

Historical sociolinguistics

Convenor: Wim Vandenbussche

We invite papers in the broad realm of historical sociolinguistics, exploring the interplay between language and social context from a historical perspective. In line with the dominant paradigm of 'language history from below', we especially welcome corpus-based contributions that address language variation using non-literary sources (including ego-documents, newspapers, administrative sources, pamphlets), and/or papers foregrounding underrepresented voices in traditional language historiography. Accounts of the social history of 'invisibilized' or 'erased' languages or language varieties are equally welcome. The tension between language norms and actual writing practices, the changing status of variants and varieties, and the effects of major societal changes on language use (including historical migration), are but a few of the possible foci of the individual papers.

Please bear in mind that a focus stream can welcome up to twelve papers at most, and that other conference sections and focus streams may also be suitable for papers on historical/sociolinguistic topics.