

Symposium
Languages in the City

7-8 April, 2025
Utrecht, the Netherlands

This is the short version of the booklet for print use.

The open-source \LaTeX template, `AMCOS_booklet`, used to generate this booklet is available at https://github.com/maximelucas/AMCOS_booklet

About

Cities are spaces where different cultures and languages meet. How do people use their languages in such urban environments? How are cityscapes marked by multilingualism? How do the institutional spaces in cities (for example, schools, governments and other organisations) engage with multilingual citizens? This two-day symposium, hosted in Utrecht from 7-8 April 2025, explores the multitude of linguistic practices both formal and informal that serve to "open up" or "close down" participation in urban spaces for various groups of people.

Organizing committee

This symposium is organized in collaboration with the Open Cities Platform. The organising committee, composed of researchers affiliated with the Institute for Language Sciences (ILS) and the Institute for Cultural Inquiry (ICON), is led by Haidee Kotze, professor of Translation Studies at Utrecht University. Haidee's research focuses on language use in multilingual contexts, with a special interest in translation. Her most recent work investigates the linguistic ecologies of (post)colonial parliaments, exploring the complex interfaces between political and linguistic contestation and democratisation, in both policy and practice.

Wafa Al-Alawi	Madison Steele
Anna Alborghetti	Marie Steffens
Debbie Cole	Angela Tarantini
Christophe Declercq	Margot van den Berg
Christopher Jenks	Rozanne Versendaal
Haidee Kotze	Bram Vertommen
Manuela Pinto	Mia You
Natalia Rivera-Vera	Rena Zendedel

Timetable

NOTE: The following is a preliminary program. After registration we will have a final program, which will be sent a couple of weeks before the symposium.

Monday, 7th of April

LOCATION	Kromme Nieuwegracht 80, room 0.06	
8:45-9:00	Welcome	
9:00-9:45	Keynote speaker Debbie Cole	
LOCATION	Janskerkhof 15A, room 0.04	Drift 25, room 0.02
	Chronotopes and roadscapes Chair: Wafa Al-Alawi	From conflict to conversation Chair: Madison Steele
10:15-10:45	Li, Songqing <i>Driving through Lingtian Road: Chronotopes, affective roadscape, and monitoring</i>	Bahar Pancaroglu, Seda <i>From conflict to conversation: English and the new literary landscape of post-2003 Cyprus</i>
10:45-11:00	Coffee/Tea break	
LOCATION	Janskerkhof 15A, room 0.04	Drift 25, room 0.02
	Multilingualism in primary education Chair: Manuela Pinto	Multilingualism and conflict/crisis Chair: Christopher Declercq
11:00-11:30	Unsworth, Sharon; Knopp, Eva & Lammertink, Imme <i>Using linguistic diversity to engage (multilingual) children across the Netherlands in language science</i>	Hopkyns, Sarah & van den Hoven, Melanie <i>Health communication in times of crises: A comparative study of Abu Dhabi and Chamonix linguistic landscapes</i>

11:30-12:00	Wakelkamp, Indira; Wouters, Eveline; Kok, Mees; Immerman, Jantje; Smit, Jantien <i>Multilingual and language-supportive practices in urban primary schools: The role of newcomer specialists in Utrecht</i>	Awadelkarim, Abdelmagid Abdelrahman <i>The Sudan December 2018 revolution: Navigating language-crossing practices</i>
LOCATION	TBA	
12:00-13:15	Lunch break & Poster session	
LOCATION	Janskerkhof 15A, room 0.04	Drift 25, room 0.02
	Multilingualism in the workplace Chair: Natalia Rivera-Vera	Synchronic and diachronic multilingual practices Chair: Margot van den Berg
13:15-13:45	Naber, Kimberly; Steele, Madison; de Graaff, Rick; ten Thije, Jan D. & Rivera-Vera, Natalia <i>Receptive multilingualism in academic settings: Educational, meeting, and experimental contexts</i>	Erduyan, Işıl <i>Multilingualism in Istanbul at the juncture of diachronicity and synchronicity</i>
13:45-14:15	van den Hoven, Melanie & Ahmad, Rizwan <i>Working languages in a multilingual high-risk industry in the UAE</i>	Versendaal, Rozanne; Petrovskaia, Natalia & Bobichon, Pauline <i>Multilingual practices in the Early Modern City: Learning from the multilingual book</i>
14:15-14:45	—	Feller-Simmons, Paul G. <i>Multilingualism at the early modern Amsterdam Portuguese synagogue and the construction of a Sephardic Acoustic Community</i>
14:45-15:00	Coffee/Tea break	
LOCATION	Janskerkhof 15A, room 0.04	Drift 25, room 0.02
	Language variants, dialects and identity Chair: Bram Vertommen	Language practices, migration, tourism and museums Chair: Rena Zendedel

15:00-15:30	Pérez Rodríguez, Samantha <i>Andalusian Spanish in Brussels: Dialectal variation of coda /s/ in a heritage context</i>	Wolny, Mathias <i>Migration, tourism and glocalization: Scale and spatiality in the linguistic landscape of Venice</i>
15:30-16:00	Vriesendorp, Hielke; Dziura, Nathaniel & Grace, Johanna <i>Dialect (levelling) in the city: 40 years of changes in employment, education, and social networks in Sheffield</i>	Koç, Günseli <i>Linguistic landscapes and the psychodynamics of place: Tourism as a pathway to therapeutic self-intervention and identity transformation</i>
16:00-16:30	Schramm, Christian & Rojas-Berscia, Luis Miguel <i>Kiek duir, wa ruir, the place of ut Nimweegs in the multilingual landscape of Nijmegen</i>	Moraru, Mirona; Bakker, Arthur; Smit, Jantien & Blom, Elma <i>'Afraid of what's written on the wall': Institutional tensions in museum language practices at the margins of the city</i>
LOCATION	Kromme Nieuwegracht 80, room 0.06	
17:00-18:00	Panel discussion Chair: Wafa Al-Alawi & Chris Jenks	

Tuesday, 8th of April

LOCATION	Janskerkhof 15A, room 0.01	Drift 25, room 1.02
	Multilingualism and AI in the city Chair: Marie Steffens	Multi- and metrolingualism, identity and cultural practices Chair: Natalia Rivera-Vera
9:30-10:00	Baumgarten, Stefan; Pacheco Aguilar, Racquel & Weiss, David <i>Multilingual citizens and communicative AI in public services: Towards societal inclusion through hybrid translation?</i>	Pillai, Malavika P. <i>Navigating linguistic and cultural dualities: Metrolingualism, identity, and citizenship among Franco-Pondicherrians in India</i>
10:00-10:30	Gonçalves, João & Mol, CeesJan <i>AI in the city: Context specific language models</i>	Özoğul, Özge <i>Foreign researchers' multilingual practices and cultural experiences in urban academic workplaces</i>
10:30-10:45	Coffee/Tea break	
LOCATION	Janskerkhof 15A, room 0.01	Drift 25, room 1.02
	Linguistic landscapes: Community perspectives Chair: Bram Vertommen	Multilingualism in higher education Chair: Manuela Pinto
10:45-11:15	Houser Nicole <i>"The Languages that Surround Us:" A First-Year Seminar Connecting Students to Community through Linguistic Landscape Research</i>	Mooijman, Saskia; Kuiper, Cindy; Timmerman, Jantje & Smit, Jantien <i>Multilingual tutors as brokers in secondary education for newcomers</i>
11:15-11:45	Alamsi, Ramwa <i>Constructing home(s): How do Arabic grocery shops contribute to shaping the identity of Amsterdam</i>	Lenting, Kyra; Le Breton, Maritza; Burren, Susanne & Nacht, Daniel <i>Language dynamics in the context of social (in)equity: Navigating linguist hierarchies in Swiss upper secondary education</i>
11:45-13:15	Lunch break & City walk	
LOCATION	Janskerkhof 15A, room 0.01	Drift 25, room 1.02

	Linguistic landscapes in urban spaces Chair: Bram Vertommen	Multilingual practices, identity & belongingness Chair: Madison Steele
13:15-13:45	Demir, Nurettin; Uzun, Melike; Kılıç, Gizem & Cırık, Ebru <i>The linguistic landscape analysis in the capital city of Türkiye</i>	Gibson, Hannah & ResCue, Elvis <i>Urban youth language practices on university campuses: Perspectives from Zambia and Malawi</i>
13:45-14:15	Goswami, Monami <i>Words on walls: Signage, identity and exclusion in Kolkata's streets</i>	Huang, Roria Xinyi <i>Fostering belongingness through language play: Studying a Hong Kong-style café menu in Manchester</i>
14:15-14:45	Cırık, Ebru <i>A view at the linguistic landscape of Mardin-Turkey: A Bakhtinian approach</i>	—
14:45-15:00	Coffee/Tea break	
LOCATION	Janskerkhof 15A, room 0.01	Drift 25, room 1.02
	Walking through the city Chair: Angela Tiziana Tarantini	Multilingualism in the city, in literature and in art Chair: Mia You
15:00-15:30	Xie, Shanshan; Wang, Xuan <i>Narrating linguistic landscapes through multi-scalar chronotopes: A walking tour of an urbanising neighbourhood in China</i>	May, Caroline <i>Literary metrolingualism: How language builds the city: Examining urban language in Wolf Biermann's Berlin poems</i>
15:30-16:00	Hattuma, Luka <i>How habitual routines move off the beaten track: A critical toponomic reading of Utrecht and the role of improvised walking in understanding the intersectional violence behind street names</i>	Levick, Tiffane <i>Dubbing and subbing the fabric of France's urban spaces: Translating the political satire Represent</i>
16:00-16:30	Van der Worp, Karin <i>The multilingual cityscape of the Basque Autonomous Community: Written and spoken languages at the market</i>	—

LOCATION	Kromme Nieuwegracht 80, room 0.06
17:00-18:00	Performance: Poetry in the City Co-organized by the NWO Veni project "Poetry in the Age of Global English" Chair: Mia You Maria Barnas (fomer poet laureate of Alkmaar) Dean Bowen (former poet laureate of Rotterdam) Hanneke van Eijken (member of the Utrecht Poets Guid)

