Kristina Eiviler (Zürich)

Multimodality in action: Object veneration in public spaces in Central Russia

Statistics say that out of approximately 500 monuments of culture in Moscow (such as memorials, statues, busts, etc.), nearly 100 can be related to folk narratives which are constructed around them, and with specific practices, which are performed on them. From passers-by at the Moscow metro station Ploschad Revolytsii (Russian: Пло́щадь Револю́ции) who touch the statues, located there, for luck, to those who make pilgrimage to Sin-Kamen (Russian: Си́нь-Камень) in Pereslavl-Zalesskiy (Russian: Переславль-Залесский), for making wishes regarding their health, financial or marital status – I explore the phenomenon of interaction between people and objects of veneration. How do people transform these objects to objects of veneration? In what way does the interaction between people further determine the space around them? What are the interactive achievements of these spaces? In the talk, I will use multimodal interaction analysis to discuss the specifics and the complexity of the above-mentioned interactions. By analyzing video excerpts from my corpus, I will focus on the induction of interaction: the starting points of communication, turn-taking, and breaking the silence in the group.

Kristina Eiviler is a doctoral researcher at the URPP Language and Space Lab, Video group. Her PhD project is called Cross Cultural Analysis of Interaction between People and Unconventional Places and Objects of Veneration. She takes a multidisciplinary approach, with the main focus on interactive linguistics and social anthropology.

Mittwoch, 24. März 2021, 16:00–17:30

Gäste sind herzlich willkommen! Ein Zoom-Link wird auf Anfrage gerne zur Verfügung gestellt.

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