods are used to gather the implicit knowledge and the material dimension of social practices.

Tamina Hipp, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany, Center for Technology and Society, hipp@ztg.tu-berlin.de
Live fast, die young? Studying consumer practices for product longevity

“Product longevity is a decisive factor for sustainability. Current research shows that usage periods often fall below product lifetimes. Despite full functionality, electronic devices are often replaced if new models are available that offer additional functions or a new design. Research in this field often focuses on decisions around product purchase and the role of expectations around longevity at the point of sale. However, practice related research shows that expectations around longevity varies significantly between product categories and during different consumption phases (acquisition, usage, disposal).

My research focuses on how consumer practices are linked to short in comparison to long term usage periods of electronic devices. The aim is to reconstruct and systematize these practices in order to provide a conceptual framework for strategies that foster long usage periods and thus a sustainable consumption of electronic devices. Taking a practice theory perspective, I will hereby concentrate on and compare different product categories (smartphones, washing machines, mixers and fully automatic coffee machines). Theories of social practice bring practical action and routines into focus and enable a full integration of materialities into consumption patterns. It facilitates to understand why and under which circumstances certain practices take place and how products and consumers are interrelated in practice. The methodological focus is on qualitative social research. Qualitative interviews including diaries (cultural probes) and group discussions with consumers and experts are complemented by quantitative studies. The project is part of the research group Obsolescence funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.
My research considers the co-production and layering of practices and infrastructures of gas and electricity in Manchester’s Northern Quarter (NQ). Specifically, I seek to understand how the changing configuration of practices in the area has depended upon and possibly even altered energy infrastructures, which stretch beyond the boundaries of the NQ.

Researching the relationships between practices and energy infrastructures has involved the development and implementation of four complementary research strategies, each of which focuses on a different spatial scale and segment of time. The four strategies are as follows: (1) A broad-brush analysis of changing practices and infrastructures since 1817; (2) Analysis of land use data and infrastructural changes occurring in the NQ between 1984 and 2014; (3) The changing composition of two streets and their infrastructural connections; (4) A critique of local authority policies and their spatial impacts.

The development of this multiscalar approach moves beyond a consideration of a singular practice. Instead, I focus on the effects of the circulations and interconnections between multiple practices. However, there are a number of epistemological and ontological difficulties, including, for instance, the use of land use statistics as a means of tracking the spatial circulation and anchoring of practices. Such difficulties will be discussed and explored further during the workshop.

Krystel Honsbeek, Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands, Geography, Planning and Environment, honsbeek@fm.ru.nl

Meeting the care needs of LGBT elderly in changing local landscapes of care; an action-oriented research on care practices in the Netherlands

This PhD project focuses on meeting care needs of LGBT elderly in changing local landscapes of eldercare in the Netherlands. Since the Dutch Social Support Act (WMO) came into force in 2007, elderly people in the Netherlands are encouraged to age in place independently and to participate in society as long as possible. To implement the WMO on local level, Dutch eldercare has been decentralized from government control to local structures of eldercare practices (e.g. Regmi, 2014; Trommel, 2013). As it stands, it is unclear how the decentralisation affects the responsiveness to the care needs of minorities, such as LGBT elderly (Pijpers, 2015). LGBT elderly are still often invisible to care providers, partly because elderly hesitate to disclose their sexuality identity and life histories out of fear of rejection and discrimination (Grigorovich, 2016; Addis et al., 2009). Therefore, an action-oriented approach will be used to investigate what care needs LGBT elderly have, how these needs are connected to their sexual (and gender) identity, and how these needs can be met by formal and informal care practices. To understand the complex realities of these care practices, and to include normative aspects, this PhD project relies on a combination of practice theory (e.g. Shove, 200; Reckwitz, 2002; Schatzki, 2009; Nicollini, 2010) and care ethics (Tronto, 1993, 2013; Walker, 2007). Theoretically, the use of this combination will be suitable as well to bridge the gap between separately developed debates concerning ageing research within human geography.

References

Helen Horton, Lancaster, England, Educational Research, h.horton@lancaster.ac.uk

The position of NGOs within the global market for education provision

Non-Government Organisations have traditionally held a pivotal role in the support of educational development programmes in low income countries. Embedded in the Mission Statements of organisations such as the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) and World Health Organisation (WHO) is the aim that education is the primary means of lifting people out of poverty, worldwide. My current research, set within an interpretivist paradigm and based on the principles of exploratory practice, explores some of the tensions that arise within the field of international development. Many countries wanting to improve the outcomes for learners in their education systems are driven by the desire to gain global recognition through their position on international assessment rankings, but are entrenched in the heritage of colonialist principles as a means to achieving this. Educational philosophy, however, would mitigate against this approach. I draw, in particular, on the work of Freire, viewing education as a
means of empowerment for the individual rather than a vehicle for supporting government agendas and reinforcing the status quo. NGOs, however, are constrained by the requirement of their stakeholders. My current, focusses in particular on the work of the VSO, discusses the interplay between altruistic principles, funding body requirements and government policies in the countries in which intervention programmes operate. The presentation will also make reference to my own experience of working as an educational researcher within a teacher training programme in Papua New Guinea (PNG).

Bhavna Middha, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia School of Global, Urban and Social Sciences, bavna.middha@rmit.edu.au
Selfoodie - Capturing practices with food selfies

This paper interrogates the possibility of generating and researching ‘food selfies’, or as I call them ‘Selfoodies’, as a way of exploring the changing spatio-temporal characteristics of eating practices. In recent years, there has been a huge rise in the use of social networking sites like Facebook and popular modes of picture taking, such as the personal and food ‘selfie’, and subsequent interest from the research community in investigating these (Borgerson & Miller 2016). Recent research into social media advocates for going beyond looking at selfies as representations and seeing them as a part of “a wider social, cultural, and media phenomenon” (Gómez & Thornham 2015, p. 1). Following in these footsteps, this paper for the workshop on ‘Researching Social Practices’ highlights the use of digital ethnography in the form of food selfies shared via a Facebook site in research undertaken on an inner urban campus. The paper then reflects on the value of this digital method employed, alongside other visual and ethnographic methods, to understand students’ eating practices. First, the paper illustrates how digital and social media can capture social practices in motion. In my project research participants provided literal snapshots of their eating practices as they moved through their day and shuttled between home, university and on and off campus eating spaces. Second, it proposes that there are distinct advantages to these methods, such as reducing the space and time constraints involved in following people. The paper thus concludes that digital methods offer a way of capturing the spatio-temporal mobility of practices.

Jana, Mikats, University of Graz, Austria, Sociology, jana.mikats@uni-graz.at
When Home Becomes a Workplace: Practices involving Children and Adults in the Context of the Blurring of Boundaries between Creative Work, Family Life and Gender

In my dissertation project I examine everyday practices of family life in context of home-based work in the creative industries. Thus, I look into temporal, spatial, material, and affective aspects of everyday practices involving both children and adults. The project sheds light on the overlap resp. the blurring of boundaries between private life and work and its interrelated space-time arrangements, in the case where the home is the dual location of both family life and workplace. With a practice theoretical approach, I focus on the interlinkage of practices, as complexes they are not clearly distinguish from each other: they can run synchronously or conflict and compete against each other (Reckwitz 2003). My main research question is how family practices are carried out in the place of single location home/workplace and how this is constrained, enabled and resisted by other – especially work – practices. This approach on the one hand sheds light on how family is done – I aim to empathise practices of differentiation, hence the gendered (e.g. mothering and fathering) and generational (e.g. “childing”) aspects of the family practices – and on the other hand gives a broader perspective on the relational and contextual nature of creative processes in both family and work life. The multi-perspective framework combines family and childhood studies with gender theory. Empirically I examine the everyday life of the family members by a qualitative multimethod approach (interviews, photo elicitation, socio-spatial network game, observation).

Marta Olcoń-Kubicka, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology marta.olcon@gmail.com

Based on ethnographic research conducted in 28 young (up to 35-year-old) middle-class households in Warsaw this paper reports on the use of digital technologies of budgeting by Polish couples living and running a household together. Drawing on practice theory and culturally oriented sociology of money and working with evidence gathered among young Poles, this paper tracks everyday practices of calculation, valuation, and earmarking of domestic money. Many of the middle-class research participants bring home from the office the habit of using Excel spreadsheets, which they use to introduce order in their budgetary practices such as earning, spending and saving money, paying the bills, and shopping. Using the object-centered interviews focused on digital forms of finance management such as computer spreadsheets and mobile phones applications we observed the budgetary practices in the making. By keeping track of their finances in digital form couples produce a wide range of new data, as the Excel spreadsheets not only entail detailed categories and formulas, but also graphs that provide quick and comprehensible information about the current balance of the household and about the consumption fluctuations within particular categories month by month. The findings show that digital technologies not only enable and constrain economic action by prompting new practices in household financial budgeting, such as keeping the discipline and rationality in spending,
but also they mobilize moral justifications by helping young couples to settle accounts between each other, enacting fairness and equality, togetherness or autonomy inside the couple.

Benedikt Sepp, Konstanz, Germany, Center of Excellence "Cultural Foundations of Social Integration", benedikt.sepp@uni- konstanz.de

The movement of ’68 has often been described as a revolution of readers (and also as one of reading). Many books have been written about the rediscovery of forgotten socialist classics, the boom of Marxist and Freudian terms in everyday life and the importance of the “paperback revolution” for the circulation of theory within the left-leaning intellectual milieu. Also some books have been written about how theory was just the surface, a kind of decoration or justification for a revolt based on deeper-lying social processes.

The project I’m working on deals with the motive of “theory” within the German left student movement from a point of view I understand as praxeological: I want to look at theory as a cultural technique, which means to read theory as a nexus of practices, also as a result of practices. My guiding questions are how practices and routines of a social movement anticipate or pre-shape their internal way of reasoning, how the notion of theory emerged from routinely solving practical tasks and became an instrument of exerting power in everyday situations and how processes and dynamics of political radicalisation can be understood more thoroughly by applying concepts of theories of practice. Interpreting “thinking (theory)” as a practice situated in specific conditions and shaped by the tacit knowledge of everyday routines might shed some light on the mutual dependencies of “doings and sayings”, of political theory, political practice and everyday life in social movements.

Predrag Vujic, University of Vienna, Austria, Department of Sociology, predrag.vujic@posteo.de

I am currently working on my master thesis titled “Filmmaking practices: A practice-based study on work processes in film productions” which I plan to finish this year. The thesis rests on three main parts:

1) Developing a theoretical and methodological concept for researching practices by using a synthesising perspective as suggested in “Third Wave” practice theories (e.g. Schatzki, Reckwitz)

2) Developing a methodological outline on the use of digital methods in order to explore ways to depict empirical results in a rather relational than linear manner

3) Presenting empirical results on work processes in filmmaking by making use of the concept in 1) and by including first impulses from the methodological outline in 2)

Regarding 2): Stimulated through difficulties I experienced during the textualisation of my results and encouraged by Bruno Latour’s http://modesofexistence.org project, I searched for ways to depict my results in a rather relational manner, as linear text flow did not allow cross referencing in a way it seemed necessary to me. Put in other words, the setting of regular text writing shaped my own practices towards writing linear narratives, instead of pointing out various and multidimensional connections between practices and elements. This and Latour’s turn to digital methods led me to consider more “hypertextual” ways to record and depict empirical findings. Although technical implementations couldn’t be done during my master thesis, I developed some first ideas in this regard that I would like to share and discuss in the course of the summer conference.

Rachael Wakefield-Rann, University of Technology Sydney, Australia, Design, Architecture and Building and The Institute for Sustainable Futures, Rachael.C.Wakefield-Rann@student.uts.edu

There is now a valuable body of literature investigating how reductions in the resource intensity of collective everyday practices might improve environmental sustainability. There is comparatively less research examining how the microscopic interactions that take place between humans, microorganisms and chemicals within everyday practices generate pollutants known to be harmful to humans and ecosystems.

Drawing on scientific and sociological literature, and interviews conducted in Sydney, Australia, this paper examines the role of everyday domestic cleaning practices in structuring human and environmental exposures to Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDC). EDCs have been linked to cancer, obesity, diabetes and various reproductive conditions in humans, and significant reproductive abnormalities in numerous wild animal populations.

This paper contends that understanding everyday practices is crucial for addressing the impacts of EDCs for two key reasons: first, the impact of EDCs depends on the other chemicals they combine with, for how long, and the age of the bodies they interact with, among other variables. Second, EDCs have afforded many of our everyday products their key performative capabilities, shaping what we expect from them, and the routines in which they participate. Removing EDCs from cleaning practices will consequently require a fundamental revision of the ways that products and routines serve needs such as cleanliness. In highlighting the significance of cleaning practices in structuring EDC exposures, this paper suggests the need for a new research agenda interested in both the minute material interactions and resource intensity of everyday practices.
LINGUISTICS AND LANGUAGE TEACHING CONFERENCE

Opening Plenary, Marcus Merriman Lecture Theatre, 27th June, 10:00 – 11:00

Prof. Jonathan Culpeper, Department of Linguistics and English Language, Lancaster University: j.culpeper@lancaster.ac.uk

Linguistic impoliteness

Drawing on one strand of my pragmatics research over the last 25 years, this talk addresses a series of questions about linguistic impoliteness, including what it is, how it differs from politeness, whether it has to be intentional to count as impoliteness, what the strategies and formulae used for impoliteness might be, why prosody is so important, and how people respond to it. This is not, of course, a complete list, but it will serve to raise a variety of theoretical, descriptive and methodological points that may be of more general interest. Along the way, I will touch on phenomena such as insults, sarcasm and banter, and draw on a wide range of examples. In the final part of the talk (time permitting!), I will tackle some myths about impoliteness, including the idea that the British are becoming more impolite.

Round 1  Bowland North SR26
11:30-12:00 Daniel Alcaraz Carrión
12:00-12:30 Yuening Yang

Bowland North SR24
11:30-12:00 Vasiliki Saloustrou
12:00-12:30 Beatriz Pineda Revilla

Bowland North SR22
11:30-12.00 Lexi Webster
12.00-12.30 Virginia Mattioli

ABSTRACTS

Daniel Alcaraz Carrión, Department of Linguistics and English Language, Lancaster University, UK: d.alcarazcarrion@lancaster.ac.uk

Temporal co-speech gestures: A comparison between spatial and non-spatial temporal expressions

In this study, we compare the co-speech gestures triggered by a number of English temporal expressions as a means of finding out about English speakers’ conceptualisations of time. The temporal expressions examined belong to three different categories. The first category involves temporal expressions that are non-metaphoric. The other two consist of spatial temporal metaphors, which are further subdivided into directional expressions, and non-directional spatial expressions. The aim of the study is to determine whether or not there is a difference in co-speech gestures among these different categories.

Data was obtained through the NewsScape Library, a multimodal corpus which contains more than 10 years’ worth of television news and talk shows and allows us to gather high-quality, natural data. We collected a total of 469 temporal co-speech gestures, divided among the three categories (127 for non-spatial, 146 for spatial directional and 196 for spatial non-directional expressions).

The lateral axis has been found to be the preferred axis, though other axes are also employed in gesture realisation (sagittal and vertical), in a proportion which has been observed to depend on the specific type of temporal category. Lateral gestures are more likely to be performed in non-spatial language (72%) rather than directional (59%) or non-directional (64%) language. This is congruent with the linguistic terms used, since items such as back or ahead are linked to the sagittal axis rather than to the lateral. However, a sagittal gesture is more likely to be triggered by non-directional linguistic items (37%) than by directional ones (19%).

Yuening Yang, Social Sciences, Loughborough University, UK: Y.Yang3@lboro.ac.uk

Creating an Environment to Introduce a Desired Topic: a Conversation Analytic Perspective

Using Conversation Analysis, an approach to study naturally-occurring spoken discourse, I look at the practices that conversational participants use to introduce a desired topic. By analysing transcripts of ordinary telephone conversation in British and American English, I have identified some recurrent patterns that participants use to introduce a particular topic, when preceding sequential context does not warrant its introduction. The patterns consist of three practices: displacement, narrative listing, and linking to the prior topic. In displacement practice, a speaker either intercepts the overall structural organization of the talk to insert his/her preferred topic into the conversation, or self-interrupts the ongoing turn he/she is producing to embark on a new topical talk. In narrative listing, a speaker first gives an account of a list of ancillary mentionables related to his/her desired topic, and then places the desired topic at the end of the list. In doing so, the speaker preserves the naturalness of his narrative while concealing the direction where the narrative leads to. Lastly, in linking to the prior topic, a
speaker selects an element in the preceding talk as a topic pivot, and produces a new element which is in the same category and which could at the same time trigger the desired topic. Combined together, these practices exhibit a step-by-step character, and this stepwise character highlights the topic management through which a preferred topic could be brought to conversational surface.

Vasiliki Saloustrou, School of Education, Communication & Society, King's College London, UK: vassia.saloustrou@gmail.com

Sunday family lunch: an ethnographic description

The present paper constitutes an ethnographic description of a Sunday family meal in Greece in my own household. When meal is construed as a shared social event, it can be a rich site for observing not only how culture is being constructed, negotiated, and even re-invented through talk in the realm of family, unfolding cultural meanings that are usually “seen but unnoticed” (Garfinkel, 1981: 9), but also how mealtime serves for “socialization through language as well for socialization to use language” (Blum-Kulka, 1997: 17). This moves us to an understanding of how discourse at lunch (micro-level of situated interaction) is dialogically connected with discourse at larger social and cultural settings (macro-level institutions) (Bakhtin, 1981; Goffman 1981). Through video-taping and participant observation, I attempt to investigate the cultural patterns of communication in family discourse, taking into account the social situation, defining this as the “full physical arena in which persons present are in sight and sound of one another” (Goffman, 1981: 136). Taking as a point of departure the assumptions of the ethnographic tradition in sociolinguistics formulated by Gumperz and Hymes in the early 60s, I describe the setting, the participants, the sequence, the norms of interaction, the instrumentalities and every other aspect that constructs the communicative event on hand, using an emic or a worm’s eye view (Rampton, N/D: 1). The intra- as well as intergroup diversity in this event’s practices shows that even the most ordinary and widespread communicative events, as family meals are, do not follow general and predicted patterns, given that participants and circumstances are always different and unique. And it is at this point that my empirical study might be considered as making an original contribution.

Beatriz Pineda Revilla, Human Geography, Planning and International Development, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands: b.pinedarevilla@uva.nl

Changing energy needs. An exploration of the role of data-driven ‘face-to-face’ and ‘virtual’ social interactions

There is a tremendous urgency to reduce energy consumption to guarantee quality of life for future generations. In the light of the weak results of behavioral approaches and top-down investments on infrastructures for energy efficiency, such as grid management, smart meters and the like, innovative approaches to tackle this issue are required. This research presents a micro-sociological approach and explores the extent to which social interactions, at the level of the neighborhood, might be able to challenge current energy needs and to spur the construction of new meanings of energy, which ultimately might lead to a reduction of energy usage. Building upon Gidden’s notion of ‘discursive consciousness’, this research aims to explore 1) the role that energy-related data and information (from ‘hard’ data such as in energy footprint calculators, statistics, etc. to ‘soft’ data such as personal experiences, stories, etc.) can play in moderating the aforementioned social interactions and 2) the role that space, both physical (in face-to-face interactions) and virtual (through a web-based platform designed for this purpose) can have in enabling the co-creation of new energy-related meanings. Through this exploration, this research aims to contribute to a paradigm shift within the field of energy consumption, which focuses not only on reducing energy consumption but also on reducing energy needs.

Lexi Webster, Department of Linguistics and English Language, Lancaster University, UK: l.webster3@lancaster.ac.uk

“Prisoners of Today”: Collective identities, echo-chambers, and gender-variant Twitter users

This paper analyses constructions of collective identities by gender-variant Twitter users (e.g. ‘#girlslikeus’, ‘#reallivetransadult’). Specifically, I argue that those collective identities constitute echo chambers, insofar as they reinforce ideologies and resist ideological challenge from external social actors.

The echo chamber effect is a constraint of social media, a possible consequence of the affordance of ‘socialization ... by means of association’ (Wagner, Vollmar, & Wagner, 2014, p. 36). Echo chambers reinforce a social actor’s ‘prior political views’ (Colleoni, Rozza, & Arvidsson, 2014, p. 318) – e.g. of expected behaviours within identity groups. Following previous research demonstrating heterogeneity of gender-variant identities (Webster, 2016) and evidencing ideological differences between groups of Twitter users with gender-similarity (Webster, 2017), such as transfeminine users’ hegemonic ideology of medico-surgical intervention in transition (Webster, in press), I demonstrate that explicitly constructed collective identities on Twitter also reproduce and reinforce ideologies differing from one another’s. I also argue that those collective identities constitute echo chambers wherein challenges to a collective’s ideological underpinnings are resisted, thus reinforcing the collective’s internal socio-political worldview.

The data are from corpora comprising 16,000,000 tweets from 4,524 gender-variant Twitter users. I refer to van Dijk’s (2009) socio-cognitive approach to critical discourse analysis, in combination with other relevant linguistic frameworks, in an effort toward evidencing differences between collective identities’ context models and illuminating collectives’ discursive
strategies for resisting challenges to internal ideologies. This critical analysis of ideology construction and ideological resistance may provide further insight into the reductionism of homogeneous categorisations of ‘transgender’ identity (see Stryker, 2006).

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**Corpus linguistics and literary translation: A comparison of the use of culture-specific elements between translated and travel literature**

Considering the growing importance that Corpus Linguistics assumes in literary studies (Mahlberg, 2013 and Mahlberg and Stockwell, 2016 among others), a Corpus Linguistics methodology has been applied to a literary translation study.

The objective of the project is to identify culture-specific elements in translated and travels novels and to compare the techniques used to transpose them from one language into another (in case of translated novels) and from one culture into another (in case of travel novels) based on the hypothesis that same techniques are used to transfer culture-specific elements in the two types of texts.

With this aim, firstly a balanced and representative corpus has been compiled (formed by two subcorpora representing translated and travel novels). Then, a three phases methodology has been proposed in order to (a) identify cultural elements in each set of texts, (b) determine the transposition technique used in each case and (c) compare the results obtained in the two subcorpora. Each methodological steps was carried out separately for each subcorpus and was characterized by the use of different tools to reach specific goals.

In first phase, cultural elements have been identified in the analyzed texts through word lists, clusters and concordances. During the second phase, alignments and searches in parallel concordance have been used to determine transposition techniques. Finally, the results obtained from the two subcorpora have been compared.

The outcomes underline the common features in cultural representation between translated and travel texts, showing similarities and differences in translators and travelers’ vision of otherness.

**Round 2 **

**Bowland North SR27**
- 13.30-14.00 Leila Benseddik
- 13.00-13.40 Duy Van Vu
- 14.30-15.00 Muhammad Ajmal Khurshid
- 15.00-15.30 Prue Goredama

**Bowland North SR26**
- 13:30-14:00 Zeynep Duran Karaoz
- 14:00-14:30 Ghadah Albarqi
- 14:30-15:00 Karin Saraiva de Lima (poster)
- 15:00-15:30 Chad Hall (2 presentations)
- 15:30-16:00 Olena Rossi
- 16:00-16:30 Boon Sier Jeanette Lim

**Bowland North SR24**
- 13:30-14:00 Dina Fawaz Abed Elkhalik
- 14:00-14:30 Karima Ben Abbes
- 14:30-15:00 Han Lun Lee
- 15:00-15:30 Xingzi Zhang
- 15:30-16:00 Suzanne McClure
- 16:00-16:30 Elena Afromeeva

**Bowland North SR22**
- 13:30-14:00 Ekaterina Ignatova
- 14:00-14:30 S. Tehseen Zahra
- 14:30-15:00 Sawsan Hassan
- 15:00-15:30 Fares Rezoug
- 15:30-16:00 Louise Heatley
- 16:00-16:30 Shuo Yu

Leila Benseddik, Department of English and Creative Writing, University of Northampton, UK: leila.benseddik@northampton.ac.uk

**The legal English: A case for English for Specific Purposes**

In order to effectively engage in international legal communities, a thorough knowledge of law might not be enough without a mastery of legal language which is characterized by a specific genre described as complex and can only be understood by law specialists. Not only that but also a set of practices and behaviours associated with legal contexts are required for a successful communication. Non-native speakers of English find it difficult to learn the legal English required in national and international settings. The present work is a case for English for Specific Purposes in which the situation of the English for law is explored. The aim of the present work is to suggest an English course for future legal professionals that will hopefully help them acquire the
specific genre and practices needed in their career. Aiming at meeting student’s needs, the researcher conducted a Needs Analysis, an essential step which paved the way for designing the English course, and in which triangulation of research methods have been used, including classroom observation, conducting interviews with teachers and administering questionnaires to students. The findings revealed that the students’ main goal is to be able to express their legal knowledge in English correctly and to participate successfully in international events. For this objective to be achieved, the researcher’s experimental English course is mainly based on the idea of discourse community and the concept of genre in attempt to prepare the students of law to be better qualified for their future professions.

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The Treatment of Vocabulary in the Oxford EAP and Cambridge Academic English course books

Learning vocabulary is crucial for second language learners; however, it is not an easy process. Beside the instructions of language teachers, course books can also play an important part in helping students with the acquisition and learning of vocabulary. The study is aimed at analysing and evaluating how vocabulary is treated in the integrated skills course books of Oxford EAP and Cambridge Academic English for upper-intermediate students as well as gaining students’ perspectives on the effectiveness of the treatment. While descriptive and comparative analyses of the two course books reveal their treatment of vocabulary, pre-tests and delayed post tests on students’ vocabulary size will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the treatment, followed by questionnaires and semi-structured interviews with students to gain their perspectives on the way vocabulary is taught in the two course books. Implications will finally be drawn on the design of English language course books as well as the teaching of vocabulary to English language learners.

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The need of interdisciplinary professional development and core skills pedagogy: The challenges and resolves for Pakistani English language teachers

Second language teaching offers professional ventures to hundreds and thousands of educators around the world and this sprouting industry cannot mature without the suitable training and professional development programmes. The study analyses the impediments and practices of professional development in Pakistani institutes, sequences the vignettes of English language teachers, brings together different procedures to assist professional development and recommends the modifications to transpire in the educational organizations. Furthermore, it argues that the language teaching can only be advantageous, when the institutions propose opportunities for their teachers to advance professionally by financing their interdisciplinary professional development. The research also contends that the enhanced core skills pedagogy and awareness in teachers’ professional growth as per international development, is substantial, for it results in constructive outcomes for learners simultaneously. The paper is theoretical in nature and it is a contribution to the field of professional development in Pakistani education sector. It benefits to those, who devise professional development programmes for the educators, as it can help to implement systematic approach to bring teachers’ professional understandings and skills up to the benchmarks.

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Not yet down to a science: Co-opting CLIL in the biology classroom

Various forms of Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) are now well-established in German secondary schools. It is a teaching methodology that is seen as having “a major contribution to make to the Union’s language learning goals” (European Network, 2006; Vásquez, 2007; Lim & Low, 2009). English is the preferred language of instruction for those adopting CLIL. Adopting English as a medium of instruction is a gambit aimed at ensuring that the students will not be at a disadvantage in the later stages of their academic careers when they are expected to publish in English.

Whilst a primary aim of science education is “to develop children’s ability to understand and practise valid ways of arguing in a scientific context” Osborne, Erduran, Simon & Monk (2001, p. 63) achieving this goal where a language deficit exists is a tall order. Coyle (2007) explains that “where the language level of learners is lower than their cognitive level, the learning environment must take into account this mismatch through ensuring that cognitive progression is maintained by accessing content through a lower linguistic level gradually working towards higher linguistic demands” (p.552). In such a setting, however, the explicit goal of having the students become accustomed to the methods of science and the expected ways of thinking is waylaid.

The present work is a doctoral study exploring multiple aspects of English language learning in a Year 9 Biology classroom. The data were collected through classroom observations, surveys, interviews and analysing the materials used and the students’ written work. Some preliminary findings are that the assortment of classroom activities does not afford the students the opportunity to learn the discursive practices expected of biologists. A paucity of nominalisations in the students’ texts and the prevalence of irrelevant information in assignments undertaken autonomously indicate that the teaching methods need refinement in order to meet curricular aims.
An Exploratory Study of L2 Oral Performance: Fluency and Lexical Complexity in L1 Turkish and L2 English

Fluency and lexical complexity have been brought forward as reliable indicators of L2 proficiency. A review of literature suggests that communicative adequacy or proficiency of L2 learners can be predicted from some of the measures of these constructs (e.g. Iwashita et al., 2008; Revesz, et al., 2014; Yu, 2010; Zareva, et al, 2005) in their performance. Yet, little is known about the role of L1 behaviour in the development of these constructs at different levels of proficiency, and in this regard cross-linguistic studies are scarce (De Jong et al., 2013; Riazantseva, 2001; Huensch & Tracy-Ventura, 2016; Treffers-Daller, 2013; Treffers-Daller & Korybski, 2015), and/or have, to a large extent, focused on English but not on other languages (De Clercq, 2015).

This study aims to explore the possible link between L1 and L2 oral performance (represented through fluency and lexical complexity), and to understand to the extent this relationship is moderated by L2 proficiency level. As such, using a within-participant design, a pilot study was conducted with 26 L1 Turkish-L2 English speakers at a state university in Turkey. The data were collected through a battery of proficiency tests (i.e. Elicited Imitation Task and Oxford Placement) and oral narrative tasks. The oral performances were analysed for a range of fluency and lexical complexity measures and a number of statistical analyses were run. The findings will be discussed and the implications for L2 practices (L2 testing, L2 research as well as L2 teaching) will be highlighted.

An Exploratory Study of L2 Self-Monitoring Behaviour Manipulated along Task Type, Dual Task Condition and Working Memory Capacity

Monitoring during speech production, i.e. inspecting utterances before and after they are produced, has been regarded as a highly important process in second language (L2) acquisition (Kormos, 1999; DeKeyser, 2010). The vast majority of the work on L2 monitoring has focused on examining the distribution and frequency of self-repair, and rate of error-correction. To date, very little research has looked specifically at the relationship between breakdown aspects of fluency and monitoring although breakdown features have been assumed to relate to L1 monitoring process (Levelt, 1983, 1998). Speaking a second language puts attention under extreme pressure (Kormos, 2006), yet relatively little is known about L2 monitoring behaviour when a speaker’s attention is put under a demanding condition. The current study is an attempt to help fill this gap.

The study seeks to understand in what ways repair and breakdown features relate to L2 self-monitoring, and whether they interact with the learners’ working memory capacity. The investigation will be carried out by examining repair and breakdown features individually, and in interaction, under different task types and single/dual task conditions (i.e. performing either a single task or parallel tasks). The participants will be sixty language learners of English at B2 level of the CEFR. To probe learners’ thoughts concerning their monitoring behaviour, retrospective stimulated interviews will be employed. Individual differences in working memory capacity will be examined to understand their effects on monitoring during single/dual task condition. The findings will be discussed and the implications for L2 research and teaching will be highlighted.

Municipal ESL teachers in Northeast Brazil are faced with problems such as the scarcity or lack of resources; lack of opportunities for CPD (Continuing Professional Development) courses; lack of attention to English on the part of the government; and classes too large. In my action research a CPD course was conducted to 20 in-service municipal ESL teachers and has had the purpose of providing those teachers with an opportunity to improve their own linguistic skills and confidence as teachers of English writing, and of equipping them to find longer term solutions for the challenges they encounter in their practice. It was based on reflective practice (Dewey, 1933; Freire, 1972, 1974), with a focus on writing and creativity (Harmer, 2007; Hyland, 2003; Reid, 2001). The research question addressed here is: What are the outcomes of a CPD course in English writing pedagogy design to enhance the teaching of writing for young ESL learners?

The tools utilised to address the research question were two-fold: in-class pieces of writing as participants’ reactions to the workshops carried out in the course as well as the teaching materials produced in the workshops, which had the purpose of enhancing the teaching of writing for young ESL learners. Results show that these teachers benefited from the opportunity to share ideas and together design teaching materials applicable in their context that. However, difficulties regarding time to prepare teaching materials as well as the problematic status of English in the curriculum were also observed.
In this paper, the perception of the /æ/-/e/ vowel continuum was analysed in British and United States English speakers by testing their word identification across the pan-pen continuum. A clear difference was found between the two speaker groups, with the U.S. speakers continuing to perceive ‘pan’ beyond the British speakers, presumably due to /æ/-tensing in U.S. dialects, particularly before nasal codas (Labov et al., 2006). It was found that the amount of /æ/-tensing across phonetic environments in a U.S. speaker’s dialect as well as their exposure to British English affected how they perceived the continuum. The results prove Bell Berti’s (et al., 1979) argument that speech production and perception are closely related, and the steep drop in perception from ‘pan’ to ‘pen’ displayed by both speaker groups may prove that vowel perception is categorical, in contrast to popular opinion (Fry et al., 1962), though a discrimination task would have to be run before any reliable claim can be made.

In this paper, the /r/ production of adolescent Anglo-English and Punjabi-English Bilingual speakers in West Yorkshire was analysed from speech data collected in 2000. A clear difference was found between Anglo-English speakers who used the standard British rhotic, the postalveolar approximant [ɹ̠], exclusively, and the Punjabi-English Bilingual speakers who used both British rhotics and a number of different variants influenced by the Punjabi retroflex flap [ɽ]. The influence of the retroflex flap [ɽ] was proven by formant and duration results, as well as qualitative observations of the speaker spectrograms. It is predicted that Punjabi-English speaker preference for either Punjabi influenced rhotics or British rhotics depended on if they identified as culturally integrated “British Asians” or culturally alienated “Asians”. This study also considers the possibility of a progression in the rhotic production of West Yorkshire Punjabi-English speakers over the last 15 years. As well as expanding on the findings of West Yorkshire Asian English, the findings implicate that social identity is a key aspect affecting the speech of bilingual speakers who are often part of more than one culture.

An evidence-based approach to understanding the Language Assessment Literacy (LAL) was used to investigate assessment literacy needs of language test writers and build their LAL profile. This presentation reports on the conceptual-empirical approach to building such as profile with 20 newly-trained test writers. The presentation draws on a combination of theoretical study and an ‘in-practice’ example. From a theoretical perspective, a link is considered between LAL and test validity. This serves to establish why LAL is necessary for all those involved in language assessment, wherever they may be situated in the test cycle.

An evidence-based approach is then described to generate LAL profile of 20 test writers who undertook 4-month test writer training immediately prior to taking part in the research. During the course, input on the concept of ‘validity’, with concept tailored for their specific context, was delivered. The test writers then answered a series of questions designed to relate their role directly to test validity and to identify what areas of knowledge are necessary for them to safeguard the value of the test and mitigate potential threats to overall validity. The grounded-theory analysis was conducted on data obtained from their responses and a LAL questionnaire for test writers was created and administered to the participants. Questionnaire responses formed the basis of a LAL for test writers profile that will be demonstrated during the presentation.

While assessment plays a vital role in the learning process, its use in the classroom often limits rather than augments learning (Rea-Dickins, 2008). In contexts where direct instruction and summative assessment are emphasised, formative assessment is less valued and more difficult to implement (Carless, 2007). Carless (2012) argued for the need to link formative and summative assessment if the former is to gain stakeholders’ acceptance in such contexts. This study documents teachers’ and students’ perception and use of an assessment system that formally incorporates and reinforces formative assessment practices, as Boud and Molloy (2013) have advocated. The purpose of this study is to verify if and how teachers make formative use of summative assessments, and how students engage with the feedback given to them. The assessment system is part of an English language bridging programme offered by a private university in Malaysia. It includes assessment practices such as student self-assessment, feedback sessions and writing assessments, often used in language programmes. This presentation compares both teachers’ and students’ perception of the assessment practices and investigates what they do with the information generated from the assessment system as it unfolds over the course of the teaching programme. Data comes from classroom observations, semi-structured interviews and analysis of assessment-related documents. Consistent with Carless’ (2012) and Black’s (2015) call
for international research on classroom experiences of formative assessment, the findings should be of practical and theoretical value to practitioners and researchers interested in integrating formative and summative assessments within the ESL and EFL contexts.

References:

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Heritage Language Maintenance and Loss - The Case of the Syrian Community in the UK

This is a qualitative study that offers an in-depth look at heritage language maintenance and loss among the children of the Syrian community in the UK. The study explores the multilingual practices of children in home context, the efforts of parents in maintaining L1, the role of school education, the role of input and parents attitudes towards the maintenance of L1. The study will also highlight the role of teachers in embracing multilingualism (e.g. translanguaging in the classroom). As well as the role identity plays in maintaining L1. This present study aims to raise parents awareness of the advantages of bilingualism, and the importance of maintaining the minority language, as well as developing a majority language. Allowing children to embrace their language and culture will allow the correct development of these individuals. Furthermore, it will prevent a state of confusion related to their identity or feeling as they are like outcasts of society. They should be made to feel at home and one crucial aspect is to develop a culture that accepts them as a human being rather than being labeled as an outsider. This bi-multilingualism will ingrain a sense of acceptance for future generations and allow greater harmony between people.

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The use of a ‘mixed methods approach’ in L3A research: The domain of morpho-syntax

The combination of qualitative and quantitative tasks in research is generally termed the ‘mixed methods approach’ (Dörnyei, 2007). There has been an increased use of such an approach in applied linguistics research in recent years. This is mainly because the ‘mixed methods approach’ is generally believed to provide valid and reliable data. Dörnyei (2007) argues that the combination of quantitative and qualitative data helps reduce the inherent weaknesses of individual methods by offsetting them by the strength of another, which would, therefore, maximise the internal and external validity of research.

For this reason, the present study used a combination of quantitative experimental tasks (Oral and Written) and a qualitative instrument (a semi-closed questionnaire) to test the tenability of a newly proposed L3 model entitled the property-based structural proximity (PSP) hypothesis (Ben Abbes, 2016) in the acquisition of two morpho-syntactic properties (i) Gender and (ii) Number concord by two groups of early L3 French learners: L1 Spanish and L1 Turkish natives who both speak English as an L2.

Contra the Typological Primacy Model (TPM, Rothman, 2011, 2015) which always advocates holistic typological proximity as a key factor triggering CLI at the initial state of L3A, the PSP argues that in the absence of clear holistic typological similarity between the L1/L2 and the L3, structural similarity on a property-by-property basis (actual and perceived) is the driving variable for CLI in L3A. Results have shown support for the PSP model.

Keywords: The ‘mixed methods approach’, property-by-property structural similarity, TPM, PSP, L3A

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Analysis of Chinese Modal Verb Hui in Second Language Acquisition

This study aims to investigate Chinese as second language learners’ acceptability and judgment in various semantic meanings and the orientation of Chinese modal verb hui “can” constructions. Participants were being separated into two groups; Group A constituted by English speakers learning Chinese in intermediate rank, Group B combined with advanced CSL learners and Chinese native speakers as the Control Group C. The finding shows that both groups of subjects revealed a similar tendency of using hui in utterances, they can differentiate the semantic orientation of deontic hui constructions but not epistemic and dynamic hui in the test; oppositely, learners obviously have performed well in the semantic meanings of dynamic and epistemic hui, rather than deontic hui sentences in judgment test.
As the result shows that the modal verb hui can deliver notations like ability, probability, permission and so on, which suggesting that learners were confused about the multiple semantic functions of hui, and difficult to further distinguish the discrepancies as well; so, it seems the acquisition order and the L1 interference need to be considered into second language acquisition matter. Dedication of this study provides a practical analysis for Chinese as second language learners and certain semantic usages toward Chinese modal verb hui.

Key word: 會 hui, Modality, Second Language Acquisition, Semantic Orientation

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The acquisition of plus-que-parfait in French by Chinese learners in French L2 and L3

The acquisition of French past tense as a foreign language interests many researchers. Many previous researches (Kaplan 1987, Bergström 1995, 1997, Ayoun 2004) concern the distinction between the passé compose and imparfait. The plus-que-parfait, emerges later among learners (Labeau 2002, Howard 2005, Sun 2006), receives less attention from researchers. Howard (2005) found that advanced English learners often use the passé composé instead of the plus-que-parfait, and they often express the value of double anteriority by lexical or grammatical means.

We will therefore analyze the use of the plus-que-parfait by Chinese learners, whose L1 is very far from the target language (French). We will also compare written production among learners who study French as L2 and L3 (English as L2) and observe whether the results are different.

Corpus:
We compare the written production of a narrative based on a silent film of three groups: a group of native Chinese (CN, n = 8, as control group), a group of Chinese FL2 learners (two levels: beginner, n = 6 and intermediate, n = 6) and FL3 (two levels too).

Results:
By comparing the results, we have some possible hypothesis:
- In Chinese, to mark the double anteriority, we can use the context, the subordination with perfective value, or lexical means. Compared to the French or English, which have the verbal morphology such as the plus-que-parfait or pluperfect, Chinese restraint more on implicit means.
- Under the impact of the L1, Chinese learners can express the double anteriority by using the passé composé in subordination, or lexical means, or without explicit markers (based only on context).
- FL3 learners, who have learned English, are so familiar with the double anteriority indicated by the pluperfect. This probably facilitates the acquisition of the plus-que-parfait.

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A Polymodal Stylistic Analysis of Repetition in Nine Novels by D.H. Lawrence

It is indisputable that D.H. Lawrence is a polarising author that often bores his critics or makes them wax lyrical. Was Lawrence didactic, banal, and discursive as many claim or was he merely misjudged against outdated literary theories? In an unpublished foreword to Women in Love, Lawrence remarked on his use of continual repetition and described it as means of working up to a stylistic finale. By performing an exhaustive analysis of linguistic and stylistic repetition in his novels, my study intends to provide a quantifiable analysis, which will ultimately reveal Lawrence as sage linguist or a repetitive provocateur.

Possessing over twenty-five years of experience in the field of Information Technology, I intend to create a corpus based on the principles of data warehousing and data mining. By drawing on research in Computational Linguistics and Corpus Stylistics, it will offer extensive examination of repetition as a stylistic device. It will go beyond common corpus analysis such as word frequency and concordance by using a polymodal framework of various linguistic and stylistic features. The corpus will be designed to allow for further investigation into other types of literary works and other public domain authors. Lastly, this study will contribute new analysis and discussion topics for the on-going and scholarly debate in Lawrence studies.

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Strategies of Persuasion and Argumentation in political Rhetoric on Example of the Inaugural Addresses of American, British, Byelorussian, German, and Russian political Leaders

The present research pertains to Gerry Philipsen’s ethnographic study of cultural communication (1981), on its` proposition that one of the major function of communication is to construct a sense of shared identity. Every ethnic group possesses a distinct “code” which is defined as “historically transmitted, socially constructed system of symbols and meanings, primes and rules, pertaining to communicative conduct” (Philipsen 1992:124, Philipsen 2010). The study investigates the development of political communication in the abovementioned cultures in connection with historical background and cultural peculiarities which create a unique political context. For instance, even identical rhetorical means can attain a wide range of connotations depending on cultural, historical and political development of the society. The study proves the dependence of linguistic and stylistic devices,
which embellish presidential oratory, on cultural and historical components of the “codes” to which they pertain. The research investigates the connection of language and linguo-stylistic devices which politicians use to manipulate public opinion and construct a sense of shared identity with cultural, historical, and political background they rely on, in order to approach an ideal image of a politician. The study analyses variations of rhetorical patterns across cultures and their reliance on common cultural and historical background of a specific community. Thus, in order to be more persuasive and eloquent, presidents appeal to the features of their “codes” and apply identical linguistic and stylistic means in different connotations.

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**Forming the city image: A corpus-based study of tourism discourse**

This research project seeks to investigate how cities are represented in online and offline tourism discourse. Discourse has become an important concept in the study of tourism, which is one of the largest industries in the world. The development of online booking services and other travel-related websites has boosted the increase in the number of independent tourists and, consequently, the growing importance of tourism-related promotional texts. Therefore, determining the impacts of online and offline tourism discourse on the representation of travel destinations is essential for the development of tourism industry in general and for particular travel destinations.

However, despite the recognized importance of tourism texts in conveying the city image and attracting tourists, there remains a paucity of structured systematic analysis including various types of texts, both offline and online, and combining quantitative and qualitative research methods. In this paper, I discuss the design of two comparable corpora of tourism discourse about London and about Moscow, each corpus consists of two subcorpora, a subcorpus of offline tourism discourse and a subcorpus of online tourism discourse. Various types of texts comprising the subcorpora, such as travel guides, accommodation and restaurants descriptions, tourist brochures, are described as well as sources of the texts. The building of the corpora is an essential precondition for using a mixed-methods approach to studying the representation of travel destinations in tourism discourse.

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**Gender based study of language through corpus-based techniques**

Differences in language used by men and women have intrigued scholars since long. However the use of corpus-based techniques for such research is infrequent especially in Pakistan. After the advent of the concept of World Englishes, corpora are developed to show the identity of different countries, individuals, regions and areas of the world. Likewise English spoken and written in Pakistan is different from the English language used in various countries/areas of the world. There is not only the worldwide differences in spoken and written discourses, researches show that language used by men and women is also different. Therefore, this research aims at exploring the purposes of language used by Pakistani men and women in academic written discourse. The written data is collected from research papers published by Pakistani writers in various disciplines like Chemistry, English, Sociology, Psychology etc. The corpus developed through this study shows the academic word list, occurrences/frequency and contextual uses of lexicons by Pakistani scholars in written academic discourse. The findings demonstrate the variation in language used by men and women in Pakistani written academic discourse.

Keywords: Academic discourse, Corpus, context, academic word list, variation

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**Representing religion in the British press: A corpus-based analysis**

The study is concerned with investigating the representation of religion in the British broadsheet newspapers in two periods of time (2001 and 2010). The period covers several world events that have affected the representation of religion in the UK press creating a body of articles on world religions and their followers. I intend to examine the press representation of three widespread religions in the UK – Christianity, Judaism, and Islam.

Investigating religions has been the focus of a range of frameworks in different disciplines including media, sociology, theology, and others. However, this study is limited to the representation of religion in British broadsheet newspapers during two periods of time, and it is conducted using a selected set of corpus linguistic tools namely frequency lists, concordances, and collocations. This combination is motivated partly to achieve a rigorous and replicable form of research.

My main goal is to examine language used to represent these three religions and their followers as well, for example nouns, verbs, and modifiers, i.e. how many times a certain group has been represented in the press as grammatical actors or goals, and what that might tell me about their attitudes towards how they behave. I am also trying to present a case study investigating the applicability of the corpus software ‘Sketch Engine’ to sort collocates of religion in order to illustrate any changes in representation of religion over time. Finally, I briefly provide a case study explaining how Word Sketch facilitates my work.

Keywords: broadsheets, corpus, representation, religion
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ology of dissertations remains limited. In this presentation, I will talk about lexical bundles, and add to our understanding of Masters dissertation writing in -

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ations of manipulation and new forms of social control" (Portmess & Tower, 2015). The discourse of Big -

References

Big Data. We generate data through our daily digital activity (Royal Statistical Society, 2015). However, not many people know how to collect and analyse that data (Manovich, 2011) and, although people will become increasingly aware of the data they generate, they may not consider who owns or has access to the accumulated data (Crawford, et al., 2015) (Royal Statistical Society, 2015). Big Data has “commercial, organisational and economic force and power” (Beer, 2016) and carries “darker intimations of manipulation and new forms of social control” (Portmess & Tower, 2015). The discourse of Big Data is “framed by techno-utopian or techno-dystopian political understandings of historical transformation” (Barassi, 2016), so it is important to be aware of the people and organisations forming that discourse. As Big Data has positive and negative connotations, its use is both an opportunity and a risk for industry and investors. Companies who want to mitigate that risk by aligning their policies to customers’ attitudes would benefit from an in-depth understanding of what people are saying — or not saying — about Big Data, whose voices are being heard and who, or what, is influencing those voices.

In my presentation, I will give an overview of the techniques used, and challenges faced, building and analysing a web corpus of documents that mention Big Data and indicate preliminary findings from a corpus-driven analysis of discourses about Big Data in web pages indexed by Google, including whether those discourses changed between January 2000 and January 2017.

References:


Shuo Yu, Department of Linguistics and English Language, Lancaster University, UK: s.yu1@lancaster.ac.uk

A corpus study of Chinese resultative constructions: a typological perspective

Chinese resultative construction, exemplified by (1), is formed as verb + result XP, with the result XP referring to change of state or location of an NP caused by the action denoted by the verb.

(1) ta zou-lei-i ‘he walk-tired-ASP’ (He walked and as a result he was tired.)
Chinese resultatives have rarely been discussed based on corpus in the scholarship. The Online Database on Verb-Resultative Constructions in Contemporary Chinese (ODVRC) lists 579 result XPs. However, it is not a corpus and not able to show a hologram of Chinese resultatives in use. Moreover, not all result XPs in ODVRC fit the definition of resultative. So two tests are proposed for identifying Chinese resultatives. The Lancaster Corpus of Mandarin Chinese (LCMC), a standard corpus as a Chinese match of the Freiburg-LOB of British English is adopted as a basis of the corpus analysis.

138 result XPs with 1363 resultatives are extracted from LCMC. The first 500 randomized examples are analyzed in terms of frequency based on several criteria, namely subject/object-oriented (Rappaport Hovav and Levin 2001), transitive/intransitive-verb based (ibid.), weak/strong/spurious (Washio 1997). Regarding the properties of Chinese resultatives, further categories are postulated: marginal/prototypical and agent/patient/location-oriented.

The results suggest that the prototypical Chinese resultatives are highly productive with high type and token frequency, in contrast to the marginal resultatives with high token frequency and low type frequency. Most resultatives are subject-oriented (54%), strong (64.6%), patient-oriented (57.4%) and take transitive verbs (89.2%). 50% subject-oriented resultatives are transitive-verb based, which casts doubt on the statement argued by Rappaport Hovav and Levin (2001) that few subject-oriented result XPs could be used with transitive verbs. Chinese belong to the same type as English, both permitting strong and weak resultatives, different from those only allowing weak ones, such as Japanese and French.

Closing Plenaries

Prof. Paul Baker, Marcus Merriman Lecture Theatre, 16:30-7:30
Department of Linguistics and English Language, Lancaster University: j.p.baker@lancaster.ac.uk

Divided by a common language? A comparison of recent change in American and British English

Since the founding of the United States of America, commentators on both sides of the Atlantic have, sometimes humorously, emphasised language differences. George Bernard Shaw refers to “two countries divided by a common language” while Oscar Wilde wrote “We have really everything in common with America nowadays, except, of course, the language”. In this talk I ask whether British English is gradually becoming more like American English, and if so in what ways? I compare 8 corpora of American and British language data from the 1930s, 1960s, 1990s and 2000s, using a set of corpus driven techniques to identify the most important ways that both varieties are changing over time, as well as comparing the extent to which they are following similar paths. The analysis is carried out across several levels, including spelling differences (e.g. colour vs color), vocabulary (truck vs lorry), and a range of morphological, grammatical, semantic and pragmatic features. Quantitative patterns are subjected to qualitative analyses of function as well as an exploration of changing aspects of American and British society which help to explain the findings.

Dr. Marije Michel, Bowland North SR2, 16:30-7:30
Department of Linguistics and English Language, Lancaster University: m.michel@lancaster.ac.uk

Fb me 2n8! Measuring alignment during digitally mediated text-chat

With the rise of social media, writing in the 21st century has received a new function in daily communication: instead of writing long letters we exchange at a fast pace brief messages with friends and family. Even in formal situations, chat interaction via digitally mediated means has become an accepted and frequent form of communication. In a globalised society, many of us write these messages in our second or third language. From a linguistic point of view, and in particular from a Second Language Acquisition (SLA) perspective, text chat interaction has been argued to be potentially facilitative of second language (L2) development.

In this talk, I will report on my work that explores why and how text messaging in an L2 might affect SLA. These studies include classroom-based and lab-based investigations with German students chatting in Spanish, English high-school girls chatting in German, international students chatting in English and Lancaster students conversing in German. I will draw on findings using different (psycho)linguistic techniques, i.e., corpus-based N-gram analysis to evaluate lexical overlap between chat partners’ texts, eye-tracking to measure the focus of attention during text messaging, and stimulated recall to tap into interlocutors’ awareness of their partner’s linguistic contributions.

Findings are discussed within the theoretical framework of alignment –i.e., the automatic tendency of interlocutors to re-use linguistic structures and lexical items from recent discourse (Bock, 1986)– and cast light on the discussion of implicit vs. explicit processes during text chat in an L2. Finally, I will present some ideas on how text chat could be integrated in to the language learning classroom.
The British military is a highly gendered institution, one which sustains a racialised and nationalistic hegemonic masculinity. British soldiers are now deploying in greater numbers as UN peacekeepers, charged with protecting civilians, as part of wider humanitarian missions. The UN Department of Peacekeeping operations (DPKO) and the UK Ministry of Defence both adhere in principle to UN Security Council Resolution 1325, about the roles and treatment of women in conflict and peace. How does this commitment work in practice? What differences and continuities are there between the practice of gender in civilian life, British military service and in peacekeeping? How do soldiers learn their roles as peacekeepers?

My project will consist of a mixed methods case study of the experience of British Military troops who serve as UN peacekeepers, primarily employing ethnographic methods of data collection and a critical realist epistemology. Semi structured interviews, observations and auto-ethnographic journaling, centring around engagement with the specific training that subjects receive, will be complimented by the larger data set accumulated through observation and a critical discourse analysis of key related policy and curricula documents. This study will be significant in enriching the literature on militarism, masculinity and peacekeeping whilst also potentially offering practical insights and examples regarding peacekeeper training at home state and multilateral levels, and coordination between the two.

Prisons can be viewed as social systems (Pabjan, 2005). Social systems, like all systems, consist of bounded elements, fluidly inter-related to lower or higher degrees, yet heterogeneous. They are emergent structures in that phenomena emerge from different levels such as individuals, groups, and the system/institution itself, producing a whole that is different to the sum of its parts. They are complex in that they have an abundance of elements in sub-groups in the micro, meso and macro levels that interact in non-linear ways. Prisons can be viewed as complex adaptive systems that are open to input from their environments, able to consume high levels of information, and can self-organise. This talk explores some ways in which complexity theory can help with the understanding and explanation of variations in the relationship between gender regimes, violence, and violence against women within the framework of prisons as complex adaptive systems. A brief overview of some relevant concepts in complexity thinking will be introduced, followed by some examples of how these concepts can open up areas of policy and practice related to gender regimes, violence, and violence against women for analysis without resorting to reductionism.
## URBAN INFRASTRUCTURES

**Workshop for registered participants, 27th June, Bowland North Seminar Room 20**

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 – 10:00</td>
<td>Academic lives – Elizabeth Shove and Jochen Monstadt</td>
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| 10:00 – 11:00 | Introduction to the workshop on urban infrastructures: space, time, scale and breakdown: Jochen Monstadt (Utrecht); Elizabeth Shove, Torik Holmes (Lancaster).  
Presentation on failing infrastructures: Melissa Fernandez (Lancaster).  
[https://www.academia.edu/8584142/Unmaking_public_housing_towers_The_role_of_lifts_and_stairs_in_the_demolition_of_a_Puerto_Rican_project](https://www.academia.edu/8584142/Unmaking_public_housing_towers_The_role_of_lifts_and_stairs_in_the_demolition_of_a_Puerto_Rican_project)  
Discussion of Melissa’s article/presentation with reference questions about space, time, and scale. |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | Coffee break                                                           |
| 11:30 – 12:30 | Encounters in space and time: a session in which participants talk with each other about first the spatial and then the temporal aspects of their research – there will be three short discussions on aspects of space and scale; followed by three on time and scale. |
| 12:30 – 14:00 | Faculty book launch and lunch (for all intellectual party participants) |
| 14:00 – 14:30 | Where are urban infrastructures? A debate about whether there is anything distinctly urban about infrastructures – Jochen Monstadt and Elizabeth Shove argue with each other about this topic. |
| 14:30 – 15:30 | A session in which small groups of participants compare and discuss each other’s research statements.  
These pre-prepared statements (approximately 1000 words) outline the participant’s core research questions, the methods they are using to capture or describe infrastructures from different points of view; and a puzzle that they are worrying about now. |
| 15:30 – 16:00 | Coffee break                                                           |
| 16:00 – 17:00 | Living without electricity: a session in which participants review a report on the 2015 Lancaster power cuts (Kemp 2015),  
and hear about the experience of infrastructure breakdown first hand (Simon Guy). |
| 17:00 – 18:00 | Grand Finale for all intellectual party participants                   |

### ABSTRACTS

**Ivonne Elsner**, Technical University Darmstadt, Germany, Research Training Group on Critical Infrastructures, elsner@kritis.tu-darmstadt.de

Temporality plays a major role within the electricity sector as the electric grid is a specifically time-sensitive system. Therefore, many issues within the electricity sector can be traced back to issues of time management. For instance, the balance of generation and consumption of electricity at any time to guarantee grid stability is a particularly time dependent process on a small scale. However, while the electricity system is relying on real time regulation with a precision down to nanoseconds, the physical layer of infrastructure systems changes at a much longer time scale (usually within decades).

Analogously, the electricity sector includes different scales of space. On the one hand, there are developments of centralisation as for example central European countries are combined in a trans-European grid which spans across national borders. On the other hand, the decentralisation of electricity generation in the course of the energy transition emphasises the regional or urban scale.

This polarity highlights the importance or even weakness of system boundaries as the most crucial processes seem to take place over (sub-) system boundaries, where different (sub-) systems interact and are intertwined, leading to not only interdependencies but also emergent behaviour. Subsequently, this raises the question, which socio-technical interdependencies and therefore challenges occur over different scales of time and space within the electricity sector and which implications this leaves for the analysis of urban electricity systems.

**Hussein Faruque Aly**, Lancaster University, UK, Marketing Department, hussein.faruque@gmail.com

Novo Dia was a social enterprise based in Maputo, Mozambique, providing low cost housing products and services to families with low income. Novo Dia aimed to operate with families living on the Bottom of the Pyramid, developing home and work improvement products; allowing families to prioritize improvements they wanted to do to their homes and workspaces. The researcher will explain how the business offering changed from affordable ready-made units (the cheapest in the market) to supporting families in their small but continuous home improvement projects. Hussein, a PhD student at Lancaster University; was the founder/CEO, and his PhD is based on his experiences with Novo Dia.
Using auto-ethnography as a research methodology, the researcher-practitioner uses his experience to reflect on the process of identification or design of the business model for Novo Dia, implementation, and adaptation of the business model to the specificities of Mozambique. The researcher-practitioners also compares the work of other well established and tested business models of social enterprises doing similar work in other contexts (Patrimonio Hoy, Mexico) to identify how business models are adapted, or need to be adapted, to be successful in different contexts.

The researcher will present how the idea for Novo Dia came about, the initial business model design and how this model evolved during the implementation period. The researcher will also present on the challenges of implementing complex business models for social enterprises, and reflections on what social entrepreneurs need to consider to have successful projects.

Iain Goddard, Lancaster University, UK, LEC, I.goddard@lancaster.ac.uk

My research takes as its core motivation the investigation of multiple variants of shared vehicle use (or ‘ride-sharing’) and the systems of provision and social structures that have led to their emergence. Specifically, I examine processes of recruitment from multiple transport practices from the perspective of a number of current practitioners of ride-sharing. From here, broader systems and structures are identified and examined in greater depth through interviews and secondary data analysis to examine in greater detail how they shape the emergence of new configurations by influencing recruitment.

Central to this investigation is the distinct geographical setting in which these practices have developed based on density and diversity of both population and practice, and the specific infrastructures that accompany them. In urban areas the research examines a specific variant of ride-sharing often described as shared ride-sourcing, and typified by UberPOOL- a shared taxi service that has emerged in recent years. The emergence of this particular variant illustrates the growing influence of communication technologies and increased connectivity on the ways in which we coordinate our everyday lives.

Having recently completed a pilot phase of empirical data collection in London, I am now at the point of adjusting my research design so as to enable a period of primary data collection to be conducted during the summer that will produce appropriate data for addressing the research aims and objectives.

Andreas Huck, Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany Research Training Group KRITIS: huck@kritis.tu-darmstadt.de

When it comes to Critical Infrastructure Resilience (CIR) there seems to be a clear implementation gap at urban scale. Although the concept of Urban Resilience (UR) has recently gained prominence in academic and practical discourses, the determining role of CIs herein receives relatively low attention. Particularly, interdependencies of CI systems seem to be disregarded. The study compares CIR and UR at a conceptual level. It analyses similarities and differences of both concepts in terms of their origin (when, how, and why did the concepts evolve?), their substance (what constitutes the concepts? How do they interpret resilience, risk, and security? What risks are focussed on? What are the objects of protection?), their spatial logic (what spaces and places do the concepts point at? At what levels are the concepts strategically implemented?), their political framing (what actors promote the concepts? How are the concepts captured and debated politically?), as well as their policy design and implementation (what policy instruments are used and proposed for policy design and implementation and why?). The main aim of the study is to extract what an urban agenda of CIR (considering interdependencies) could entail and what the concept of policy mix can offer for conceptualising such an agenda. The 1000-word statement will outline the cornerstones of this urban agenda of CIR in contrast to the challenges of sectoral division and spatially fragmented responsibilities of CI systems.

Valentin Meilinger, Utrecht University, Netherlands, Human Geography and Spatial Planning, valentin.meilinger@mx.gm

The paper scrutinizes the material politics of the City of Los Angeles’ recent shift in urban water management towards sourcing more water locally. It is argued that such infrastructural transformations go far beyond mere material restructuring. Rather they come along with traditional ways of building, governing and imagining Los Angeles becoming renegotiated. In this sense, changing cultural conceptions of urban nature and shifting forms of urban governance are discussed in conjunction with the implementation of new technologies of urban water management. The built environment and embedded governance structures in the “Infrastructural City” Los Angeles uphold a strong cultural hegemony of modern urbanism. Yet, climate change and a powerful global narrative of sustainable urbanism fuel profound transformations of the city and its water networks. Studying the roll-out of technologies of water recycling, stormwater capture, and drought-resistant landscaping, the paper aims at unveiling the political nature of technological choices and urban planning strategies when it comes to shaping Los Angeles’ future water regime. Conflicts between a revitalization of the L.A. River and water recycling strategies, tendencies of a decentralization of stormwater management, and a growing scepticism regarding Los Angeles’ lushly irrigated garden landscapes are among the political questions which are raised by the shift towards sourcing more water locally. Altogether, the paper sheds light on these questions and conveys a broader picture of continuities and ruptures of sociotechnical change in the water system in Los Angeles.
Erwin Nugraha, Durham University, United Kingdom, Department of Geography, erwin.nugraha@durham.ac.uk

Adapting cities to climate change have begun to be considered in Asia. Some cities in Southeast Asia and South Asia have joined the Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN) since 2009. As a regional initiative, ACCCRN has experimented with responding to climate change impacts at secondary cities and its urban population, especially poor and vulnerable communities (Brown et al, 2012). ACCCRN cities have involved with adaptation planning and actions that begin with stakeholder engagement, undertaking vulnerability assessment, planning for city resilience strategy, implementing adaptation projects and mainstreaming into policies. My PhD research aims to evaluate the approaches to climate change adaptation in order to build resilience. This research involves with different questions of how governing urban resilience create new rationality and subjectivities within the interrelation between Human and Nature in the age of Anthropocene. I argue that building urban resilience cannot be simply defined as a programmatic and deliberate process for managing climate risks and maintaining city’s functions, but also as experimentation for resilientization. This process of resilience aligns with the new paradigm in development after the Reformation Era in Indonesia (post-1998), which is reducing government involvement and enhancing individual capacity. My research focuses to examine the growing application of resilience as logic on how governing urban has been problematized, articulated and practiced.

Derek Oakley Lancaster, UK, Education, d.oakley4@lancaster.ac.uk

The British military is a highly gendered institution, one which sustains a racialised and nationalistic hegemonic masculinity. British soldiers are now deploying in greater numbers as UN peacekeepers, charged with protecting civilians, as part of wider humanitarian missions. The UN Department of Peacekeeping operations (DPKO) and the UK Ministry of Defence both adhere in principle to UN Security Council Resolution 1325, about the roles and treatment of women in conflict and peace. How does this commitment work in practice? What differences and continuities are there between the practice of gender in civilian life, British military service and in peacekeeping? How do soldiers learn their roles as peacekeepers?

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Lukas Sattlegger, Goethe Universität Frankfurt am Main, Germany, Sociology, sattlegger@ioe.de,

Marine Litter and microplastics in ecosystems are pressing social-ecological threats which enforce the need for a sociological analysis of plastic use in modern societies. Due the amount of packaging waste, the food supply system is of particular interest. My practice theoretical approach frames food supply systems as bundles of practices, including practices of production and consumption. Importantly, special interest is given to intermediaries, so called ‘bridging practices’ which enable connections between processes of production and consumption (for example transport, storage or distribution). These practices mediate at ‘points of intersection’ in food supply systems, being points where certain forms of engagement with objects are interrupted or replaced by others. Many of these bridging practices depend on material artefacts (and especially packaging) which enable the substitution of face-to-face interactions by human-technology interactions. The central assumption of my thesis is that the increasing use of plastic packaging reflects ongoing processes of differentiation (spatial, temporal and social) in practices of food supply; Processes which lead to a growing dissociation of production and consumption causing the need for material intensive bridging practices. The research project combines a detailed ethnographic analysis of bridging practices in food supply and a transdisciplinary and application-oriented approach for reducing plastic use in food packaging. Problem solutions may be found in the simplification and regionalization of supply systems to reduce the need for bridging practices as well as in an intelligent and less material-intensive configuration of these practices.

Anne Scholz, University of Surrey, United Kingdom, Sociology,a.scholz@surrey.ac.uk

Finding a way to retain economic and social benefits associated with mobility while reducing the substantial negative environmental impacts of transport constitutes one of the most persistent challenges of the 21st century. While technological innovations are certainly an integral part of any adequate solution, much deeper structural transformations of the entire system of transport are crucial for achieving the necessary sustainable transition. Contemporary socio-technical systems of transport are based on context specific mobility practices, shared modes of understanding, rules, institutions and actors. This study will explore how two mobility practices - electric driving and car sharing - might initiate transformative processes through modifying
the meaning of (individual) mobility. In order to facilitate a comprehensive assessment of such transformative developments, the two social mobility practices will be examined through a conceptual framework informed by two seemingly incompatible theories: Insights from both, the social practice theory (SPT) and an enhanced form of the multi-level perspective (MLP) on socio-technical transitions, will be utilized to explore the interactions of changes in mobility practices and the wider transport regime in the geographic context of Frankfurt (Germany). This study aims to generate a differentiated understanding of complex, non-linear and normative transformations within and through changing autocentric practices, which have the potential to initiate a transition to a sustainable system. Results of this analysis might be utilized for stimulating such a transition through the development and application of more refined policy tools.

Rachael Wakefield-Rann, University of Technology Sydney, Australia Design, Architecture and Building and The Institute for Sustainable Futures, Rachael.C.Wakefield-Rann@student.uts.edu

There is now a valuable body of literature investigating how reductions in the resource intensity of collective everyday practices might improve environmental sustainability. There is comparatively less research examining how the microscopic interactions that take place between humans, microorganisms and chemicals within everyday practices generate pollutants known to be harmful to humans and ecosystems.

Drawing on scientific and sociological literature, and interviews conducted in Sydney, Australia, this paper examines the role of everyday domestic cleaning practices in structuring human and environmental exposures to Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDC). EDCs have been linked to cancer, obesity, diabetes and various reproductive conditions in humans, and significant reproductive abnormalities in numerous wild animal populations. This paper contends that understanding everyday practices is crucial for addressing the impacts of EDCs for two key reasons: first, the impact of EDCs depends on the other chemicals they combine with, for how long, and the age of the bodies they interact with, among other variables. Second, EDCs have afforded many of our everyday products their key performative capabilities, shaping what we expect from them, and the routines in which they participate. Removing EDCs from cleaning practices will consequently require a fundamental revision of the ways that products and routines serve needs such as cleanliness. In highlighting the significance of cleaning practices in structuring EDC exposures, this paper suggests the need for a new research agenda interested in both the minute material interactions and resource intensity of everyday practices.
Continued austerity and a growing, but increasingly ‘ailing’ and ‘ageing’ population, are said to be contributing to a ‘crisis of care’ for older people. Cuts in Local Authority budgets are unprecedented with some local Councils supporting technologies of care, such as telecare, in the hope that a technological solution can not only promote independence and self-care at home, but also realise cost savings by preventing, reducing or delaying the need for support. Despite inconsistencies and uncertainties in telecare’s ‘evidence base’, Northshire Council has taken a “leap of faith” with telecare – re-designing the service, introducing it free of charge to eligible service users. The Council says it needs to evidence telecare’s benefits, particularly its cost benefits, but what counts as ‘evidence’, what counts as ‘telecare’ and what counts as ‘care’ in telecare is complicated, contested and contingent, making ‘its’ evaluation a particularly problematic practice. This ethnographic study follows the implementation journey of the re-designed service observing telecare in action, exploring how telecare is provided, experienced, evaluated and evidenced. This paper traces telecare’s heterogeneous, complex and multifaceted entanglements, examining how policy and practice are being enacted; how ‘evidence’, in all its multifaceted and ‘messy’ forms, is being negotiated/constructed and how telecare is being experienced, organisationally and professionally, and also in everyday personal lives. This study is not just about telecare, it’s about its care consequences; it’s about stimulating discussions about the social, ethical, political, material, relational and the discursive – questioning whether, how and why they make a difference and to who.

Since the 1990’s, it has been widely anticipated and promoted that the expansion of personal computers, mobile phones and other devices will be mirrored in the domain of healthcare, and patients will gain new abilities by becoming users of new medical and assistive technologies once new products are available. While some new products, such as vital sign monitors or pedometer gained a foothold and opened new markets, the mass exodus of patients into users proved a slower and more complicated process. This presentation explores some elements of this transformation and argues that while partly technologically defined the figure of user conflates multiple and sometimes conflicting subject positions such as consumer, operator, customer, worker. I draw on ethnographic data, conducted in the North of England within the public healthcare system to show how appreciating users as a subject positions enable one to recover the type of social processes that go into re-ordering bodies and technologies. I look at the work practices of healthcare professionals who deliver technological systems for people with extensive disabilities. In the case of these technologies, it takes lengthy trials and tireless tinkering (Winance, 2006, Mol, Moser, Pols, 2010) to find out whether a given configuration works if at all. In order to accommodate users and these trials, technological devices are transformed from commodities into a form of commons and delivered as services. What is more, the singular user is split into multiple co-users, and the subject positions of operator, customer and support are disentangled and distributed.
Krystel Honsbeek, Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands, Geography, Planning and Environment, honsbeek@fm.ru.nl

Meeting the care needs of LGBT elderly in changing local landscapes of care; an action-oriented research on care practices in the Netherlands

This PhD project focuses on meeting care needs of LGBT elderly in changing local landscapes of eldercare in the Netherlands. Since the Dutch Social Support Act (WMO) came into force in 2007, elderly people in the Netherlands are encouraged to age in place independently and to participate in society as long as possible. To implement the WMO on local level, Dutch eldercare has been decentralized from government control to local structures of eldercare practices (e.g. Regmi, 2014; Trommel, 2013). As it stands, it is unclear how the decentralisation affects the responsiveness to the care needs of minorities, such as LGBT elderly (Pijpers, 2015). LGBT elderly are still often invisible to care providers, partly because elderly hesitate to disclose their sexuality identity and life histories out of fear of rejection and discrimination (Grigorovich, 2016; Addis et al., 2009). Therefore, an action-oriented approach will be used to investigate what care needs LGBT elderly have, how these needs are connected to their sexual (and gender) identity, and how these needs can be met by formal and informal care practices. To understand the complex realities of these care practices, and to include normative aspects, this PhD project relies on a combination of practice theory (e.g. Shove, 200; Reckwitz, 2002; Schatzki, 2009; Nicolini, 2010) and care ethics (Tronto, 1993, 2013; Walker, 2007). Theoretically, the use of this combination will be suitable as well to bridge the gap between separately developed debates concerning ageing research within human geography.

Sadaf Noor E Islam, Lancaster University, United Kingdom, Sociology, s.islam@lancaster.ac.uk

From my hospital ethnography in the intensive care unit in public and private hospitals in Bangladesh, I will present how anthropological research methods have equipped me with a deeper understanding of local character of bio/medicalization process of death in this locale. This presentation aims to introduce a socio-technical account of the intensive care unit. In what follows, I describe how ICU medical staff interacts with medical devices. This sociotechnical account of the ICU also aims to reveal the issues and perceptions that develop among the ‘dying’ patients’ relatives while dealing with the life support technologies. I will argue that life support technologies do not merely perform specific treatment related tasks, but have far-reaching effects beyond the ICU ward to the patient family. This results in: reconstructing hope, creating new forms of care, and constructing a new type of technologized death. The discussions will explore particularities of the context in which the machine-human interactions transcend social elements and creates its hybrids forms facing death and dying. I will argue over time, this socio-technical system has resulted in a technologized care system; sociotechnical hybrid reality (hybridization of hope, care and death); and a sociotechnical hybrid communication system, that emerges due to dependence on the technology to support the end of life care.

Anna Marie Lassen, Lancaster University, England, Department of Sociology: a.lassen@lancaster.ac.uk

Implementation of welfare technologies in municipality practice A professional perspective

In Denmark and the other Scandinavian countries, municipalities have in the recent years, tested and implemented welfare technologies in the elderly-, disabled- and health sector. The purpose of this PhD study is to analyze opportunities and obstacles in the implementation process of welfare technology in a Danish municipality. The Ph.D.-project focuses on the importance of the context to the implementation of welfare technologies from a Science-Technology-Society studies perspective, and the study is designed as an investigation of a municipality (Aalborg Municipality, DK) using welfare technology in different contexts in a health professional perspective. It is an in-depth study of a specific welfare technology – a health technology / “online telecare system”. This technology is intended for citizens with acquired brain injury and citizens which receive help from the social psychiatric service. The technology is intended to help them communicate with the health professionals at the distance. There is no medication or other monitoring, only conversation at the distance. Research questions addressed to this study are what new routines, knowledge and norms follow from the introduction of this specific technology in a municipal practice? Does this relate to the employees’ current skills and competencies?

Keywords: Welfare technology, implementation, municipal employees, working routines.
There is a tremendous urgency to reduce energy consumption to guarantee quality of life for future generations. In the light of the weak results of behavioral approaches and top-down investments on infrastructures for energy efficiency, such as grid management, smart meters and the like, innovative approaches to tackle this issue are required. This research presents a micro-sociological approach and explores the extent to which social interactions, at the level of the neighborhood, might be able to challenge current energy needs and to spur the construction of new meanings of energy, which ultimately might lead to a reduction of energy usage. Building upon Gidden’s notion of ‘discursive consciousness’, this research aims to explore 1) the role that energy-related data and information (from ‘hard’ data such as in energy footprint calculators, statistics, etc. to ‘soft’ data such as personal experiences, stories, etc.) can play in moderating the aforementioned social interactions and 2) the role that space, both physical (in face-to-face interactions) and virtual (through a web-based platform designed for this purpose) can have in enabling the co-creation of new energy-related meanings. Through this exploration, this research aims to contribute to a paradigm shift within the field of energy consumption, which focuses not only on reducing energy consumption but also on reducing energy needs.

Predrag Vujic, University of Vienna, Austria, Department of Sociology, predrag.vujic@posteo.de

I am currently working on my master thesis titled “Filmmaking practices: A practice-based study on work processes in film productions” which I plan to finish this year. The thesis rests on three main parts:

1) Developing a theoretical and methodological concept for researching practices by using a synthesising perspective as suggested in “Third Wave” practice theories (e.g. Schatzki, Reckwitz)

2) Developing a methodological outline on the use of digital methods in order to explore ways to depict empirical results in a rather relational than linear manner

3) Presenting empirical results on work processes in filmmaking by making use of the concept in 1) and by including first impulses from the methodological outline in 2)

Regarding 2): Stimulated through difficulties I experienced during the textualisation of my results and encouraged by Bruno Latour’s http://modesofexistence.org project, I searched for ways to depict my results in a rather relational manner, as linear text flow did not allow cross referencing in a way it seemed necessary to me. Put in other words, the setting of regular text writing shaped my own practices towards writing linear narratives, instead of pointing out various and multidimensional connections between practices and elements. This and Latour’s turn to digital methods led me to consider more “hypertextual” ways to record and depict empirical findings. Although technical implementations couldn’t be done during my master thesis, I developed some first ideas in this regard that I would like to share and discuss in the course of the summer conference.

Tess Baxter, Lancaster, UK, LICA, t.baxter@lancaster.ac.uk

Virtual worlds are hybrid texts of shared authorship that are in a constant state of translation between words, embodied action and material transformation. In my research, my central question is also an objective; how far can the boundaries of machinima* be expanded as a relational, intertextual artform, while also engaging with and developing theory?

My research combines machinima making with digital ethnography. In support of ethnography, Boellstorff claims the digital should not be an object of study, ‘but a methodological approach, founded in participant observation, for investigating the virtual and its relationship with the actual’ (2012 p.40). My history in Second Life means I can study the virtual world on ‘its own terms’ (Boellstorff 2008 p.61), with insights that ‘dispassionate’ objectivity precludes (Jenkins 1992).

(Lowood and Nitsche 2011 p.viii) claim ‘machinima is at the center of efforts to explore potential new directions for digital media’, but it is both undeveloped as an artform and under-theorised. I produce machinima out of rather than within Second Life, creating an intertextual ‘thick’ aesthetic (Hospers 1964). I incorporate and weave (Ingold 2000) virtual world video with actual world literature, art, film and music, in dialogue (Ng 2013; Bourriaud 1998) with technological developments, global and local politics, and embodied human existence.
In my presentation I will use visual elements of my machinima work alongside the spoken and written word to explore how people live in and use virtual space, and how the virtual is increasingly interwoven with actual life issues.

Zoyander Street, Lancaster, UK, Sociology,  z.street@lancaster.ac.uk

This presentation concerns mobile games during their early years, after the Nokia 3310 and before the iPhone. The cellphone is a device designed for encounters, and for at least a while, that coloured everything that people felt about it. Studies found that people could play Snake on their phone and feel similar relief to if they had actually contacted another human being, because just being in contact with the phone provided some reminder of their social connections. The mobile game began life as a kind of substitute encounter, and even during its initial growth, as developers focused overwhelmingly on branded ports of existing games for other platforms, in the background something was emerging that allowed mobile games to act as contexts for complex encounters between humans, devices, and imaginary lives. In this presentation I outline some theoretical work on how these early games established intimacy, drawing on Silvan Tomkins’s theories about affect, work by Japanese researchers connected with early pager cultures, and feminist STS scholarship on intimate relationships with nonhumans.

Living with Digital Technologies, 27th June, Bowland North Seminar room 26, 14.00-15.30

Carolynne Lord, Lancaster University, England, Department of Sociology/DEMAND Centre, c.lord@lancs.ac.uk

The fluidity of the tablet computer allows for its integration into many different types of practices. From practices of communication, to practices of work, gaming, TV watching and even Scrabble, the tablet computer has been found to play a role in multiple practices; sometimes even fulfilling multiple roles at once. Yet, does this fluidity actually explain how the tablet computer has come to be integrated, or does it just suggest that the tablet can find its way into many different practices?

Switching focus and looking instead to the wider family of ‘things’ to which a practitioner has access to in their everyday lives, questions arise regarding how and why tablets find a role in practices when their potentialities overlap with some of our more ‘traditional’ technologies (e.g. laptops, smartphones)? If it’s not the tablet’s affordances, how might we make sense of the different roles that these technologies take on in everyday life?

This presentation opens up new questions and explores some of the interrelations of the tablet within a wider family of “things”. Using empirical data collected from two different cohorts (‘older’ participants, 65+, and ‘younger’ participants, 25 - 35), I will explain how the ‘use’ of the tablet is as related to cups of coffee, knees, and sofas, as it is to its cables, plugs, and apps.

Marta Olcoń-Kubicka, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland, Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, marta.olcon@gmail.com

Based on ethnographic research conducted in 28 young (up to 35-year-old) middle-class households in Warsaw this paper reports on the use of digital technologies of budgeting by Polish couples living and running a household together. Drawing on practice theory and culturally oriented sociology of money and working with evidence gathered among young Poles, this paper tracks everyday practices of calculation, valuation, and earmarking of domestic money. Many of the middle-class research participants bring home from the office the habit of using Excel spreadsheets, which they use to introduce order in their budgetary practices such as earning, spending and saving money, paying the bills, and shopping. Using the object-centered interviews focused on digital forms of finance management such as computer spreadsheets and mobile phones applications we observed the budgetary practices in the making. By keeping track of their finances in digital form couples produce a wide range of new data, as the Excel spreadsheets not only entail detailed categories and formulas, but also graphs that provide quick and comprehensible information about the current balance of the household and about the consumption fluctuations within particular categories month by month. The findings show that digital technologies not only enable and constrain economic action by prompting new practices in household financial budgeting, such as keeping the discipline and rationality in spending, but also they mobilize moral justifications by helping young couples to settle accounts between each other, enacting fairness and equality, togetherness or autonomy inside the couple.
The present research pertains to Gerry Philipsen’s ethnographic study of cultural communication (1981), on its’ proposition that one of the major functions of communication is to construct a sense of shared identity. Every ethnic group possesses a distinct “code” which is defined as “historically transmitted, socially constructed system of symbols and meanings, primes and rules, pertaining to communicative conduct” (Philipsen 1992:124, Philipsen 2010). The study investigates the development of political communication in the abovementioned cultures in connection with historical background and cultural peculiarities which create a unique political context. For instance, even identical rhetorical means can attain a wide range of connotations depending on cultural, historical and political development of the society. The study proves the dependence of linguistic and stylistic devices, which embellish presidential oratory, on cultural and historical components of the “codes” to which they pertain. The research investigates the connection of language and linguo-stylistic devices which politicians use to manipulate public opinion and construct a sense of shared identity with cultural, historical, and political background they rely on, in order to approach an ideal image of a politician. The study analyses variations of rhetorical patterns across cultures and their reliance on common cultural and historical background of a specific community. Thus, in order to be more persuasive and eloquent, presidents appeal to the features of their “codes” and apply identical linguistic and stylistic means in different connotations.

Helen Horton, Lancaster, England, Educational Research, h.horton@lancaster.ac.uk

Non-Government Organisations have traditionally held a pivotal role in the support of educational development programmes in low income countries. Embedded in the Mission Statements of organisations such as the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) and World Health Organisation (WHO) is the aim that education is the primary means of lifting people out of poverty, worldwide. My current research, set within an interpretivist paradigm and based on the principles of exploratory practice, explores some of the tensions that arise within the field of international development. Many countries wanting to improve the outcomes for learners in their education systems are driven by the desire to gain global recognition through their position on international assessment rankings, but are entrenched in the heritage of colonialist principles as a means to achieving this. Educational philosophy, however, would mitigate against this approach. I draw, in particular, on the work of Freire, viewing education as a means of empowerment for the individual rather than a vehicle for supporting government agendas and reinforcing the status quo. NGOs, however, are constrained by the requirement of their stakeholders. My current, focusses in particular on the work of the VSO, discusses the interplay between altruistic principles, funding body requirements and government policies in the countries in which intervention programmes operate. The presentation will also make reference to my own experience of working as an educational researcher within a teacher training programme in Papua New Guinea (PNG).
Halima Rahman, University of Liverpool, United Kingdom, Criminology, Sociology and Social Policy halima.rahman@liv.ac.uk

The meaning of ‘hijab’ is not as it used to be. A classical Arabic word which once over 1400 years ago described ‘to cover’ now refers to the modern head covering garment worn by Muslim women. The practice of head covering and veiling is one that has been present since pre-Islamic societies, formerly referring to the social status of women and later describing the traditions, cultural and religious practices of women from various societies. More recently the position of the modest fashion industry has transformed the meaning of ‘hijab,’ which allows Muslim Women to put “faith in fashion” and so redefining their identity in ways in which it allows them to express their religiosity, love for fashion, as well as the opportunity to integrate and adapt to the values of western society. However, amongst the media and political discussion the practice of ‘hijab’ (covering) raises concerns about the extent of freedom Muslim women have within the private space of their home, where it is labelled a symbol of misogyny and oppression. Likewise, in the public gaze it is more often perceived a threat to national security and a possible risk of extremism and radicalisation. Using mixed-methods exploratory design this research adopts semi-structured interviews and statistical data analysis in order to obtain quantitative and qualitative data to address the extent to which Muslim women have redefined the meaning of ‘hijab’ by utilising modest fashion to integrate into British society.

Howard Bryan, Lancaster University, United Kingdom, Law School, h.bryan@lancaster.ac.uk

15% of the world’s population, over a billion people suffer some form of disability. Nowadays to be able to live independent lives this large percentage of the population needs to be able to fully access the World Wide Web. Legislation has been put in place to make this possible, but despite this the majority of websites throughout the world continue to contain significant barriers to accessibility for disabled users. Lack of legal compliance in the United Kingdom could be due to the inability to bring class action under the Equality Act 2010. However in the United States of America class action for website inaccessibility has successfully been brought, but still web accessibility remains an issue. The threat of class action therefore appears not to be an effective motivator to legal compliance. This paper offers a fresh perspective on why the web remains inaccessible to disabled users and suggests an alternative approach to achieving both legal compliance and web accessibility for all.

This research is important because if websites are not coded in an accessible manner, disabled users will continue to be denied access to the many online services which are taken for granted by the non-disabled majority, including medical, financial, educational and social. As a result disabled people will be prevented from living a normal life.

Dawn Whitaker, Lancaster University, England, Sociology, d.whitaker1@lancaster.ac.uk

An autoethnographic reflection of the ethics of autoethnography

This presentation is an autoethnographic reflection of my (the researcher’s) journey toward ethical approval for a PhD by Practice in Social Work. A significant number of ethical issues emerged during the approval process, and whilst many of these were predicted, others were unforeseen and difficult to acknowledge and address. The presentation will expose the ethical dilemmas in the research and challenge the simplistic application of ethics to autoethnographic work.

The research: ‘Can autoethnography improve safeguarding adult social work practice?’ uses autoethnography to access insider knowledge. This is conceptualised as three inter-connected strands: 1) personal insider knowledge; 2) professional insider knowledge; and 3) service user insider knowledge.

I, as the researcher benefit from a unique standpoint position, as I have personal insider knowledge of requiring safeguarding, as well as professional knowledge of safeguarding others. In this context, safeguarding is defined as seeking to prevent abuse and neglect and stopping it quickly when it happens.

My autoethnography foregrounds the power of direct stories to critique safeguarding adult cultural beliefs and practices. This is complemented by the act of collaborative witnessing, during which the interviewees and I share personal and or professional experiences in the context of our relationship, and connect these to the broader culture. Collectively these techniques will establish robust autoethnographic data, to be combined with an associated practice portfolio and accompanying thesis.
This presentation seeks to problematise the practice of analysing qualitative ‘data’ by means of coding and thematic analysis, suggesting such an approach will likely impede understanding of gender-variance. Instead, ‘diffractive analysis’ is proposed as a fruitful alternative. I provide an overview of diffractive analysis and explain how it might benefit gender-variant people.

I argue that coding and the act of organising data into thematic categories is concerned with sameness (even when recording distinctive brackets of difference) – a desire to reflect an ontologically singular reality – which, due to reliance on axiomatic categories, is likely to perpetuate normativity and yield conspicuous results, foreclosing alternatives and limiting possibilities. Furthermore, I suggest that such a research process risks enacting and anchoring the ‘categories’ and ‘identities’ it seeks to understand. In contrast, diffractive analysis has difference at the fore and attends to an ontologically multiple reality; unstable and ambiguous – which is important and necessary, especially when researching gender and gender-variance.

Gender, conceived as an entangled bio-social phenomenon, allows one to theorise trans as material-discursive, thus, countering stigmatising tropes of the marked and anomalous body and/or the duped and victimised mind, tainted by social expectation. In attending to the material and discursive, the biological and the social, as mutually constituted, social research requires a suitable methodology – one which can cope with ‘messy’ fluidity. This talk outlines the way in which diffractive analysis generates novel ‘onto-epistemological’ interferences and disrupts seemingly stable subjects, subjectivities and norms.

This study explores the interplay between identity, consumption, myths, and culture among British Indian mothers (first-generation = “1G”) and daughters (second-generation = “2G”) in the UK. Drawing upon acculturation and myth consumption literatures, as well as interviews, I examine women’s identity-work when living in between/betwixt two cultures.

Acculturation is—“what happens to individuals who have developed in one cultural context, when they attempt to live in a new cultural context” (Luedicke, 2011:223).

I challenge current understanding of acculturation because:

- it assumes distinct and almost objective definitions of home and host cultures;
- it is based on conditions prevalent when mass migration was in effect;
- and it does not sufficiently deal with the unique issues that 2Gs face being locals themselves.

I develop a framework that conceptualises the heterogeneity and nuances within 2G identity-work (Askegaard, 2010), while challenging the applicability of acculturation theories to 2Gs (Luedicke, 2011; Luedicke, 2015; Sekhon & Szmigin, 2011; Lindridge, Hogg & Shah, 2007; Askegaard, Arnould & Kjeldgaard, 2005; Oswald, 1999; & Peñaloza, 1994). I focus particularly on analysing the mythologies involved in the process of acculturation, drawing on myth consumption literature (Holt & Thompson, 2004; Arsel & Thompson, 2011; Belk & Costa, 1998; Luedicke, Thompson & Giesler, 2011; Holt, 2006; Thompson, 2004; Thompson & Tian, 2008; Crockett & Davis, 2016) through overlapping concepts like the role of dominant discourse and ideology, dialectic tensions, consumption resources & practices, & conceptualised identity outcomes.

This project aspires to make two key theoretical contributions:

- Challenge existing understanding of acculturation as it applies to 2G migrants
- Extend the literature on myth consumption

When it comes to Critical Infrastructure Resilience (CIR) there seems to be a clear implementation gap at urban scale. Although the concept of Urban Resilience (UR) has recently gained prominence in academic and practical discourses, the determining role of CI systems herein receives relatively low attention. Particularly, interdependencies of CI systems seem to be disregarded. The study compares CIR and UR at a conceptual level. It analyses similarities and differences of both concepts in terms of their origin (when, how, and why did the concepts evolve?), their substance (what constitutes the concepts? How do they interpret resilience, risk, and security? What risks are focused on? What are the objects of protection?), their spatial logic (what spaces and places do the concepts point at? At what levels are the concepts strategically implemented?), their political framing (what actors promote the concepts? How are the concepts captured and debated politically?), as well as their policy design and.
Adapting cities to climate change have begun to be considered in Asia. Some cities in Southeast Asia and South Asia have joined the Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN) since 2009. As a regional initiative, ACCCRN has experimented with responding to climate change impacts at secondary cities and its urban population, especially poor and vulnerable communities (Brown et al, 2012). ACCCRN cities have involved with adaptation planning and actions that begin with stakeholder engagement, undertaking vulnerability assessment, planning for city resilience strategy, implementing adaptation projects and mainstreaming into policies. My PhD research aims to evaluate the approaches to climate change adaptation in order to build resilience. This research involves with different questions of how governing urban resilience create new rationality and subjectivities within the interrelation between Human and Nature in the age of Anthropocene. I argue that building urban resilience cannot be simply defined as a programmatic and deliberate process for managing climate risks and maintaining city’s functions, but also as experimentation for resilientization. This process of resilience aligns with the new paradigm in development after the Reformation Era in Indonesia (post-1998), which is reducing government involvement and enhancing individual capacity. My research focuses to examine the growing application of resilience as logic on how governing urban has been problematized, articulated and practiced.

Open session, 27th June, Bowland North Seminar room 26, 16.00-17.00

Nicola Sugden, University of Manchester, United Kingdom, Centre for the History of Science Technology and Medicine nicola.sugden@postgrad.manchester.ac.uk

Donald Winnicott (1896-1971) is known primarily as a child psychoanalyst, remembered for his introduction of several concepts into psychoanalytic theory (the ‘Good-Enough Mother’, ‘Transitional Objects’, the ‘True Self’ and ‘False Self’) as well as his development of diagnostic and therapeutic games (most famously the ‘Squiggle Game’) and his ideas about the use of play in psychoanalysis. He practiced as a psychoanalyst from his qualification in 1934 to his death in 1971, first in private consulting rooms and later in his own home. But the most constant fixture of his professional life was Paddington Green Children’s Hospital, where he worked in paediatrics for almost forty years. It was in this setting – in ‘the ordinary out-patient clinic of a children’s physician’ in a relatively deprived area of London – that Winnicott encountered most of the 60,000 or so patients claimed to have treated over the course of his career. Through an exploration of ‘Winnicottian’ ideas alongside a comparison of his private and hospital practices, Paddington Green emerges as a site crucial to the development and dissemination of Winnicott’s work, and as a place where psychoanalysis manifest perhaps as a way of seeing the child and encountering the world rather than as a structured therapeutic practice.

Joshua Hughes, Lancaster UK, Law j.hughes11@lancaster.ac.uk

Currently, nation states and arms companies are developing robotic weapons with autonomy, this is opposed by a collective of civil society NGOs called the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots. The campaign argues that current international law is insufficient to properly regulate any use of autonomous weapon systems, and therefore it is necessary to ban these types of weapons to prevent any ‘unregulated’ use. Autonomous weapon systems are defined as systems that can ‘select and engage targets without human intervention’ (US Department of Defense, 2012).

This paper will make two counterarguments to show that current international law is capable of regulating the development of, and governing the usage of, autonomous weapon systems. Firstly, it will consider legal reviews of weaponry, and how weapons themselves are regulated, to argue that any autonomous weapon system that is inherently unlawful could not pass this review stage. Secondly, this paper will look at how international law governs battlefield behaviours. It argues that compliance with the principles of the law of armed conflict would be able to restrict autonomous weapon systems from carrying out unlawful actions. Finally, the paper will consider how additional non-legal regulation of robotic behaviours may achieve greater humanitarian protections through technological management (the programming of undesirable behaviours as impossible for a robotic system to perform), without the need for new law.
This research is concerned with the production of subjectivity in spaces of the night time economy. Drawing on the work of Gilles Deleuze and Felix Guattari, I discuss how the modern nightclub and its apparatuses produce subjectivities. Attention is paid to a collective assemblage of enunciation that encompasses a diverse and heterogenous range of referents, including human and non-human expression. I take Maurizio Lazzarato’s reading of Guattari’s notion of ‘machinic-enslavement’, to explore how the nightclub-machine operates by circumventing language and dominant social significations, producing operations and inducing actions at the pre-individual or ‘dividual’ level. In so doing, I blur the ‘ontological barrier between subject and object established by social subjections’. Contrary to the Foucauldian notion of the subject who must think of and produce themselves as actors in their own social signification - such that domination issues from subjects themselves – this study seeks to understand how social significators constitute discourses that the ‘dividual’ enunciates to ‘appear to itself, to manifest itself to itself, as a pseudo-unity – as such, signifiers do not hide a reality; instead, they endow the ‘dividual’ with a relationship to time, space, and others, e.g. ‘worker’, ‘clubber’ and so on. An argument will be put forward, that naming oneself, I am, she is, they are - produces meaning, interpretation and representation, but this is only after a process (of machinic-enslavement), a conjunction with the nightclub-machine itself and such a ‘capitalist refrain’ only mitigates the effects of this machinic-enslavement, it does not constitute a governmental ‘self-domination’.

Open session, 27th June, Bowland North Seminar room 24, 11.30-12.30

Johana Prada Montano, Lancaster University, Colombia, Politics, Philosophy and Religion, j.pradamontano@lancaster.ac.uk

In the present work, I seek to analyse the role of the concept of recognition in the process of conflict resolution by exploring the relation between political recognition and the pursuit of a ‘Just Peace.’ This normative approach is limited to cases of the cessation of guerrilla warfare by a peace agreement. I start from the political understanding of violence. In that sense, I claim that guerrillas are an example of the use of violence for political objectives. Guerrillas pursue ideas of change vis-à-vis situations in which their differences are subject of abandon. Since, conflicts of identity have a broader interpretation by which are included conflicts that rest in differences of class, I reinforce the argument that guerrilla conflicts respond to situations of misrecognition. So, they fight for achieving political integration, in other words, they struggle for the recognition of their inner identity characteristics. I will attempt to show how the transformation of an insurgency into a political party is not a vacuous measure; but an initial one, firstly, to response to the problem of identity reconstruction after conflict; secondly, to reach a reality in which justice and peace are guarantee in the same extent. I claim that the formal political inclusion of guerrillas into the public realm is a necessary step in the construction of a ‘Just Peace’. To draw a better explanatory approach to this normative issue I will analyse the measures of political recognition adopted by the government of Colombia in regards with the guerrilla Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia -FARC-.

Tobias William Anthony Atkinson, Lancaster, United Kingdom, Sociology, tobyatkinson@hotmail.co.uk

Dominant biomedical and psychological understandings of autism, such as the model of autism as being an inability to conceive of others’ minds, are increasingly contested by theoretical and activist work produced by autistic people themselves, such as the critical scholarship of Damian Milton and Melanie Yergeau. Such work operates within what Nick Walker terms “‘the neurodiversity paradigm’", which critiques ableist standards of neurological normalcy and challenges ableist violence directed against autistic people. Situating myself within this paradigm as an Autistic scholar, my own work critiques dominant and influential gendered understandings of autism, primarily the conception of it as an exaggerated form of masculinity, one present within psychology literature, such as that of Simon Baron-Cohen and popular media discourses, for example the representation of Mark Zuckerberg as autistic. Such understandings impose normative conceptions of gender onto autistic people, actively marginalising identities and experiences outside of such frameworks, such as those of LGBT autistic people, whilst generating problematic understandings of autism and gender. In my presentation I intend to critically consider the gendering of autism in relation to media coverage of male entrepreneurial geeks and mass shooters, in which such figures are represented as being autistic, with their apparent autism intimately linked to particular notions of masculinity, such as an inability to empathise with others. Drawing upon scholarly work from neurodiversity studies, I contest such representations, ones which produce and reproduce troubling and harmful notions regarding autism and gender, and instead offer more critical perspectives on the relationships between autism and gender.
Josiane Fernandes, Lancaster University, Marketing, j.fernandes@lancaster.ac.uk  
Managing to Make New Market Agencements: Overcoming Stigma in Rio de Janeiro’s Favelas

How do entrepreneurs working at the bottom of the pyramid manage to make new, powerful, associations that overcome the barriers of Rio’s stigmatised markets? What do entrepreneurs do to make up an un-stigmatised market? Adopting a market studies approach we explored how agencements, i.e., powerful associations in markets (Callon, 2016; Kjellberg and Helgesson, 2006), come into being, are held stable and fall apart to understand which barriers are at play in the favela market and how they can be overcome. A two-phase study with data collected over the period of six months online and on site in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, interviewing micro-entrepreneurs across favelas, revealed barriers due to stigma of territory (Wacquant, 2007, Goffman, 2009). While phase 1 allowed the emergence of a concern around stigma, informal conversations with a micro-entrepreneur in Rocinha revealed deliberate actions focused on changing the images associated with favelas. Phase 2 consisted of framing a more detailed data collection following this specific actant (Latour, 2005), to understand the actions he is performing to attempt at resolving the concern of stigma. His focus is on promoting Rocinha as a great place to be; an alternative image to the socio-stigmatized favela (Fernandes, 2014). This paper makes three main contributions: It extends the literature on agencements by exploring their temporal nature; it contributes to the understanding of how stigma is held in place by analysing it as an agencement; through the notion of agencement, and it sheds light on ways of thinking about exchange among social worlds and bring about social change in Brazilian favelas.

Jana, Mikats, University of Graz, Austria, Sociology, jana.mikats@uni-graz.at  
When Home Becomes a Workplace: Practices involving Children and Adults in the Context of the Blurring of Boundaries between Creative Work, Family Life and Gender

In my dissertation project I examine everyday practices of family life in context of home-based work in the creative industries. Thus, I look into temporal, spatial, material, and affective aspects of everyday practices involving both children and adults. The project sheds light on the overlap resp. the blurring of boundaries between private life and work and its interrelated space-time arrangements, in the case where the home is the dual location of both family life and workplace. With a practice theoretical approach, I focus on the interlinkage of practices, as complexes they are not clearly to distinguish from each other: they can run synchronously or conflict and compete against each other (Reckwitz 2003). My main research question is how family practices are carried out in the place of single location home/workplace and how this is constrained, enabled and resisted by other — especially work - practices. This approach on the one hand sheds light on how family is done — I aim to empathize practices of differentiation, hence the gendered (e.g. mothering and fathering) and generational (e.g. “childing”) aspects of the family practices — and on the other hand gives a broader perspective on the relational and contextual nature of creative processes in both family and work life. The multi-perspective framework combines family and childhood studies with gender theory. Empirically I examine the everyday life of the family members by a qualitative multimethod approach (interviews, photo elicitation, socio-spatial network game, observation).

Huey Fen Cheong, Lancaster University, UK, Linguistics and English Language, h.cheong@lancaster.ac.uk  
Knowledge-Action Approach: Integrating Theory, Practice, and Performativity for a Comprehensive Analysis of Practice in Marketing Discourse

This paper aims to propose a knowledge-action approach to study practices involved in the marketing discourse. It is written in response to Shove and Araujo’s (2010) practice-based approach and Mason, Kjellberg, and Hagberg’s (2015) theory-practice gap as well as calls for research on marketing performativity. Both articles highlight the gap in marketing studies, i.e. lacking consideration of the practice. The knowledge-action approach aims to bridge this gap by integrating theory, practice, and performativity as well as analysing the relationship among them. The ‘theory’ refers to the taught/shared knowledge in marketing and/or social practice. ‘Practice’, on the other hand, is what we associate with the notion of ‘social’ as it refers to the common social actions of wide or specific communit(ies). Lastly, ‘performativity’ refers to individual’s actions that vary across individuals. Drawing from Fairclough’s (2016) dialectical-relational theory on discourse, I perceive all three elements as dialectical and relational with each other. The second part of my paper will illustrate how the knowledge-action approach is applied in my research on male grooming marketing discourses in product packaging and facebook brand pages. Since both theoretical concepts and research subjects are drawn from multiple disciplines (i.e. linguistics, marketing, and sociology/gender studies), I anticipate a multidisciplinary debate from concepts (e.g. ‘performativity’, ‘discourse’, ‘context’, and ‘practice’) to research approaches (e.g. different theories, methodologies, and gaps that caused by the nature of the disciplines). The ultimate aim is to reflect the beauty of interdisciplinarity in broadening the knowledge and boundaries of the specific discipline.
"Live fast, die young? Studying consumer practices for product longevity"

"Product longevity is a decisive factor for sustainability. Current research shows that usage periods often fall below product lifetimes. Despite full functionality, electronic devices are often replaced if new models are available that offer additional functions or a new design. Research in this field often focuses on decisions around product purchase and the role of expectations around longevity at the point of sale. However, practice related research shows that expectations around longevity varies significantly between product categories and during different consumption phases (acquisition, usage, disposal). My research focuses on how consumer practices are linked to short in comparison to long term usage periods of electronic devices. The aim is to reconstruct and systematize these practices in order to provide a conceptual framework for strategies that foster long usage periods and thus a sustainable consumption of electronic devices. Taking a practice theory perspective, I will thereby concentrate on and compare different product categories (smartphones, washing machines, mixers and fully automatic coffee machines). Theories of social practice bring practical action and routines into focus and enable a full integration of materialities into consumption patterns. It facilitates to understand why and under which circumstances certain practices take place and how products and consumers are interrelated in practice. The methodological focus is on qualitative social research. Qualitative interviews including diaries (cultural probes) and group discussions with consumers and experts are complemented by quantitative studies. The project is part of the research group Obsolescence funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

Open session, 27th June, Bowland North Seminar room 24, 16.00-17.00

Benjamin Hennchen, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany Institute of Environmental Social Sciences and Geography, benjamin.hennchen@envgov.uni-freiburg.de

An analysis of local food systems as fields of knowledge and practice

My thesis is an integral part of the transdisciplinary research project "KERNiG", which has the overall goal to initiate and monitor a sustainability transformation of the food system in two small cities in southern Germany. In this context, the focus of my research is set on different behavioral routines and related types of knowledge. With the help of social practice theory, I plan to identify and reconstruct elements of food practices and their structural development in an urban setting. Furthermore, I intend to investigate, what role knowledge plays within food practices and how it is distributed through social networks. My research will provide information about the challenges of knowledge diversity within governance strategies on a local level. Finally, results can be used to promote sustainable food practices with regard to knowledge integration and social learning processes. In cooperation with local stakeholders, I will begin by identifying potential cases: direct marketing, involvement with national organizations, societal initiatives (e.g. urban gardening, foodsharing), or educational activities for sustainable development. On this basis, practices related to topics of agricultural land use, food distribution and preparation, or food waste management will form my potential research objects. Therefore, meanings, rules, as well as explicit knowledge can be collected by qualitative methods such as semi-standardized interviews and document analysis. In addition to these categories, ethnographical observation methods are used to gather the implicit knowledge and the material dimension of social practices.

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Live fast, die young? Studying consumer practices for product longevity

Cornelia Wech, Lancaster University, European Languages and Cultures, c.wech@lancaster.ac.uk

One is not born, but rather becomes, a woman”, Simone de Beauvoir wrote in 1949. It seems that at present day, we live in a society that becomes less and less prescriptive in terms of how to live and express one’s gender and one might be tempted to believe that gender is merely a fluid concept these days. Yet, while we often might not be aware of it, both women and men are still subject to a range of normative rules and regulations that are promoted by institutions such as politics and the media. Art, in this sense, can present a platform of critique that exposes stereotypes and inequalities between the genders. In this presentation, I will therefore introduce you to the works of Elfriede Jelinek and Charlotte Roche, two writers from different generations and backgrounds who are known for their engagement with the role of women in contemporary Western society.
While their writing seems provocative at first sight and was certainly portrayed as scandalous by the media, it is also subversive, as it challenges prevalent normative structures, conventions and gender related practices. I will investigate how one “becomes a woman” nowadays and, highlighting the transformative potential of literature, show how language and arts not only influence our perception of the world but possibly also have an impact on our social futures. Pieces of art, I intend to show, have the potential to raise awareness, invite reflection and stimulate the audience to think about ways out of a normative framework of gender.

Open session, 27th June, Bowland North Seminar room 22, 10.00-11.00

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Considering the growing importance that Corpus Linguistics assumes in literary studies (Mahlberg, 2013 and Mahlberg and Stockwell, 2016 among others), a Corpus Linguistics methodology has been applied to a literary translation study.

The objective of the project is to identify culture-specific elements in translated and travels novels and to compare the techniques used to transpose them from one language into another (in case of translated novels) and from one culture into another (in case of travel novels) based on the hypothesis that same techniques are used to transfer culture-specific elements in the two types of texts.

With this aim, firstly a balanced and representative corpus has been compiled (formed by two subcorpora representing translated and travel novels). Then, a three phases methodology has been proposed in order to (a) identify cultural elements in each set of texts, (b) determine the transposition technique used in each case and (c) compare the results obtained in the two subcorpora. Each methodological steps was carried out separately for each subcorpus and was characterized by the use of different tools to reach specific goals.

In first phase, cultural elements have been identified in the analyzed texts through word lists, clusters and concordances. During the second phase, alignments and searches in parallel concordance have been used to determine transposition techniques. Finally, the results obtained from the two subcorpora have been compared. The outcomes underline the common features in cultural representation between translated and travel texts, showing similarities and differences in translators and travelers’ vision of otherness.

References
Mahlberg, Michaela and Peter Stockwell (2016). “Point and CLiC: teaching literature with corpus stylistic tools”, in Burke, Michael, Olivia Fialho and Sonia Zyngier (eds) Scientific Approaches to Literature in Learning Environments, Amsterdam: John Benjamins, pp.251-267

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In the UK, under 18s can be both living and cadaver organ donors if appropriate consent is provided by themselves, their parents, or the courts. (England and Northern Ireland are governed by the Human Tissue Act 2004; Scotland is governed by the Human Tissue (Scotland) Act 2006; and Wales is governed by the Human Transplantation (Wales) Act 2013) If a child under the age of 16 is to be able to consent to their own ‘treatment’ they must be deemed to be Gillick competent, meaning that “they can demonstrate sufficient understanding and intelligence to enable them to fully understand what is proposed.” (Gillick v West Norfolk and Wisbech Area Health Authority [1986] AC 112 HL, 189) However, the courts are yet to consider whether a Gillick competent child could sufficiently understand the risks and implications of being a living organ donor in order to provide valid consent. This research considers the applicability and limitations of Gillick competence, furthermore, it will also examine whether a parent can override a Gillick competent child’s refusal to being an organ donor. (Re R (a minor) (Wardship: Medical Treatment) [1992] Fam 11; Re W (a minor) (Medical Treatment: Court’s Jurisdiction) [1992] 3 WLR 758) This paper argues that allowing a Gillick competent child to consent to organ donation would distort and expand its original purpose as set out by the House of Lords, potentially resulting in more under 16s consenting to a procedure that would not be considered to be in their medical best interests.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dina Fawaz</td>
<td>Abed Elkalil</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elena Afromeeva</td>
<td></td>
<td>14, 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghadah Albarqi</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Alcaraz Carrión</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Theresa Atkinson</td>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tobias Atkinson</td>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tess Baxter</td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karina Ben Abbes</td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leila Bensedik</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Howard Bryan</td>
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<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geoffrey Burrows</td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huey Fen Cheong</td>
<td></td>
<td>2, 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeynep Duran Karaoz</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivonne Elsner</td>
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<td>19</td>
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<td>Hussein Faruque Aly</td>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Josiane Fernandes</td>
<td></td>
<td>3, 33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Fuzesi</td>
<td></td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iain Goddard</td>
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<td>Prue Goredema</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chad Hall</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>Sawsan Hassan</td>
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<td>15</td>
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<td>Louise Heatley</td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Hennchen</td>
<td></td>
<td>3, 33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamina Hipp</td>
<td></td>
<td>3, 33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lindsey Claire Hogg</td>
<td></td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Torik Holmes</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Krystel Honsbeek</td>
<td></td>
<td>4, 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Horton</td>
<td></td>
<td>4, 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andreas Huck</td>
<td></td>
<td>20, 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Hughes</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ekaterina Ignatova</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sadaf Noor E Islam</td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muhammad Khurshid</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Marie Lassen</td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Han Lun Lee</td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boon Sier Jeanette Lim</td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolyne Lord</td>
<td></td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Mattioli</td>
<td></td>
<td>9, 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suzanne McClure</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valentino Meilinger</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bhavna Middha</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jana Mikals</td>
<td></td>
<td>5, 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Murray</td>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erwin Nugraha</td>
<td></td>
<td>21, 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derek Oakley</td>
<td></td>
<td>18, 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marta Olcoñ-Kubicka</td>
<td></td>
<td>5, 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beatriz Pineda Revilla</td>
<td></td>
<td>8, 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johanna Prada Montano</td>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anuja Anil Pradhan</td>
<td></td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Halima Rahman</td>
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<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fares Rezouq</td>
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<td>16</td>
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<td>Olena Rossi</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>Vasiliki Saloustrou</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kalina Saraiva de Lima</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lukas Sattlegger</td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Scholz</td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benedikt Sepp</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoyander Street</td>
<td></td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicola Sugden</td>
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<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duy Van Vu</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Predrag Vujic</td>
<td></td>
<td>6, 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachael Wakefield-Rann</td>
<td></td>
<td>6, 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexi Webster</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornelia Wech</td>
<td></td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawn Whitaker</td>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yuening Yang</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shuo Yu</td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. Tehseen Zahra</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xingzi Zhang</td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thanks for coming to Lancaster.

If you would like to come back again and stay for longer we have great opportunities for visiting PhD students. You pay PhD student fees, for which you get regular supervision and access to university facilities (including the chance to play floorball on Tuesday lunchtimes!).

If you are interested in visiting for one to six months, or longer check the relevant departmental web site.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Instructor Name</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Room</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to Computer Science</td>
<td>John Doe</td>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Structures and Algorithms</td>
<td>Jane Smith</td>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programming Fundamentals</td>
<td>Robert Johnson</td>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Systems and Networks</td>
<td>Emma Lee</td>
<td>13:00</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern Software Engineering</td>
<td>Albert Harris</td>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Networks and Security</td>
<td>Victoria Davis</td>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cybersecurity and Cryptography</td>
<td>Charles Green</td>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet and Web Technologies</td>
<td>Olivia Brown</td>
<td>17:00</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Database Systems and Management</td>
<td>Andrew White</td>
<td>18:00</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Topics in Computer Science</td>
<td>Brian Wong</td>
<td>19:00</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Methods and Development</td>
<td>Lucy Black</td>
<td>20:00</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Times are in 24-hour format.*