DOCTORAL CONFERENCE OF THE BOLOGNA LINGUISTIC CIRCLE

PhD CLUB – II EDITION

CONTEXTUAL AND INDIVIDUAL FACTORS IN LINGUISTIC RESEARCH: HOW SAMPLING SHAPES ANALYTICAL OUTCOMES

Bologna, Italy | June 5, 2025

The PhD CLUB is an initiative launched in 2024 within the Linguistic Circle of the University of Bologna, aimed at creating a shared space for all PhD students in Linguistics affiliated with the Departments of Classical Philology and Italian Studies (FICLIT), Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures (LILEC), and Interpretation and Translation (DIT).

The second edition of the PhD CLUB Doctoral Conference seeks to explore the profound impact that **contextual and individual factors** exert on linguistic research, with particular attention to **sampling practices**. Sampling lies at the heart of linguistic methodology, shaping not only the scope and representativity of a study but also the reliability of its findings. The interaction between contextual elements (e.g., sociocultural environments, communicative settings) and individual characteristics (e.g., cognitive abilities, language proficiency, or educational background) introduces a dynamic complexity that researchers must navigate carefully.

This conference aims to delve into these intersections, emphasizing the role of **context-sensitive approaches** and the inclusion of **diverse participant profiles** to better understand and represent linguistic phenomena. By bringing together young researchers from a variety of subfields, we hope to foster a productive dialogue that bridges theoretical, methodological, and applied perspectives contributing to a more robust and inclusive vision of linguistic inquiry.

Key questions to be addressed include: How do sampling practices influence the reproducibility and generalization of linguistic analyses? What methodologies best accommodate the diversity of speaker profiles? How can interdisciplinary insights enhance the approach to linguistic sampling?

Moving along these lines, we welcome contributions addressing the following themes and other related topics within the broader framework of contextual and individual factors in linguistic research:

- Bi/Multilingualism: cognitive and educational perspectives

- The influence of context in sociolinguistic variation

- Sampling methodologies for psycholinguistic or neurolinguistic studies

- Experimental designs for first and second language acquisition and teaching

- Quantitative and computational approaches to modeling linguistic phenomena

- Corpus linguistics and resource creation

- Phonetics, phonology, and prosody in diverse speaker populations

- Stylistics and genre analysis in communicative settings

- Language proficiency assessment methods

- Cross-cultural communication strategies

- Theoretical and applied challenges in lexical semantics and lexicography

Call for abstracts

The call for abstracts is open to doctoral students, post-docs, early-stage faculty members and master's students. We encourage proposals for **oral presentations** (of up to 25 minutes, 20 min presentation and 5 min discussion) **or posters**. Contributions are accepted exclusively in **English**. To apply, please send an email to phdclubbo@gmail.com, attaching two PDF files:

1. a brief academic profile (of up to 150 words), including the proposal title and a preference for oral communication or poster presentation;

2. the proposal title and an abstract of up to 400 words (excluding tables, graphs, and references).

Abstracts should succinctly present the research questions, methodology, approach, and (expected) outcomes. They must not include any identifying information that could disclose the authorship. Abstracts will be reviewed anonymously by three referees, members of the Scientific Board.

The **deadline** for proposal submissions is **March 14, 2025**. Notification of acceptance will be sent by April 28, 2025. The conference will take place exclusively in-person at the University of Bologna, with online streaming available.

Participation in the conference is free of charge, but **registration is mandatory**, both for those presenting a contribution and for those attending as listeners. Detailed information on registration will be available shortly on the conference website.

Important Dates

Abstract submission deadline: March 14, 2025
Notification of acceptance: April 28, 2025
Registration deadline: May 20, 2025
Conference: June 5, 2025

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