

Call for participation

Language and Emotion: From Research to Practice

Organisers: Dr Ingrid A. Medby & Dr Sally Holloway

We are pleased to announce a one-day workshop at Oxford Brookes University on 1st March 2019, centring on the intersections of language and emotion in academic practice. The day aims to bring together scholars from across disciplines to discuss both how language and language-practices feature as themes in our research on emotion, and how language and language-practices influence everyday work as researchers and teachers of emotion in Higher Education.

The event is motivated by the recognition of how despite academia's diversity, dividing lines often run along both specialist language or jargon, as well as language abilities and communication styles. This event will allow reflection on experiences of language-practices as researchers and teachers: how is our everyday and professional life in a global and internationalising workplace influenced by (or influencing) language and language-learning?

The day will involve keynote lectures by the historian **Dr Tiffany Watt-Smith** (Queen Mary University of London), author of *The Book of Human Emotions* (2015), and the translator and interpreter **Dr Severine Hubscher-Davidson** (Open University), author of *Translation and Emotion: A Psychological Perspective* (2017).

Please note that other participants will not present papers, but are asked to contribute to discussions around the above broad questions by drawing on their own research/teaching experience. For example, we invite reflections on different uses and emotive capacities of language across different sites: (i) in the classroom, lecture theatre, and on a conference stage; (ii) in online communications, e.g. emails, grant proposals, VLEs, and feedback; (iii) contested/political meanings in the classroom and publishing process, limits of so-called free speech; (iv) in interactions with international students and colleagues, diverse identities within academia.

These are not meant as an exhaustive list of topics but are meant to serve as prompts for discussion throughout the day, allowing us to think across topics. It is meant to generate dialogue both about and through language that not only makes shared worlds but is also itself made in these shared acts and experiences. As such, it highlights the interwoven concerns of emotion and language, worldviews and experiences – themes that run through our otherwise different academic pursuits.

In order to keep discussion open and informal, spaces are limited. We are therefore inviting expressions of interest by emailing us at imedby@brookes.ac.uk, preferably by Friday 8th February. Please include your name and affiliation, as well as a short introduction, outlining your particular interest in the workshop's topics. We are unfortunately not able to provide financial support for attendance, but the event itself is free of charge.

The longer-term aim of the event is to strengthen interdisciplinary connections, hopefully with a legacy beyond the event itself. The participation of two external speakers is kindly supported by the AHRC-funded project [Language Acts and Worldmaking](#), and builds on the OBU seminar series "Emotions across Disciplines".

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