

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
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Faculty of Foreign Languages

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UNDER THE HIGH PATRONAGE OF THE RECTOR OF ABDELHAMID IBN BADIS UNIVERSITY OF MOSTAGANEM PROF. BRAHIM BOUDERAH

The PRFU Research Group: Fostering Intercultural Communication and Overcoming Linguistic Alienation in the Algerian EFL Learning Environment
H02L01UN270120230001

Affiliation: Gender Studies, Languages and Sociolinguistic Diversity Research Unit

Organizes a Study Day on:

Debating Identity through the Lens of Theoretical Perspectives: Topics on the New Generation's Identity across Language and Culture

(December 17th, 2023)

THEME

Under the constant effects of intercultural communication and mass media orientation of public opinions and worldviews, debating identity topics is forming a critical cornerstone in contemporary sociolinguistic concern. Admittedly, the worldwide profile replicates a compound mosaic of conceptual and structural changes in citizenship constructs, national identities, in-group membership and inter-group relations, and even in individual personas. The factual grounds of the situation are balanced in a three cornered shape that is definable in the emergence of new dimensions in power relations and identity shaping nurtured partly by the linguistic and sociocultural hegemony of global English, but most importantly by the current mass media agendas in addition to smart media and artificial intelligence communicative facilities.

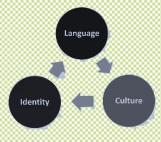
Amidst this international situation, the Algerian society is no exception: The new generations are getting progressively open to a multitude of foreign cultures, new ideologies and an assortment of public opinions, under the influence of international mass media discourse and digital media contents, in addition to a number of socioeconomic, political and ideological factors. Beyond question, the need or the desire to be communicatively and interculturally

competent in others' languages, notably in English, is in increase, generating new dimensions in the Algerian sociolinguistic reality and cultural identity. On the other hand, a significant share in the process of identity construction and world conception of new generations is ascribed to mass media, including the new media, institutional ambitions.

In fact, the topic of 'language and identity' is currently problematic insomuch that the nature of 'identity' is being visibly unstable and predestined to persistent reconstruction and incessant negotiation. Consequently, recent scholarly interest in the relationship between language and identity has developed beyond recognition. It has even transcended the field of sociolinguistics, since interdisciplinary advances have conceptualized theoretical standpoints that blur the boundaries between fields like cultural studies, media studies, discourse analysis, anthropology, language sociology, psycholinguistics, didactics and literature, propping up the sociolinguistic approach. Against this background, the study day targets the cooperative contribution of researchers in different disciplines that embrace language studies. The aim is to present innovative and original research works that debate the topic of identity (re)construction of the new Algerian generation, foregrounding theoretical views and methodical orientations. Unquestionably, interdisciplinary empirical paradigms are primordial to approach the issue of identity. However, the theoretical foundation is pivotal in discerning objective findings and critiques. Therefore, the second main intention of the study day is to emanate the testability of collaborative and transdisciplinary theoretical frameworks vis-à-vis the points at issue.

Objectives

- To debate the new generation's identity issues from transdisciplinary standpoints.
- ↓ To foreground theoretical foundations for identity studies in sociolinguistics and related disciplines, notably (media) discourse analysis, cultural studies, stylistics, psycholinguistics, etc.
- To discuss issues on global English and the new generation's sociocultural identity.
- To locate intercultural communication in the new generation's identity construction.
- To highlight the power of mass media discourse as a cultural and ideological frame of reference for conceiving the world.



Tracks

- Negotiating identity in crosscultural situations
- Intercultural communication and cultural agility
- The question of linguistic alienation in intercultural situations
- Propaganda and ideology in media discourse and public opinion
- Mass media coverage of the war against Palestine: religious, racial and cultural implications
- The role of smart media and digital media in (re)shaping individuals/ sociocultural identity
- Children identity construction and new media
- Intercultural communicative competence and identity negotiation in EFL classes
- American English\ British English and identity in EFL university classes
- Identity issues in literature and civilization classes
- Identity issues in the new national education curricula and textbooks
- Citizenship, national identity and language planning

President of the Study Day

Dr. Fatima Nor El Houda Beghdadi Dahou

Organizing committee

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