

# READING THE CITY

A symposium on multilingualism, multiculturalism and urban landscapes



Cities are places where cultures and languages co-exist and interact. Yet, students and scholars in the fields of social science and foreign language education often study the rich interaction of place and language, two key elements in the construction of social identity, in isolation from each other.

This symposium brings together practitioners from across these disciplines in a shared discussion of tools, methods and projects that make use of the city to explore the broad network of flexible linguistic positions and changing identities that characterize the lived realities of cities and their inhabitants.

The day's presentations will highlight practical methods and pedagogical implications of engaging with the city around us to better connect our classes with the world in which our students live.

## Presenters

**Keynote:** Nick Byrne (Director, Language Centre, London School of Economics and Political Science) "How university language centres respond to the challenges of the multilingual city - the LUCIDE project and beyond"

David Malinowski (Center for Language Study, Yale University) "Lefebvre in the language classroom: Reading and writing the linguistic landscape from multiple perspectives"

Stephen Welsh (Language Resource Center, Columbia University) "Cityscape: A Tool for Engaging the multilingual city"

Agnieszka Legutko (Dept. of Germanic Languages, Columbia University) "The City of New York in the Classroom: The Mapping Yiddish New York Project"

Reyes Llopis-Garcia (Dept. of Latin American and Iberian Cultures, Columbia University) "Painting the Cultural Picture: NYC as a Canvas for Spanish Language, Culture, and Identity"

Andrew Ross (Arizona State University) "The CIRCLE Project: Urban Stories, Social Justice in Arizona"

Josef Sorett (Dept. of Religion, Columbia University) "Mapping Religion in Upper Manhattan: From the Negro Renaissance to the 'New Harlem'"

Van Tran (Dept. of Sociology, Columbia University) "Amsterdam Avenue: Neighborhood Gentrification and Change in a Global City"

Leah Meisterlin (Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Columbia University): "Challenging the City and Its Data."

Don Davis (Dept. of Economics, Columbia University) "Student Views of the Economics of New York City"

Roundtable Moderator: Sébastien Dubreil (Associate Professor of French and Francophone Studies, University of Tennessee Knoxville)

**Friday, May 1, 2015**  
**9:00 am to 4:30 pm**

**Columbia University**  
**Lerner Hall Room 555**

Register here:



This symposium is free and open to the public.  
Register at [LRC.Columbia.edu/ReadingTheCity](http://LRC.Columbia.edu/ReadingTheCity)

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