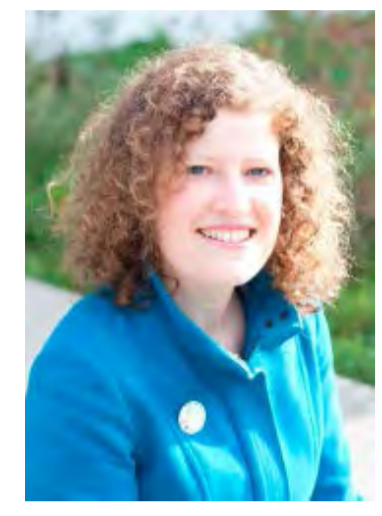




Promotion of Young Researchers

Delegate for the Promotion of Young Researchers within the URPP Language and Space: **Daniel Schreier**

Representative of Scientific Staff (PhD and Postdoc): **Hanna Ruch**



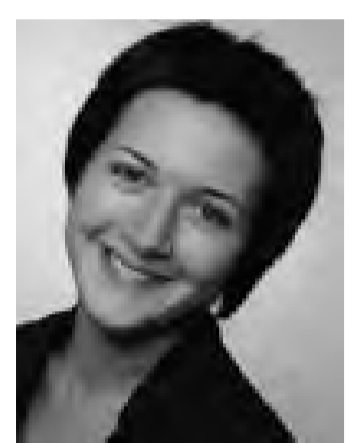
Eleanor Coghill (Postdoc, Linguistic Areas)

"My focus is on Semitic languages, especially on Aramaic morphosyntax and contact between Aramaic and other languages, but I am also interested in the bigger questions of how and why languages change and how this can explain typological tendencies across languages. Aramaic is ideal for such studies, having as it does a three-thousand year long written history."



Curdin Derungs (Director, GISLab)

"I study how language is distributed in space. This raises a number of interesting questions. Language is a continuous phenomenon that sometimes undergoes abrupt changes. How can this be captured in a spatial model? Are there causal relations between language distribution and geographic characteristics? Does the present distribution of languages allow us to understand the underlying evolution?"



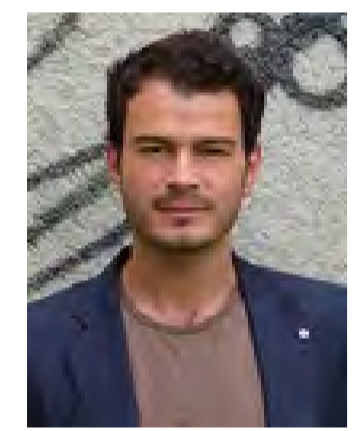
Ekaterina Egorova (PhD, GISLab)

"I am interested in the way context - space structure (mountains) and activity (mountaineering) - impacts space conceptualization. I work with alpine narratives and analyze linguistic choices in certain constructions (e. g. , encoding of spatial information in motion events) that are indicative of cognitive representation of space."



David Paul Gerards (PhD, Linguistic Areas)

"I am - among many other things - interested in nominal determination in Old Ibero-Romance. I am particularly focusing on what is most widely referred to as 'partitive/mass determiners'. A geographical notion of space plays a crucial role in my research since one of the hypotheses for the occurrence of mass determiners in Old Ibero-Romance is its contact with Gallo-Romance via shared discourse traditions and multilingual authors."



Kenan Hochuli (PhD, VideoLab)

"I am examining cultural differences in the embodied use of space and spatial resources among market participants in Istanbul and Zurich. I'm interested in how spatial settings of market areas and market stalls prestructure interactions, how spatial resources are used in the course of interactions and how these in turn prestructure subsequent actions - and thus subsequent uses of space."



Alice Idone (PhD, Linguistic Areas)

"I'm interested in the interplay between space and time in linguistic change. My research concerns the unstressed vowel system of the central Calabrian dialects, in southern Italy. In my hypothesis, what is observable today on this subject is the result of a complex turnover between two different linguistic models."



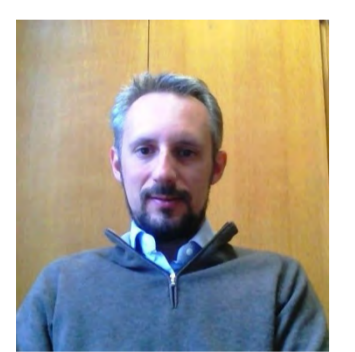
Wolfgang Kesselheim (Director, VideoLab)

"I am interested in the way people activate elements of their spatial environment in and for interaction. This is especially rewarding in semiotically rich environments like museums, where almost all elements in the surroundings of the visitors can be meaningful."



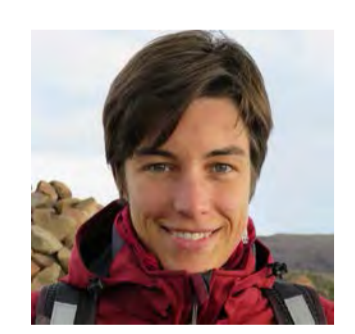
Nathalie Meyer (PhD, Interactional Spaces)

"In my PhD project, I am interested in how and why interactions between participants materialize in the multimedial and multimodal online setting that is a video game livestreaming platform. At the same time, I look at issues regarding spatial affordances, the usage of space, and the overlap of spaces in order to analyze how space influences the interactions that unfold in this emergent media environment."



Diego Pescarini (Postdoc, Linguistic Areas)

"My research focuses on the grammar of Italo-Romance dialects. I carry out fieldwork in Italy, organize the data by means of state-of-the-art IT facilities and do linguistic analyses within a formal framework."



Hanna Ruch (Postdoc, Linguistic Areas)

"I am interested in the subtle adaptations speakers make when interacting with somebody from a different dialect area. The data and methods involve phonetic analyses of dialogues, questionnaire data on e.g. dialect attitudes and place attachment, and perception experiments."



Tanja Samardžić (Director, CorpusLab)

"I am interested in using language corpora to study the relation between language and space in two directions. First, I work on developing corpus-based measures of linguistic distance (language in space). Second, I work on identifying spatial origins of linguistic distributions in corpora (space in language)."



Florian Sommer (PhD, Linguistic Areas)

"My work focuses on morphology from the perspective of areal and diachronic linguistics. The aim of my dissertation is to develop a framework for the influence of language contact on morphology on the basis of the Circum Baltic Area as a testbed case."



Antonia Steger (PhD, Interactional Spaces)

"I am interested in the social practices of 'doing a public square' as producing a space for recreational resting in public. My data is collected on the Sechseläutenplatz in Zurich through video and audio recording, which make possible a detailed multimodal sequence analysis, and is completed with maps, ethnographic field notes and interviews."