The Research Laboratory ‘Langage et Société-URAC 56’

Organizes an international colloquium on the theme

« The didactics of languages and cultures, between research and intervention, put to the test of contemporary upheavals in the world »

Faculté des Langues, des Lettres et des Arts, Université Ibn Tofaïl
Kénitra, June 10th, 2022

Conference Description

The world is constantly changing under the influence of several political, economic, climatic, social, health, technological, etc. factors, giving rise to profound planetary mutations. A new international order is being invented, and everywhere, political, economic, social and educational reforms are trying to adapt to change in order to be up to the multifaceted challenges facing humanity. However, this order is torn between opposing forces, those of the hopes of globalization and international openness on the one hand, and those of withdrawal and identity fragmentation on the other. Indeed, despite the transformations brought about by the fall of the Berlin Wall, the end of the Cold War and the resolution of certain geopolitical tensions, and even if many crises have experienced the beginning of a settlement, many conflicts involve the whole of the globe and threaten again the balance of the world. The last decades experienced the greatest human massacres: civil wars and genocides perpetrated everywhere in the planet, in Africa, in the Gulf, in Yemen, in the Middle East (Lebanon, Syria), in Russia... The consequences of geopolitical conflicts, of wars, of climate change, of economic and health crises have shaped the world through giving rise to new forms of individual mobility (flight from wars, exoduses, migratory flows) which led to other communication needs, resulting from contacts between languages and cultures.

The didactics of languages and cultures, which, since its separation from applied linguistics in the 1960s, has chosen to make of issues related to the use and the user of languages in complex and complicated contexts a personal concern, cannot therefore ignore these contemporary upheavals. It evolves at the whim of the transformations that affect the world to meet the constantly growing and renewed needs of individuals and communities to adapt to their environments, which are also constantly changing. Its answers are multiple. It thus develops research and intervention paradigms that research, among other things, contexts (contextualized didactics), contact between languages and cultures (didactics of plurilingualism and interculturalism), the problems of immigration (didactics of integration), communities of practice (situated learning, technolectal approaches, etc.).

The didactics of languages and cultures, taking advantage of advances in other disciplines (sociology, sociolinguistics, psychology, neurosciences, new technologies, etc.) is a transdisciplinary field where diverse approaches intersect to probe complex contexts and...
various objects. The path of research is strewn with pitfalls and the researcher must show patience, inventiveness and ingenuity to circumvent the hazards and obstacles that come their way and which are part of their daily life.

In this colloquium, we are interested in the meeting space between research and intervention in the didactics of languages and cultures and in the feedback of experiences carried out in the face of the challenges of the constraints imposed by contemporary political, economic and health conditions. The focal point on which it is undoubtedly appropriate to stop, is that of the complications caused by the COVID-19 pandemic constraining researchers in their field investigations because of border closures, confinement and isolation at each new wave.

No theme is, a priori, ruled out: a relatively broad panorama of research and intervention topics developed in the didactics of languages and cultures is contemplated. It is centered around the following axes:

Axis 1 / Theoretical construction and methodological development in didactics of languages and cultures;

Axis 2 / Contextualization, plurilingual approaches and situated learning: technolects, LSP (Language for Specific Purposes), LAP (Language for Academic Purposes), university literacy and relationship to writing, etc.;

Axis 3 / Research and intervention difficulties in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and the health crisis and integration of digital tools;

Axis 4 / Emotion, empathy, affectivity, reflexivity and subjectivity of the researcher.

**Paper proposals**

We expect twenty minutes papers in French, Arabic or English. Proposals for papers will be in the form of a 500 words maximum abstract (spaces not included). They will be accompanied by a brief biography of the author, a brief bibliography (3 to 5 references) and 4 to 5 keywords. Paper proposals must be submitted on the conference website. They will be subject to two anonymous peer evaluations.

**Dates to remember**

Deadline for paper proposal submission: April 30th, 2022
Notice of acceptance: May 15th, 2022
Colloquium registration deadline for speakers: May 31st, 2022
Schedule of the colloquium: June 10th, 2022

**Registration fees**

The registration fee is €50 for external speakers and €30 for participants and internal teacher-researchers.

The registration fee covers the colloquium kit, coffee breaks and lunch during the colloquium. They also open the right to the possibility of submitting the article of one's communication for the evaluation with a view to its publication. Travel and subsistence costs are the responsibility of the participants or their home institution.

Instructions for the payment of the registration fees will be sent by mail and they must be made before May 30th, 2022.
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