

DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

7 May 2013, 10 am - 5 pm, Institute of Multilingualism

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

PhD Workshop Studying children's language development in bilingual environments

Prof. Erika Hoff, Florida Atlantic University
Chair: Prof. Raphael Berthele

Prof. Erika Hoff is the principal investigator of the Language Development Lab of Florida Atlantic University which comprises several projects aimed at identifying the human abilities and human experiences that contribute to language development. Their main focus is a NICHD-funded longitudinal study of English monolingual and Spanish-English bilingual children from the age of 2 ½ to 5 years. They are looking for evidence of factors in children's early language experiences and early language development that predict successful oral language and preliteracy outcomes at the age children begin formal schooling.

Morning session

To start with, Prof. Hoff will present the work of the Language Development Lab, the methods they use, and recent findings from the ongoing longitudinal study of young bilinguals. She will then get onto some concrete difficulties and pitfalls she and her team have been confronted with in conducting this research.

Some of these difficulties will be discussed in groups in the form of a problem-solving workshop.

Afternoon session

After the midday break, the students have the opportunity to make a short presentation of their dissertation project. They might present their theoretical construct, their methods and /or their data and ask concrete questions, so that the other students and Prof. Hoff can react, give some advice, criticise the methods or the theoretical construct and help refine it.

✎ The workshop will be held in English.

PhD programme on Multilingualism

The workshop is part of the doctoral programme Multilingualism: Acquisition, Education, and Society (module B, psycholinguistics). It is organised by the Institute of Multilingualism and the study domain Multilingualism and foreign languages, at the University of Fribourg and carried out in close collaboration with the Center for the Study of Language and Society of the University of Bern and with professors from the Universities of Geneva and Lausanne.

✎ www.institute-multilingualism.ch

Participation conditions

The number of participants is limited. Doctoral students of the programme's partner universities (Fribourg, Berne, Lausanne, and Geneva) have priority. Students from other Swiss universities may participate if there are places left.

Registration

To register for this workshop, send an abstract of your doctoral project to Magalie Desgrippes at Magalie.Desgrippes@unifr.ch before 15 April.

Deadline

Registration deadline for the workshop:

✎ Monday, 15 April 2013

Location

✎ Institute of Multilingualism, rue de Morat 24, 1700 Fribourg, room K1.03.