Guest Lecture

“Multicultural London English and its speakers: A corpus-informed discourse study of standard language ideology and social stereotypes”

Dr Ruth Kircher
(Mercator Research Centre – Fryske Akademy)

Tuesday, 17 December 2019, 08:00-08:45
Room PLH 105 (Plattenstrasse 47)

Ruth Kircher is a researcher at the Mercator European Research Centre on Multilingualism and Language Learning, which is part of the Fryske Akademy in Leeuwarden (Netherlands). She is a sociolinguist who specialises in societal multilingualism and language contact – with a particularly interest in language attitudes and ideologies, social identities and stereotypes, and language policy and planning. As part of Melanie Röthlisberger’s BA seminar “Linguistic practices in urban centres”, Dr Kircher will give a talk on Multicultural London English (MLE), the multiethnolect spoken in England’s main metropolis. She will show how a corpus-informed discourse study allows for differences to be discerned between MLE speakers and non-MLE speakers with regard to ideological issues concerning MLE itself as well as the stereotypes associated with its speakers.

All interested students, members of staff, and other guests are cordially invited.