

SLE Workshop proposal

Title of the proposed WS. Exploring the many aspects of the challenges of multimodality in linguistic studies, theories and approaches.

Contact information of convenors

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Key words: multimodality, usage-based approach, language change and variation, data-driven methods, cross-disciplinary research

Description of the workshop

Multimodality has developed considerably over the past twenty years and now represents a major challenge for language description, linguistic theories and embodied semantic practices. The workshop aims to combine work in multimodality from all linguistic, semiotic and cognitive perspectives, with a focus on solving or dealing with empirical methodological challenges. Bringing together multiple avenues of research across various fields of inquiry will provide eye-opening conversations and debates for researchers. Gathering data, sharing information and comparing methods and challenges across multiple subjects and disciplines will enable essential cross pollination of empirical usage-based knowledge.

We welcome research focusing on any of the following areas, with the objective of sharing practices and concerns from a variety of disciplinary perspectives.

- **iconicity** and multimodality challenges (transmodality or crossmodality, embodied semantics, sound symbolism, sign language, semiotics). In linguistics, multimodality is especially relevant to motivation studies (and iconicity), the study of the motivation behind innovations, neologisms, idioms, expressions.
- **cognitive and usage-based linguistics and multimodal challenges**
- **multimodal constructions** (and construction grammar): emerging constructions (meme, gifs), phraseological innovation,
- **pragmatics** and multimodality challenges (interaction studies, conversation studies, **rhetoric, sarcasm and irony** studies, humour studies)
- **communication** theory (film study, advertising, communication studies and multimodality)
- **second language learning**, child language, learning difficulties and multimodality challenges (silent method and miming, embodied approaches to second language learning, eye-tracking studies)
- **corpora** and multimodality challenges (technical and methodological challenges of multimodal data, tools for multimodal analysis)
- **phraseology** and multimodality challenges
- **variation** and multimodality challenges

- **lexicography** and multimodality challenges for dictionaries
- **translation** and multimodality challenges (contrastive linguistics)
- **diachronic linguistics** and multimodality challenges
- **artificial intelligence** and multimodality challenges

Call for papers

Preliminary abstracts (300 words, as DOCX file) should be sent to the workshop organizers by 15 November 2023. If the workshop proposal is successful, prospective presenters will be asked to submit a 500 word abstract directly to SLE by 15 January 2024

Acceptance will be based on the quality and fit of the abstract. If the workshop proposal is accepted by the SLE, all the preliminary workshop participants should then submit their full abstracts to EasyChair before 15 January 2024. Please feel free to contact us, if you have any further questions. Kind regards, Chris Smith, Araceli Gómez Fernández and Jeanne Vigneron-Bosbach.

Select references

Bateman John, Wildfeuer Janina, Hiippala Tuomo. 2017. *Multimodality: Foundations, Research and Analysis - A Problem-Oriented Introduction*. Berlin: De Gruyter.

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Jewitt, Carey (ed.). 2014[2009]. *The Routledge Handbook of Multimodal Analysis*, updated 2nd edn. London: Routledge.

Hoffmann, Thomas. 2017. Multimodal constructs – multimodal constructions? The role of constructions in the working memory. *Linguistics Vanguard*: 1-10.

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