

VocUM 2019 — Language and Time

Call for Papers

Tick tock! Tick tock! The wait is over! We are pleased to announce that submissions are now open for the 6th edition of VocUM, which will take place at the Carrefour des arts et des sciences of the Université de Montréal (Québec, Canada) on November 14 and 15, 2019. VocUM is an annual international conference organized by students of the Université de Montréal, all from different fields of study relating to language. It is the only multidisciplinary conference dedicated to language in Montréal.

In keeping with the times, the theme for VocUM 2019 is... **Language and Time**. Though essential, time has always been difficult to define. Archeological artefacts resembling lunar calendars suggest that humans were already measuring time as early as the Paleolithic. The first solar calendars appeared in antiquity, namely in Egypt. During the Enlightenment, Isaac Newton's *Principia* (1687) includes time, considered as absolute, in the core concepts of classical mechanics, alongside speed, inertia, and force. Finally, in 1905, Albert Einstein's theory of relativity revolutionized our conception of time, revealing the inextricable link it shares with space. Involved as it is in some of the most fundamental physical laws, time inescapably influences the universe and, consequently, humanity. Language, the ultimate human faculty, is similarly constrained by time.

VocUM 2019 thus urges us to reflect upon the interaction between language and time: time within language and conversely language in time. To do so, VocUM is happy to welcome multiple research perspectives, in which time plays diverse roles. Contributions can examine the ways in which different languages express time or the diachronic variation of given linguistic phenomena, at a small or large scale. The lens of history can also be particularly productive, as it allows us to situate in time various oral, signed or written language practises:

history of languages, of translation, of interpreting, of writing, of the book, of literatures, of theatre, etc. Literary or cinematographic works in which time constitutes a central theme can also be considered. Experimental approaches can likewise be relevant to the theme, whether they explore variations in linguistic expression according to age, speech pathologies manifesting at different stages of development or the effects of aging on language production. Similarly, natural language's inherent sequentiality, and that of its various processes, *de facto* entails a temporal dimension.

Submissions aligning with the theme of the current edition, **Language and Time**, will be given priority. The theme can namely, though not exclusively, be addressed from the following disciplinary perspectives:

Ancient languages	Linguistics
Applied linguistics	Literatures
Automatic language processing	Minority languages
Communication	Modern languages
Comparative literature	Neurolinguistics
Computer science	Philosophy of language
Didactics	Phonetics
Discourse analysis	Pragmatics
Ethnolinguistics	Psycholinguistics
Forensic linguistics	Sociolinguistics
Hermeneutics	Sociology
History of language	Specialized translation
History of languages	Speech-language pathology
L1/L2/Ln Acquisition	Terminology
Language disorders	Terminotics
Language pedagogy	Translation
Lexicography	Translation history
Language planning	Translation policy

Submissions in **French** and **English** are welcomed. That being said, VocUM encourages the use of French in order to resist the current trend toward English hegemony in the dissemination of scientific knowledge. Similarly, contributors working in the fields of Spanish and German studies can present their research in **Spanish** or **German**, respectively. We will also consider submissions from undergraduate students.

Proposals (**300 words** maximum) must be submitted using the electronic form, available on the VocUM website: <https://vocum.ca/vocum-2019-language-and-time/submit/>. Anonymous peer evaluation of the proposals will be carried out by a scientific committee. Presentations will be between **15 and 20 minutes** long (to be determined according to the final number of presentations), followed by a question and answer session.

Presenters of the 6th edition will have the opportunity to publish their research in *ScriptUM*, VocUM's multidisciplinary, student-run journal with double-blind peer review. Information regarding publication will be sent out soon after the conference. The journal can be accessed at the following address: <https://scriptum.vocum.ca/>.

Important dates

Deadline for proposal submission: July 5, 2019

Notification of acceptance: September 2019

Conference: November 14 and 15, 2019

For more information: <http://vocum.ca>, info@vocum.ca