

HiSoN 2026 – Schedule

Monday, 28.9.2026

	1.006+1.007	1.008+1.009	1.004	1.005	1.003
8:00 –	Registration (1st floor gallery)				
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome (E.001) Welcome address Rector Univ.-Prof. Dr. Bernhard Fügenschuh				
9:30 – 10:30	Plenary 1 (E.001) Sybille Große: Research on letters in Romance languages: Navigating between ‘immediacy’, ‘orality’ and ‘discourse traditions’ Chair: Bernhard Pöll				
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee (1st floor gallery)				
	Immediacy & Distance Chair: Merja Kytö	Ego-documents & Correspondence Chair: Laura Fischlhammer	Corpora & Methods (1) Chair: Erik Schleef	Grammars vs. Usage Chair: Imke Mendoza	Variation & Change Chair: Paul O’Neill
11:00 – 11:30	Katharina Gunkler-Frank: Variation in the use of syntactic connector classes on the immediacy-distance continuum	Giulia Rovelli: Ego-documents and the dialect roots of Canadian English	Emma Lambrecht: Linguistic variation and change in Fin-de-Siècle Brussels. The Flemish Immigrant Letter Corpus and early findings	Zuzanna Witt & Radosław Dylewski: Questioning Proximity to Speech. Recalled and Imagined Texts in Schneider’s Continuum	Kazuko Matsumoto & David Britain: Tracing Pacific Japanese from the early 20 th century to its obsolescence. A panel study
11:30 – 12:00	Michael Prinz & Lauri Marjamäki: Historical German lectures between immediacy and distance	Aurelija Tamošiūnaitė: Tracing writing experience in Cyrillic-Lithuanian ego-documents: conventionalization of scripting practices ‘from below’	Hanna Fischer: From text to practice: Reassessing a 19 th -century’s dialect collection for Historical Sociolinguistics	Chiara Monaco: Between spoken usage and written description: Missionary grammars as sources for Early Modern Greek variation	Ruth Miguel Franco: Destination in context: Textual variation and discourse traditions in the use of Spanish <i>en</i>

12:00 – 12:30	Eleonora Cattafi & Dalia Pratali Maffei: Tracing sociolinguistic shifts in Koine Greek sources: dialects, prestige, and the relative marker	Stephan Bowles: What are LOLIs made of? Breaking down the function and features of lone other-language items in Italian merchant texts, c.1389–1400	Annika Viht: Linguistic variation in Estonian Moravian manuscripts as a tool for authorship attribution	Eva Skafte Jensen & Jørgen Schack: Older than I or ME in Danish and the discrepancy between grammars and authentic texts	Niyaz Kireyev: Variation and language change in the history of Italian stress-conditioned palatalisation
12:30 – 13:00	Nicola McLelland: Written and conceptually spoken discourse in the transmission of practical knowledge to women around 1800: the case of Emilie Berrin's guide to plaiting hair	Elisabetta Cecconi: Voices in print: Orality and argumentation in 18 th -century British letters to the editor	Verónica Domínguez & Benjamin Molineaux: Mapping language ecologies and histories in the toponymic record of Fuegopatagonia	Alena A. Fidlerová: Children, peasants, and the educated: Linguistic variation in the texts of Czech language reformer František Jan Tomsa	
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch				
	Panel: Speech and written discourse in Romance: historical sociolinguistic variation “from below” in professional contexts	Language contact (1) Chair: Bernhard Pöll	Corpora & Methods (2) Chair: Susanne Behensky	Written vs. spoken (1) Chair: Simon Pickl	Religious texts Chair: Imke Mendoza
14:30 – 15:00	Josh Brown & Katharina Fezer: Introduction	Andreas Krogull & Gijsbert J. Rutten: Practices and hierarchies in transnational language histories: The case of Swiss-Dutch encounters	Sara Budts, Yoshi Malaise & Rik Vosters: Standardization and orthographic variation: Using large language models to avoid teleological bias in quantifying historical spelling change	Kaidi Hõbejõgi: From speech to record: Tracing orality in the Senate Minutes of the 17th-century Tartu Academy	Valentina Concu: To give or to let enjoy: Offers and pragmatic reframing in the <i>Hêliand</i>
15:00 – 15:30	Eleonora Serra: Official writing and histories from below in late medieval Florence: citizens' use of formulae in the 1427 Catasto	Lena Aristarkhova-Schmidtkunz & Simon Pröll: Diverging orthographic conventions shape the phonological documentation of contact languages – evidence from Russenorsk and Unserdeutsch	Alfred Lameli: Evaluation of large language models for the translation of historical German dialects	Luise Czajkowski: The relationship between written and spoken language in Brandenburg in the mid-20th century	Christopher Lewin: Morphosyntactic variation in the Manx Bible: from manuscript to print

15:30 – 16:00	Israel Sanz-Sánchez: Municipal notaries as sociolinguistic agents of lexical integration in early colonial Spanish	Monica Huțanu: Writing the vernacular: contact-induced features in the Vlach Romanian newspaper ‘Vorba noastră’ (1945–1949)	Tatsiana Nazaranka: Belarusian standardization under AI mediation	Gizem Karaköse & Michał Głuszkowski: Multilingual practices in the Polish diaspora of Türkiye from the 19 th century to the digital age	Dalia Pratali Maffei: Towards “standardisation” in religious registers: Dialect- Koine contact at the Hellenistic sanctuary of Lindos, Rhodes
16:00 – 16:30	Coffee (1st floor gallery)				
	Panel: Speech and written discourse in Romance: historical sociolinguistic variation “from below” in professional contexts	Language contact (2) Chair: Bernhard Pöll	Corpora & Methods (3) Chair: Susanne Behensky	Written vs. spoken (2) Chair: Simon Pickl	
16:30 – 17:00	Marina Albers & Laura Linzmeier: Diplomacy in multilingual settings – French epistolographic strategies by a multilingual diplomat in the American War of Independence	Henning Klöter: Hokkien in early colonial Manila: An alternative Sinitic language history	Belén Almeida Cabrejas & Marina Serrano Marín: <i>Letradas</i> . A Corpus of documents written by women in Spain between 1400 and 1900	Elias Moncef Bounatirou & Ilia Afanasev: Languaging practices in Old East Slavic society: evidence from birchbark letters	
17:00 – 17:30	Vicente Lledó-Guillem: Final discussion	Alicja Goczyła Ferreira, Michał Szczyszek, Agnieszka Piotrowska-Wojaczyk & Zuzanna Przybysz: Contact-induced language variation in advertisements in Polish-language press published in Brazil (19 th –20 th centuries)	Christa Schneider: Building the witchpaper corpus database. Towards a multidisciplinary resource for historical and linguistic research, and beyond. A work in progress report	Ivar Berg & Markus Schiegg: On the litterarisation of Germanic	
17:30	Book Presentations (E.001) Rutten, G. & R. Vosters 2026. <i>Historical Sociolinguistics</i>. Cambridge: CUP. Elspaß, S., I. Mendoza, B. Pöll & E. Schlee (eds.). 2025. <i>Double Standards</i>. Oxford: Lang. Wine Reception with canapés (lower ground foyer)				

Tuesday, 29.9.2026

	1.006+1.007	1.008+1.009	1.004	1.005	1.003
9:00 – 10:00	Plenary 2 (E.001) Michał Głuszkowski: Spoken language as reflected in gravestone inscriptions. What do the stones of the dead tell us about the language of the living? Chair: Imke Mendoza				
	Language policies Chair: Rik Vosters	Panel: Historical Sociolinguistic Data: Exploring the Past and Looking ahead	Purism Chair: Andreas Krogull	Morphology Chair: Philip C. Vergeiner	Literary texts (1) Chair: Konstantin Niehaus
10:00 – 10:30	Álvaro S. Octavio de Toledo y Huerta: Changes from above and discourse traditions in the history of Spanish	Carolina P. Amador-Moreno & Anita Auer: Introduction	Nelle Simonet: How not to Dutchify loanwords: Purist word lists and their failure in Dutch (1650–1850)	Paul O'Neill: The importance of historical sociolinguistics for morphological change: a comparison of transatlantic varieties of Spanish and Portuguese	Christoph Winter: How Jutlanders communicated with North Frisians according to mid-19th century literary sources from the islands of Föhr and Amrum
10:30 – 11:00	Sung Min Park: Language policies in Jerusalem during Second Temple Judaism	Karen P. Corrigan, Alexandra D'Arcy & Joseph Salmons: Ego-documents, dialect and the recovery and preservation of linguistic heritage	Fabian Horrocks: Civilising Words: Linguistic Purism and Epistemic Authority in Latin America	Susumu Kuroda: Deverbal nouns in Engelbert Kämpfer's <i>Geschichte und Beschreibung von Japan</i>	
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee (1st floor gallery)				
	Panel: Historical newspaper corpora: Challenges and Potentials for Historical Sociolinguistics	Panel: Historical sociolinguistic data: Exploring the past and looking ahead	Gender Chair: Christine Wallis	Legal & administrative texts (1) Chair: Marina Albers	Translation Chair: Laura Linzmeier

11:30 – 12:00	Konstantin Niehaus & Markus Schiegg: Introduction	Mark Richard Lauersdorf: An embarrassment of riches in historical sociolinguistics? – The science of making full use of all the data!	Marina Serrano-Marín, Marta Puente-González & Lena Sowada: Female voices in transit: a philological study of letters written by women in the Prize Papers (17th–19th centuries)	Melchior Jakubowski: Reflecting the spoken languages in Eastern European metrical registers from the 17th and 18th centuries	Olivia Cockburn: Translators as agents of language change in the history of Spanish
12:00 – 12:30	Laura Fischlhammer & Konstantin Niehaus: Diatopic standards of usage in German via historical newspapers 1870–1950: results and technical challenges	Marina Dossena: The compiler's paradox: Sensitive data and the thirst for knowledge	Marina Berts: Stitched words and silent voices: embroidery as female literacy 'from below' in Late Modern England	Rosa H. Yanez Rosales: Spoken Nahuatl in 16th century denunciations	Julia Bacskai-Atkari: Historical revisions: Tracing idiomatic features in Middle English Bible translations
12:30 – 13:00	Lucia Assenzi & Lisa Windisch: Text types as predictors for language variation: A methodological framework for historical newspaper corpora	Moragh Gordon: Sharing is CARE-ing? Exploring the feasibility of FAIR and CARE principles for a corpus of poor relief correspondence	Olena Synchak: Reconstructing feminization in pre-Soviet Ukrainian: Integrating oral interviews and archival texts of Ukrainian women's organizations in postwar Munich	Anna D. Havinga: Written discourse and vernacularisation in documentary legal texts from medieval Scotland	Gijsbert J. Rutten & Manjusha Kuruppath: Colonial language policies: Discourses on Bible translations as a window on transnational language ideologies in the Dutch East Indies (17 th –18 th centuries)
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch				
	Panel: Historical newspaper corpora: Challenges and Potentials for Historical Sociolinguistics	Panel: Historical Sociolinguistic Data: Exploring the Past and Looking ahead	Historical pragmatics (1) Chair: Christine Elswelter	Legal & administrative texts (2) Chair: Ivar Berg	Genres Chair: Stephan Elspaß
14:30 – 15:00	Machteld de Vos: Spread the new(s)! Tracing the standardisation of Dutch in 17 th -century newspapers	Christa Schneider: Preserving the past: Towards storage solutions for data in historical sociolinguistics	Corinne Denoyelle: Discernment politeness in late-medieval mystery plays	Elena Klyachko & Ilia Afanasev: Far-Eastern official documents from the 1920s–1930s as a source in historical sociolinguistics research	Marta Kraus: Genre stability in institutional discourse: The evolution of Polish railway operational communication in the twentieth century

15:00 – 15:30	Richard West-Soley: “Dear Mr. Heditor...”: Phonologies and ideologies in the newspaper letters column	Karen P. Corrigan: Wrapping up and discussion	Madeleine Clews: I would feel very thankful: transactional politeness ‘from below’ in Australia’s Botanical Letters 1853–1896	Robert Dittmann: Prothetic v- in the Early Modern Czech Pardubice Books of Testimonies	Antje Dammel & Laura Duve: Comparing genres as a key to reconstructing the evolution of usage patterns. A case study on the pronoun <i>man/ein</i>
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee (1st floor gallery)				
	Panel: Historical newspaper corpora: Challenges and Potentials for Historical Sociolinguistics	Emotions Chair: Horst J. Simon	Historical pragmatics (2) Chair: Christine Elsweiler	Legal & administrative texts (3) Chair: Ivar Berg	
16:00 – 16:30	Markus Schiegg & Konstantin Niehaus: Final discussion	Johannes Lässig & Julian Häde: Tracing the diachrony of verbal aggression in purpose- built corpora of British drama	Manuel Padilla-Moyano & Eneko Zuloaga: Formulae of addressing in Basque Letters from the 16th to the 19th centuries	Claudia Claridge & Merja Kytö: How (in)formal are phrasal verbs? Sociopragmatic evidence from Late Modern English	
16:30 – 17:00		Martina Schmidl: Emotions in written discourse: language use in Late Babylonian letters	Hester Groot: Politeness and mitigation in Scottish pauper letters, 1750–1910	Christa Schneider: The devil's in the difference: Tracking linguistic variation and change in witch trial papers	
19:00	Conference Dinner (Stern Bräu, Griesgasse 23)				

Wednesday, 30.9.2026

	1.006+1.007	1.008+1.009	1.004	1.005	1.003
	Panel: Go global or go home. Letters as evidence for the history of French	Enregisterment Chair: Konstantin Niehaus	Orthography & Spelling (1) Chair: Erik Schleef	Syntax (1) Chair: Imke Mendoza	Textbooks & manuals Chair: Machteld de Vos
9:00 – 9:30	Myriam Bergeron-Maguire & Pierre Vermander: Introduction	Stian Hårstad: When rumour precedes you. Stylization of “Jews’ accent” in Norwegian literature and press 1800–1940	Lars Bülow & Dagobert Höllein: Orthographic variation and change in historical dialect data: social and regional conditioning of misspellings of MHG /oe:/ and /y:/	Anna Saller & Paul Rössler: Written syntax in Early Modern German: Variation depending on addressee, status, and text type	Iouliani Theodosi & Spiros A. Moschonas: A novelist’s ideology of communication: Gregorios Palaiologos’ Letter-Writing Manual (1843)
9:30 – 10:00	Pierre Vermander: Strategic politeness in pardon letters	Sarah Roberts: Historical documentation of Hawaiian Creole enregisterment: Past tense BIN in printed pseudonymous letters and other sources	Fred Puss: The adoption of new orthography in Estonian parish registers, 1844–1891	Maitena Duhalde & Sergio Monforte: Dialectal syntax in a standardising landscape	Horst J. Simon & Liv Büchler: Early Modern foreign language textbooks as sources for historical spoken language research: investigating ‘orality’ in model dialogues
10:00 – 10:30	Claire de Mareschal: Listening to voices in the Prize Papers letters: between orality and formularity	Paul Cooper: Unearthing the dialect and identity of 19th century Yorkshire coal miners	Pia Pratscher: Anglicisation in Scots: A study of long vowel spellings	Juan Camilo Conde-Silvestre & Javier Calle-Martin: Zero <i>that</i> -clauses in eighteenth-century English: A historical sociolinguistic approach	Sabina Tsapaeva: Elements of linguistic (im)politeness as a learning object in historical foreign language teaching manuals: The merchant phrasebook by Master George of Nuremberg (1424) and <i>Ein Rusch Boeck</i> (anonymous, 16th century) in comparison
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee (1st floor gallery)				
	Panel: Go global or go home. Letters as evidence for the history of French	Gender & lexicon Chair: Christa Schneider	Orthography & Spelling (2) Chair: Anna Havinga	Syntax (2) Chair: Lucia Assenzi	Formulaic language Chair: Eleonora Serra

11:00 – 11:30	Myriam Bergeron-Maguire: More to letters than meets the eye: the Prize Papers as a valuable resource for the history of French in America	Christine Wallis: ‘Women’s work’: textile terms in medieval vernacular glossing	Philip C. Vergeiner: On the decline of the East Upper German written language: a graphematic analysis of ecclesiastical council records from the Diocese of Passau (1680–1803)	Wolfgang Imo & Valeria Schick: <i>Wer Gutes will, der sei erst gut; Wer Freude will, besänftige sein Blut</i> : Bipartite relative constructions as positioning routines in historical dramas from the 17th to the 19th century	
11:30 – 12:00	Myriam Bergeron-Maguire & Céline Mounole: Contact-induced variation in eighteenth-century French in France	Elisabetta Lonati: Midwifery in 18th-century British lexicography: the sociolinguistics of medical knowledge dissemination	Kristiina Praakli: The making of Estonian Õ: The role of Otto Wilhelm Masing in developing written Estonian	Carlos Felipe Pinto & Alisson Filipe Sousa Barros: The sociolinguistic network of Medieval Spanish and the loss of V2	Ana Lalic: Italian-language Litterae missionarum between formulaic language and orality in 17th century Ottoman Bosnia and Herzegovina
12:00 – 12:30	Myriam Bergeron-Maguire & Pierre Vermander: Final discussion	Blanca Fernández Soriano: “I think of those dear Friends at home”: Mapping home across social strata in nineteenth-century colonial women’s correspondence		Julian Mader: <i>Dear Mama dont leave me here: not-contractions</i> in 19th and early 20th-century patient letters	Theodore Markopoulos: Between orality and formulaicness: wills in 16th-century Venetian Crete
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch				
	Multilingualism & Letters Chair: Gijsbert Rutten	Literary texts (2) Chair: Konstantin Niehaus	Modality Chair: Lars Bülow	Syntax (3) Chair: Marina Albers	Phonology Chair: Stephan Elspaß
14:00 – 14:30	Karoline Kühl: Individual vs. conventionalized variation in American-Danish family letters (1918–1919)		Yael Reshef & Ruth Stern: Expressing necessity in a newly-revived language: a usage-based study of register differentiation in Hebrew texts from the 1920s–1930	Nicola Swinburne & Peter Petré: A fresh look at an old problem: on variation and pragmatics in the early grammaticalization of do-support in English	Oxel Uribe-Etxebarria: Phonological variation and ideological perceptions: the case of /j/ in a Basque variety

14:30 – 15:00	Madeleine Eppel: Exploring multilingual repertoires in a 20th-century Franco-Manitoban family correspondence	Dennis Preston: Charles Dickens' views of American language	Christine Elsweiler & Moragh Gordon: Negotiating English prestige norms: a diachronic overview of deontic modals in Scottish correspondence	Lauri Marjamäki: (East Upper) German relative clauses in historical orality	Christopher Strelluf & Esther Asprey: “An accent exceedingly rare”: The historical emergence of a sociolinguistically “liminal” English in Coventry, England
15:00 – 15:30	Sarah Newman: Multilingualism in written discourse between siblings during the Holocaust	Oliver Currie: What language did Cinderella speak? The historical sociolinguistic testimony of folktale collections in the nineteenth-century United Kingdom and France	Yoko Iyeiri: Two verbs of epistemic modality in Benjamin Franklin's English: <i>seem</i> vs. <i>appear</i>	Sandrine Tailleur & France Martineau: Variable future tense in Quebec French: the medium and the individual	Benjamin Molineaux: Native phonetics, foreign phonology: ‘Language documentation’ as historical data in the Southern Cone
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee (1st floor gallery)				
16:00 – 17:00	Plenary 3 (E.001) Joseph Salmons & G Sorensen: Language on the margins: The indentured and enslaved in colonial American Chair: Stephan Elspaß				
17:00 – 17:30	Close & HiSoN 2027 Announcement (E.001)				
17:30	Wine Reception with Canapés (lower ground foyer)				