

# DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

17 May 2018, Institute of Multilingualism

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

## Doctoral Workshop: The Making of a Glottopolitical Research Project

**Prof. Dr. José del Valle**, The Graduate Center, City University of New York

**Chair:** Prof. Alexandre Duchêne, University of Fribourg

### Abstract

This workshop aims at reflecting on the various challenges when it comes to the elaboration of a research project associated with a transdisciplinary approach to language. Different academic fields include language among their objects of interest: anthropology, philology, philosophy and, of course, linguistics. Each field, however, has evolved autonomously — though not isolated — over time developing an interest in a particular dimension of language, establishing preferred research protocols and creating institutional venues through which to fund, publicize and ultimately legitimize their output.

Proponents of new perspectives on language, therefore, must confront the challenge of a disciplinary cartography resistant to novelty — resistant to funding or publishing work that disrupts its premises —, and they must do so not only through “field maneuvering” but also through methodological and theoretical operations that result in a coherent intellectual project that explicitly engages with broader discourse communities inside and outside academia.

Based on my current in-progress research project: Nation-building in global times: A glottopolitical approach to Spanish, I will discuss the problems associated with convincingly defining the glottopolitical perspective by justifying its position and contribution within a complex disciplinary map of knowledge production. Second, I will present the challenges associated not just with conceptualizing the object but also with materializing it, with the production of a corpus that can be subjected to specific observational and analytical protocols of knowledge production.

### Participation

Doctoral students of the program’s partner universities (Fribourg, Berne, Lausanne and Geneva) are eligible to participate. Students from other Swiss universities may participate depending on places available.

To register, please contact Naomi Shafer (naomi.shafer@unifr.ch) by April 25th, 2018.

Location: Institute of Multilingualism, rue de Morat 24, 1700 Fribourg (room K1.03)

👉 [www.institute-multilingualism.ch](http://www.institute-multilingualism.ch)

### PhD programme on Multilingualism

The workshop is part of the doctoral programme Multilingualism: Acquisition, Education, and Society. It is organized 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.

## **Programme**

9-12 Lecture and Discussion

14-16 Workshop with PhD students and Postdocs

## **Invited speaker**

### **Prof. José del Valle (City University of New York)**

José del Valle is Professor of Hispanic Linguistics at The Graduate Center, City University of New York. His research focuses on the politics of language representation in Spain, Latin America, and the USA as well as more broadly on the interface between linguistic and intellectual history. He is the editor of "A Political History of Spanish: The Making of a Language" (2013, Cambridge University Press).