

## Call for Papers for Thematic Panel at Sociolinguistics Symposium 24

Inside and Beyond Binaries  
13-16 July 2022  
Ghent University

### **(Un)thinking everyday borders in sociolinguistics**

Beyond physical demarcations and state controlled binary geopolitical spaces, borders affect our everyday lives. In this panel, we seek to analyse the *making* of the borders as an everyday practice. By moving away from the conceptualisation of borders as geopolitical binaries, we turn our gaze on the everyday *doings* of borders. Borderscapes rationalise logics of categorisations such as race, nationality, gender, class and age as well as normalising control and power. Sociolinguistic research has shown that language is part of making categories and hierarchies. With border controls getting stricter, we need to understand how and why language plays a role in crossing borders? What are the practices that include/exclude certain categories of people linguistically, spatially, legally and socially? What are the consequences of bordering regimes in terms of deportability, illegality, immobility, mobility and labour?

Bringing together ethnographic studies that particularly focus on border as practice, this panel seeks to

- explore borders as not taken-for-granted entities but as sites of ethnographic investigation that focus on linguistic differentiation and inequality
- examine how borders are mediated, regulated, aspired and imagined
- critically engage with regimes and rationalities underpinning border as practice and the role of language in these processes
- evaluate the role of and position of ethnographic research when studying borders
- critically reflect on the implications of bordering practices in relation to colonialism, history, gender, law, labour, language and identity.

We are now inviting contributions to this panel, involving a series of 20 min presentations + 10 min Q&A. If you would like to participate, no later than **Wednesday 15 September, 2021**, please send to Birgul Yilmaz ([birgul.yilmaz@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:birgul.yilmaz@ucl.ac.uk)) and Eleanor Yue Gong ([yue.gong.17@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:yue.gong.17@ucl.ac.uk)) an abstract of no more than 300 words, indicating the title of your paper, your name, contact details, as well as affiliation.