

SSPS UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

# WEEK OF INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

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13 November, 14:00 - 16:00 Rm G.3, Bayes Centre  
Lecture on Indigenous defiance: Decolonization,  
education, and systemic change in Canada

14 November, 14:00 - 16:00 Sem. room 5, Appleton  
Tower, 2-4 pm

International Year of Indigenous Languages 2019  
Seminar

Come on the 13th to hear Dr Dustin Louis (University of Calgary) address the impacts of colonization on the contemporary experiences of Indigenous peoples, and come on the 14th to hear a symposium on indigenous languages in south Asia, Latin America, and Africa.



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH  
School of Social and  
Political Science

# Week of Indigenous Languages & cultures

**Wednesday, 13 November**

## **Lecture**

**Indigenous Defiance: Decolonization,  
Education, and Systemic Change in  
Canada**

Dr Dustin Louis, University of Calgary  
14:00 - 16:00 Room G.3, Bayes Centre, 47 Potterrow

**Thursday, 14 November**

**International Year of Indigenous  
Languages Seminar**

Seminar room 5, Appleton Tower, 2-4 pm

### **OPENING REMARKS**

BRITTANY-ALIA TURMES

### **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

Indigenous Languages: a Research Experience  
in Pakistan

HOW CAN INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES AFFECT A RESEARCH  
PROJECT AND ITS OUTCOMES? WHAT ARE THE  
CHALLENGES AND HOW ARE THEY OVERCOME?

Dr Azra Meadows  
OBE

Dr Peter Meadows  
Sitara-i-Quaid-i-Azam

### **BREAK**

#### **3:00 PM PANELISTS PRESENTATIONS**

Mapudungun in Southern Chile

Dr. Magnus Course, Senior Lecturer in Social  
Anthropology, UoE

Indigenous Filmmaking and Audiovisual Translation  
in Latin America

Dr. Charlotte Gleghorn, Lecturer in Latin American  
Film Studies, UoE

Translation of Educational Resources: an in-practice  
perspective with ClickMaths

Juan-José Miranda, ClickMaths

#### **3:45 DISCUSSION WITH PANELIST**

Moderator: Aaron Kappeler

AT A  
GLANCE

# Speakers and topics

## Dr Dustin Louie

*is a First Nations scholar from Nee Tahi Buhn and Nadleh Whut'en of central British Columbia. He is a member of the Beaver Clan. Dustin's education background includes a degree in Canadian history, a Master's in International Relations, and a PhD in Educational Research. The topic of Dr. Louie's dissertation was Sexual Exploitation Prevention Education for Indigenous Girls. He has worked as an historian in a land claims law firm, studied Indigenous homelessness in Western Canada, worked internationally for non-governmental organizations in Uganda and Australia, and is now at the Werklund School of Education in the University of Calgary. As a tenure-track Assistant Professor, he teaches primarily in courses related to Indigenous education, social justice, and educational philosophy. Dr. Louie is conducting research, educational design, and training with First Nations, schools, and organizations across Western Canada. In addition, he has led work with private companies, government agencies, school districts, and non-governmental organizations in reconciliation, decolonizing and indigenizing projects.*

### Topic: Indigenous defiance: Decolonization, education, and systemic change in Canada

In this lecture Canadian First Nation (Dakelh) scholar Dr. Dustin Louie will address the impacts of colonization on the contemporary experiences of Indigenous peoples. Building from a brief examination of colonization in Canada, the lecture will focus on decolonizing and indigenizing approaches to education and social justice. Adhering to strengths-based models, the lecture will highlight the epistemologies and complex traditions of Indigenous communities as the way forward. Through the unpacking of projects Dr. Louie has led, the presentation will address topics of sexual exploitation of Indigenous girls, homelessness, post-secondary education, parental engagement in education, embedding Indigenous knowledges into our organizations, and beyond. The aim of this lecture is to share knowledge regarding the impacts of and responses to colonization of Indigenous communities of Canada, but also challenging European scholars and practitioners to take up the mantle of reconciliation. Moreover, the goal of Dr. Louie's work extends beyond the theoretical, pursuing practical applications of Indigenous knowledges and decolonizing strategies in wide ranging contexts.

## Dr Azra Meadows OBE & Dr Peter Meadows Sitara-i-Quaid-i-Azam, UoG

*Azra and Peter Meadows are Honorary Lecturers at the University of Glasgow in the Institute of Biodiversity, Animal Health and Comparative Medicine, where Peter was Senior Lecturer for many years. Azra has been a lecturer in Environmental Management in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Bradford, and a Research Fellow in the Department of Civil Engineering, University of Glasgow, UK. They are both Fellows of the Royal Society of Biology, and Chartered Biologists. They have an international record of research, teaching and advice in marine and freshwaters on environmental sustainability, natural hazards, rural communities, clean water issues and biodiversity. They have also published widely on the impact of biological activity.*

### Topic: Indigenous Languages: a research experience in Pakistan

"How can Indigenous Languages affect a research project and its outcomes, what are the challenges and how are these overcome. These are some of the many questions for researchers when they embark on national and international development work. Our work experience in Pakistan has given us insights into the sensitivities of cultural and social norms including Indigenous Languages not just provincially and regionally but also in isolated rural communities. There are 68 languages spoken in Pakistan, Urdu being the national language. Today we will talk under the banner of the UN's International Year of Indigenous Languages 2019 (IYIL2019), in our case covering the four provinces of Pakistan with special emphasis on the Kalash. These non-Muslims are the endangered people of about 3,500 inhabitants living in three remote valleys of SE Chitral near the Pakistan-Afghanistan border. The Kalash have an oral language Kalasha that is of Indo-Aryan origin and a member of the Dardic group. The Kalash express themselves through prose or stories and song, with a rich indigenous culture of verbal arts, festivals and rituals. They are a non-literate group who are a remarkable example of cultural resistance in the face of adversary, and believe strongly in their polytheistic-animistic faith. It is always a joy and thrill to work with these indigenous people and learn from their unique Indigenous Knowledge and Language."

Indigenous Languages and Cultures

Week of

#UoE

#IYIL2019

# Speakers and topics

## **Dr Magnus Course, Senior Lecturer in Social Anthropology, UoE**

Magnus Course's research is concerned with the relations between kinship, personhood, power, language and land. He completed his PhD on kinship and personhood among the Mapuche of southern Chile at the London School of Economics in 2005, and the ensuing monograph was published by University of Illinois Press in 2011 as *Becoming Mapuche: Person and Ritual in Indigenous Chile*. The Spanish translation will be published by Editores Pehuen in 2017. He is the author of many academic articles on a variety of topics, as well as two edited collections, one (with Suzanne Oakdale) on indigenous autobiographies in lowland South America, the other (with Maya Mayblin) on new anthropological approaches to sacrifice. For the past four years, he has been working on the intersection of fishing and Gaelic culture in the Outer Hebrides of Scotland. He recently started new research exploring changing attitudes to death and the afterlife in Naples.

### **Topic: Speaking Mapudungun in Southern Chile**

"In the Mapuche communities of southern Chile there are some things which you clearly see as political: extrajudicial killings by the police, hunger strikes by political prisoners, the dawn raids used by the Chilean state to terrorize Mapuche people, and so on. But there are other things which seem to flatter you into overlooking both their political nature, and your own not so innocent place in that politics. Language was just such a thing, seducing me and hiding itself behind layers of authenticity and ignorance. In this talk, I explain why."

## **Dr Charlotte Gleghorn, Lecturer in Latin American Film Studie, UoE**

Dr Gleghorn's research engages with the politics of authorship, aesthetics and film production in diverse contexts across Latin America. From 2009 to 2014, she worked on the European Research Council project 'Indigeneity in the Contemporary World: Performance, Politics, Belonging', hosted at Royal Holloway, University of London, during which time she also collaborated on the international exhibition of indigenous art and performance 'EcoCentrix: Indigenous Arts, Sustainable Acts', at Bargehouse, Southbank, London. She has contributed to several anthologies on women's filmmaking in Latin America, published widely on Indigenous film and video and has co-edited a volume of essays on Indigenous performance, Recasting Commodity and Spectacle in the Indigenous Americas (2014). She is currently undertaking an AHRC Leadership fellowship on Indigenous filmmaking in Latin America, which involves a new programme of work considering audiovisual translation and Indigenous languages on film.

### **Topic: Indigenous Filmmaking and Audiovisual Translation in Latin America**

"Discussions of indigeneity in recent Latin American film, prompted by the release of *The Serpent's Embrace* (Guerra, 2015), *Ixcanel* (Bustamante, 2015), and *Roma* (Cuarón, 2018), among other productions, have afforded an exciting critical juncture at which to rethink language and the constitution of Latin American cinema. If Latin American film might be considered to have experienced an 'Indigenous turn', it has, at the same time, largely run in parallel to initiatives which circulate through the category of Indigenous filmmaking per se. The relationship between Spanish or Portuguese and the development of Latin American Film Studies, so instrumental to the discipline's emergence as part of Modern Languages degree programmes, sits uncomfortably with films produced by Indigenous directors in the region. My current work engages with the ways in which Indigenous filmmaking from the region operates through a complex process of audiovisual translation."

## **Juan-José (JJ) Miranda, MSc student in International Development at UoE, ClickMaths**

JJ has been running ClickMaths in South Africa for the past three years where he has been responsible for the translation of educational resources into local languages and the execution of pilots across South Africa to provide free access to these resources. JJ speaks English, Spanish and French and learned Afrikaans and Zulu while living in South Africa.

### **Topic: Translation of Educational Resources: an in-practice perspective from ClickMaths**

What is the need for maths translations into local languages? What is the process of translation, and what can the implementation look like? Drawing from his work with ClickMaths, a South African non-profit which leverages technology to provide access to educational resources in local languages for free, JJ will explore the importance of providing educational material in local languages, speak about the implementation process, and highlight the capacity-building results that ClickMaths has achieved from localizing over 3000 maths videos from English into Sepedi, isiXhosa, and isiZulu, providing access to these educational resources for free and either offline or at no data cost, and working in partnership with schools, community centers, and adult learning centers in townships and rural areas.