



univie:summer school · GAL Research School

# Metapragmatics, Language Ideologies, and Positioning Practices

University of Vienna · July 16 – 20, 2018

## Instructors

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## Thematic description

When analyzing language (use) in society, we have to deal with *reflexivity* and *indexicality* – with the way speakers conceive of their own and others' communicative practices, the way they evaluate them, and the way they link them with social positions and stances. The question why and with which consequences this happens is central in contemporary Sociolinguistics and Linguistic Anthropology, and it deeply concerns Applied Linguistics in general.

The thematic, theoretical, and methodological interests and approaches to reflexive, indexical and language ideological phenomena vary across the field. While (the anthropologically rooted) research in metapragmatics and language ideologies usually focuses on how language practices reflexively refer to themselves or to specific contexts of usage, how such meta-references are discursively distributed and negotiated, and how they are linked with the socio-political field and the political economic conditions, studies on positioning practices (emerging from discursive psychology, conversation analysis and

interactional sociolinguistics) traditionally highlight the role of evaluation processes in and for interactional contextualization.

This Summer School attempts to bring these strands together for productive sociolinguistic analyses. Our discussions will revolve around the following questions:

- What do local practices tell us about social structures and the socio-political context?
- Why do we want, and need, to understand these linkages?
- How do we approach indexical and ideological phenomena, methodically?
- How does our individual research contribute to theoretical reflections and methodological approaches of and to reflexive/indexical/ideological linkages?

## Form

The program consists of lectures, workshops, and discussions with the invited scholars, who are leading figures in the relevant fields of research. One part of the Summer School is dedicated to theoretical input; the other focuses on the methodological applications of the theories. The Summer School is framed by a social program that is thematically linked to the School's

topic and gives room for extended individual exchange. The establishment of longer-term discussion structures (a metapragmatics network or forum) will be actively encouraged and supported by the organizers.

Doctoral students are supposed to present a poster on their individual projects. They are furthermore supposed to prepare project data for a methodological workshop. The language of the Summer School is English.

## Application process

Interested doctoral students are asked to apply with an abstract of their doctoral project (one page) and a motivation letter (one page) which links their doctoral project to the topic of the Summer School. The admission of max. 20 participants will be determined on this thematic link.

## Dates

- Appl. deadline: March 31, 2018
- Workload: 6 ECTS
- Fees: EUR 200 (regular), EUR 150 (reduced); accomodation and board is not included

## Organziation & Information

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