



Challenging the Binary

Non-binary, genderqueer, and gender-neutral language

International conference

13–15 June 2023, University College London



Programme

- All talks are in room 1.02 Malet Place Engineering Building, UCL, London, WC1E 6BT, unless otherwise indicated.
- The breaks are in room 1.20 Malet Place Engineering Building.
- The talks marked in grey are delivered online. The other talks are delivered on site at UCL. All talks can be viewed on Zoom in line with the hybrid format.

Day 1: Tuesday 13 June

8.30-9.00	Registration and welcome from the organisers	
9.00-10.30	<p>Perspectives on neopronouns</p> <p>Chair: Riitta Valijärvi (UCL)</p> <p>Laura Hekanaho (University of Helsinki/Tampere University): Transgender and cisgender perspectives on 3rd person singular pronouns in English – exploring communicative functions</p> <p>Mayee Yeh (New York University): Specifying the singular – how queer identity informs interpretations of <i>they</i></p> <p>Julian Andrej Rott (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin): A preliminary typology of neopronominal innovation strategies</p>	
10.30-11.00	Coffee	
11.00-12.30	<p>Focus on gender inclusivity in Spanish</p> <p>Chair: Lily Kahn (UCL)</p> <p>Tabitha Maser-Clarke (independent scholar): Gender-inclusive Spanish and the RAE: between <i>el</i>, <i>la</i>, <i>le</i>, and everything in between</p> <p>Tamara Egorova (Institute of Linguistics of the Russian Academy of Sciences): <i>Lenguaje inclusivo</i> in Spanish as a tool for gender neutralization of speech – opinions of native speakers</p> <p>Fernando Lesniak (University of Minnesota): Preferred gender-inclusive language used by Spanish speakers in the United States</p>	<p>Perceptions and attitudes towards non-binary language</p> <p>Room 1.04 Malet Place Engineering Building</p> <p>Chair: Helga Hlaðgerður Lúthersdóttir (UCL)</p> <p>Marianne Rathje (The Danish Language Council): <i>De</i>, <i>hen</i>, crazy or cool – experiences and attitudes towards Danish gender-neutral pronouns</p> <p>Hanne Verhaegen, Sofie Decock, Sarah Van Hoof, & Ellen Soens (Universiteit Gent): The comprehensibility and appreciation of non-binary pronouns in newspaper reporting – the case of <i>hen</i> and <i>die</i> in Dutch</p> <p>Chiara Paolini (KU Leuven), Daniele Metilli (UCL), Beatrice Melis (University of Pisa), & Marta Fioravanti (oio.studio): Are you discussing my gender? A corpus-based analysis of Wikidata's community discussions around non-binary identities</p>
12.30-14.00	Lunch	
14.00-14.30	<p>Experience and agency in trans and queer language</p> <p>Chair: Helga Hlaðgerður Lúthersdóttir (UCL)</p> <p>Joshua Raclaw, Olivia Marquardt, Tommy Johnston, & Veronica Nazarewycz (West Chester University): "Can I be genderqueer and a woman?" – trans logics and agency in gender and pronoun use</p>	

14.30-15.30	<p>LGBTQ+ linguistic innovations in minoritized languages</p> <p>Chair: Lily Kahn (UCL)</p> <p>Sima Beeri (UCL): How to speak LGBTQ+ in Yiddish</p> <p>Carlos Yebra López (UCL): Introducing <i>The Ladino Guide to Inclusive Language</i></p>
15.30-16.00	Coffee
16.00-18.00	<p>LGBTQ+ language in the L2 classroom</p> <p>Chair: Sima Beeri (UCL)</p> <p>Jón Ingvar Kjarn (University of Iceland) & Branislav Bédi (Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies): Queer linguistic activism and production of agentic space of praxis for L2 students</p> <p>Helga Hlaðgerður Lúthersdóttir (UCL): Who am I, what am I? Gender expression and gender identity in the Icelandic language</p> <p>Nikolett Kiss (University of Debrecen): Singular <i>they</i> in the Hungarian EFL language classroom</p> <p>Yoko Hama, Fernando Gonzalez Lesniak, Camille Braun, James Ramsburg, & Alejandra Takahira (University of Minnesota, Twin Cities): Teaching beyond the binary – instructor attitudes towards inclusive language in the L2 Spanish classroom</p>
18.00	Wine reception

Day 2: Wednesday 14 June

9.30-10.30	<p>Challenging the binary in endangered and minoritized languages</p> <p>Chair: Fabian Helmrich (University of Oxford)</p> <p>Craig Welker (Universität Bern): Grammatical gender and Muxe reference in Juchitán, Mexico</p> <p>Kevin Martens Wong (Kodrah Kristang & Merlionsman Coaching & Consulting): Jenis, Wenza, Jenta kung Afisi – developing gender and sexuality terms in the critically endangered Kristang language in Singapore to support psychoemotional wellbeing</p>	
10.30-11.00	Coffee	
11.00-12.30	<p>Grammatical aspects of non-binary language</p> <p>Chair: Lily Kahn (UCL)</p> <p>Xavier Bach (Trinity College & Christ Church College, University of Oxford) & Louise Esher (CNRS): Slotting non-binary determiners into the French inflectional system</p> <p>Ehm Miltersen (Aarhus University): Danish gender-inclusive pronouns</p> <p>Lars Vorberger (University of Hamburg): Empirical evidence on the reference to non-binary people in German</p>	
12.30-13.30	Lunch	
13.30-15.00	<p>Focus on gender inclusivity in Polish</p> <p>Chair: Fabian Helmrich (University of Oxford)</p> <p>Sebastian Hanek (Jagiellonian University): (Why) do we need genderization in language? – The gap between femininity and masculinity in contemporary Polish</p> <p>Agnieszka Kiełkiewicz-Janowiak (Adam Mickiewicz University): The gender binary challenging the non-binary in Polish</p> <p>Ula Chowaniecz (AFM Kraków University): When pronouns are not enough? On queering language – the case of Polish</p>	<p>Queer and trans language</p> <p>Room 1.04 Malet Place Engineering Building</p> <p>Chair: Elsa Woodmeade (UCL)</p> <p>Jonas Thál (Stockholm University): THE EXPOSED GENDER – transgender representation in Czech media 2017-2020, a corpus-based discourse analysis</p> <p>Aet Kuusik (University of Tartu): Contested and appreciated – how is the word <i>kväär</i> used in Estonian?</p> <p>Aisha Ramazanova (Independent scholar): Korean queer people – linguistic (un)belonging in the context of globalization</p>
15.00-15.30	Coffee	
15.30-17.00	<p>Political dimensions of non-binary language</p> <p>Chair: Fabian Helmrich (University of Oxford)</p> <p>Jaspal Singh (The Open University): Pronoun politics – how inclusive gender non-binary and ante-gender third-person reference <i>they/xie</i> interpellates the woke speaking subject</p>	

	Brittney O'Neill (York University): Degendering and (de)politicization – gender-focussed language reform in a North American social partner dance community
	Samu/elle Striewski (Columbia University and Freie Universität Berlin): Inhabiting the untranslatable – why the linguistic recognition of non-binary identities is determined to fail
17.00-18.00	<p>Keynote 1</p> <p>Chair: Riitta Valijärvi (UCL)</p> <p>Kris Knisely (University of Arizona): Teaching towards gender-justice – trans knowledges in the language classroom</p>

Day 3: Thursday 15 June

9.00-10.30	<p>Gender inclusivity in European state languages</p> <p>Chair: Elsa Woodmeade (UCL)</p> <p>Meri Lindeman (University of Turku): Varying gender, varying speech – a folk-linguistic study on genderfluid speakers of Finnish</p> <p>Letizia Paglialunga (Università degli Studi di Milano): Inclusivity without neutrality – performing non-binarism on Instagram in Italian</p> <p>Jess Roberts (LSE): <i>Le français non-binaire</i> – speaking, surviving, living</p>
10.30-11.00	Coffee
11.00-13.00	<p>Gender-neutral alternatives for languages with noun gender</p> <p>Chair: Helga Hlaðgerður Lúthersdóttir (UCL)</p> <p>Olga Steriopolo (Leibniz-ZAS, Berlin) & Christin Schütze (University of Marburg): Feminine epicene nouns as gender-neutral forms in German – challenging the binary</p> <p>Yvonne Bindrim (University of Greifswald): Argumentation for and against means of gender-sensitive language across languages</p> <p>Marie-Claude Marsolier (CNRS), Priscille Touraille (CNRS), & Marc Allasonnière-Tang (CNRS): A new epigenization solution for the French language</p> <p>Igor Facchini (University of Bologna): Re-linguaging queer identities across spoken languages – what is lost in translation into Italian?</p>
13.00-14.00	Lunch
14.00-15.00	<p>Keynote 2</p> <p>Chair: Lily Kahn (UCL)</p> <p>Sebastian Cordoba (London Metropolitan University): Non-binary gender identities – the language of becoming</p>
15.00-15.15	Break (no coffee)
15.15-16.45	<p>Spatial manifestations of non-binary language</p> <p>Chair: Riitta Valijärvi (UCL)</p> <p>Nicky Macias (Gallaudet University): Mouthing constructions as social indexes of gender in ASL pronouns</p> <p>Jenny Lederer (San Francisco State University): The metaphorical models of gender transition and their relationship to genderqueer labels in English</p> <p>Michal Shomer (Multi-Gender Hebrew): Multi-Gender Hebrew – creating a new space in the Hebrew language</p>
16.45-17.00	Coffee
17.00-18.30	<p>Grammatical gender in global perspective</p> <p>Chair: Lily Kahn (UCL)</p> <p>Kathleen Tacelosky & Amber Arnold (Lebanon Valley College): “Don’t misgender your mangos” – drawing on expressions of gender in English to inform second language education of grammatical gender languages</p>

	Clio Hartman, Drew Rusignuolo, Amar Santos, & Ben Papadopoulos (University of California, Berkeley): Gender in languages with verbal gender
	José Iñiguez, Ina Nierotka, Alexandra Rankin, Kalinda Reynolds, & Ben Papadopoulos (University of California, Berkeley): The intricacies of gender in Indigenous languages of Latin America
18.30	Close: survey and edited volume

For queries, please get in touch with the organisers: l.kahn@ucl.ac.uk and r.valijarvi@ucl.ac.uk

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HAPPY PRIDE MONTH 2023!

