

Internationales Forschungs- und Nachwuchsförderungsnetzwerk für Interkulturelle Germanistik (IFNIG)

„German Abroad 3“-Conference 2018: Contact Varieties of German abroad

(Exposé)

The fact that languages (and language varieties) can have varied and diverse influences on each other through interaction between members of different speech communities has been shown by numerous manifestations on variety of linguistic levels and is considered to be as a natural product of inter- or transcultural social processes.

Many areas in linguistic (for example sociolinguistics, contact linguistics, semantics and pragmatics) have focused on investigating such contact phenomena – from a diachronic as well as synchronic perspective – employing interdisciplinary methodological approaches. This indicates that these phenomena can be analysed with a wide variety of methodological means.

The complexity of this linguistic issue will be focused on at the upcoming *German Abroad* conference to be held by IFNIG (Internationalen Forschungs- und Nachwuchsförderungsnetzwerk für Interkulturelle Germanistik) at the chair of Germanic Linguistics at the University of Erfurt. The focus of the conference will be on language contact constellations in which varieties of German come in contact with other language (varieties) outside German-speaking areas.

A central aim of the conference is to pinpoint and describe characteristic features of contact varieties of German while paying special attention to intercultural issues. Thus the communication behaviour of German-speaking groups and minorities outside of German-speaking areas (traditional “language islands”) and other inter- or transcultural configurations (i.e. in contexts of migration) are highly relevant. Especially important in this respect are language structures, aspects of language usage, and social-psychological factors.

We also welcome the description of German learner’s varieties or their application in German/German as a foreign language/German as a second language teaching. Presentations may also wish to concentrate on other languages and their varieties that are subjected to German contact influences and appear in various interaction situations, media, etc.

With regard to this we welcome proposals on contact processes and contact results in a variety of areas of spoken or written communication, such as studies investigating morpho-syntactical, lexical-semantic or pragmatic issues and can be assigned to one of the following areas:

- Language contact situations and contact phenomena as well as bilingual communicative practices and their dynamics – regarding German-speaking groups outside of the German-speaking area,
- Contact induced varieties resp. contact variety as a subject or as a factor in teaching German/GFL/GSL
- Attitudes towards language and language perception with regard to contact varieties of German.

Important information

Start: Thursday, 8 March 2018, 9 a.m.

End: Saturday, 10 March 2018, 6 p.m.

Excursion: Sunday, 11 March 2018

Proposal submission: Please send your abstract with working title (about 300 words, references are not included in the word count) until 30 January 2017 to the following e-mail: ifnig.netzwerk@gmail.com. If your proposal is accepted by the organizers, we will include you in our application for financial funding for conference participants. In this case you will be notified by 15 February 2017. Please include your name (surname, first name, academic degree), your university, institute (chair if applicable), your official position, postal address and e-mail address on the abstract.

Final deadline for registration: 15 July 2017.

Conference languages: German and English.

Location: The conference will take place at the Chair of Germanic Linguistics at the University of Erfurt, (Nordhäuser Str. 63, D-99089 Erfurt).

Length of presentations: Presentations (except plenary speeches) are scheduled for 20 minutes with 10 minutes for discussion.

Publication: Conference papers handed in upfront will be reviewed and those with positive evaluation will be published in the series *Beiträge zur Interkulturellen Germanistik (BIG)* at Narr Francke Attempto; please visit our site for more information: <https://www.uni-erfurt.de/sprachwissenschaft/germanistisch/forschung/ifnig/publikationen/>

Best wishes

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