

# Call for Papers

## Historicizing the Digital: language practices in new and old media

### Baal/CUP Seminar

Mon 27<sup>th</sup> - Tues 28<sup>th</sup> June 2016

University of Leicester, UK

<http://histthedig.blogspot.co.uk>

### Historicizing the Digital: language practices in new and old media

Language and new media is a rapidly emerging area of applied linguistics which considers how the affordances of digital technologies promote new linguistic strategies for identity work by individuals and communities (Seargeant and Tagg 2013). Research suggests that language use in digital spaces is highly innovative (in forms, functions, ideologies and cultural norms), and especially so for written language, such as online spelling variation, code-switching, multimodality, and sharing (Georgakoupoulou and Spilioti 2015).

Our seminar, 'Historicizing the Digital', provides a space in which researchers are encouraged to re-evaluate assumptions and claims of digital communication research. The event explores the extent to which digital practices really are "new". What precedents might be found in earlier periods? What practices show continuity between the pre- and post-digital age? What practices constitute genuine innovation within digital spaces? The event invites speakers working within different historical periods who may not otherwise join in conversation to promote fresh discussions from a trans-historical perspective.

### Confirmed plenary speakers

- Ana Deumert (University of Western Cape, South Africa)
- Mel Evans (University of Leicester, UK) and Caroline Tagg (Open University, UK)
- Julia Gillen (Lancaster University, UK)
- Dániel Kádár (University of Huddersfield, UK)
- Emma Moreton (Coventry University, UK)
- Ruth Page (University of Birmingham, UK)

### Call For Papers

We invite pecha-kucha-style presentations which address any of the seminar themes from a transhistorical perspective. We welcome presentations that take as a primary focus the investigation of either historical or digital practices, or both. We especially encourage postgraduate researchers to submit an abstract.

The full Call for Papers can be found at the seminar website:

<http://histthedig.blogspot.co.uk/p/call-for-papers.html>

Any queries, please contact the seminar organisers, Dr Mel Evans and Dr Caroline Tagg at:

[histthedig@gmail.com](mailto:histthedig@gmail.com)