

Lavender Languages & Linguistics

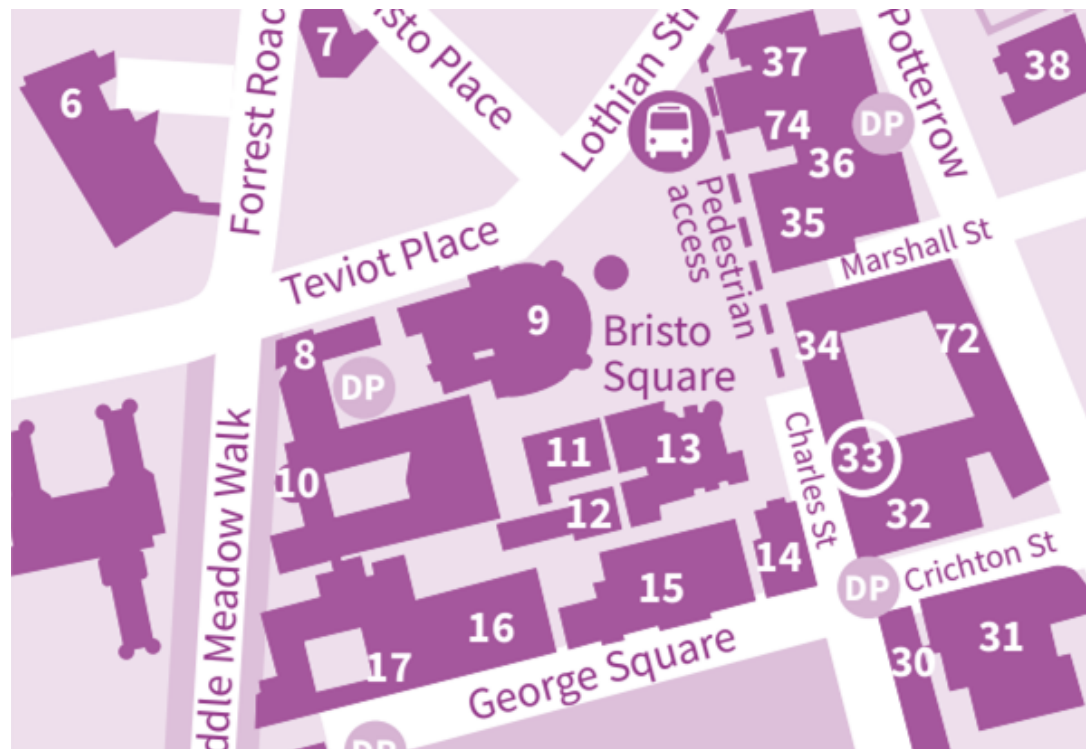
**32: University of Edinburgh
Queer (dis)belonging**

2-4 September 2026

Conference Programme

Venues

- 7 GS: 7 George Square (building 15):
<https://www.accessable.co.uk/the-university-of-edinburgh/central-area/access-guides/george-square-07>
- G.07: Meadows Lecture Theatre, Old Medical School (buildings 8, 10):
<https://www.accessable.co.uk/the-university-of-edinburgh/central-area/access-guides/old-medical-school-doorway-4>
- Seminar 1, 2, 4 CM: Chrystal Macmillan Seminar Rooms (building 17):
<https://www.accessable.co.uk/the-university-of-edinburgh/central-area/access-guides/chrystal-macmillan-building>
- InSpace: Informatics (building 72):
<https://www.accessable.co.uk/the-university-of-edinburgh/central-area/access-guides/inspace>
- Namaste Kathmandu (next to building 6, on Forrest road):
<https://namastektm.co.uk/>



Wednesday 2nd September 2026

9.00-9.40	Conference registration, coffee, refreshments, 7GS Foyer			
9.40-9.50	Welcome to LavLang32, G.07 Meadows Lecture Theatre			
9.50-10.50	Keynote 1: Dr. Kevin Guyan - Prefer Not To Say (G.07)			
Room	G.07 Meadows Lecture Theatre	Seminar Room 1, CM	Seminar Room 2, CM	Seminar Room 4, CM
Session title	Panel session: In-Group Queer Languages Beyond the West (Chair: Seth Palmer, Burak Alp Çakar)	Queer Places and Spaces (Chair: Ryan Shaw-Hawkins)	Queer Voices (Chair: Clíodhna Hughes)	Queer Inclusion & Exclusion I (Chair: Han Shutong)
11:00-11:30	Lubunca and the Infrastructures of Queer Subcultural Reproduction and Pedagogy in Turkey – <i>Burak Alp Çakar</i>	The Linguistic Landscape of Transnational Queer Activism in Collage Art – <i>Ashley Wenjing Xing</i>	"There's something about the way you look at me": Sexualised synthetic personas encode gendered power asymmetries through voice – <i>Alice Ross, Ariadna Sanchez, Elin Kanhov, Catherine Lai, Éva Székely</i>	Too Queer to Fit in: Gatekeeping and Intragroup Marginalization on LGBTQ+ Subreddits – <i>Routa Hallapaju</i>
11:30-12:00	Between Secrecy and Exposure: Hijra Farsi and the Shifting Boundaries of Khawaja Sira (Dis)Belonging in Pakistan – <i>Tayyaba Rafique</i>	Reading the Room: Environmental Coding and Queer Belonging – <i>Rob Vinall</i>	Gen Z bisexuals less invisible than misperceived: A gay voice study of a spectrum of sexual attractions – <i>Jinfan Frank Hu, Michael Newman, Patrick Xu, Jay Cox</i>	Fostering queer belonging through the critique of straight people on social media – <i>Alice Cesbron</i>
12:00-12:30	Reflections on the Politics of Secrecy and Visibility in Uliti – <i>Enakshi Nandi</i>	Locating Queer Politics in Leeds – <i>Amy Smethurst</i>	Sexuality and gender presentation predict vowel production – <i>Liza Sulkin</i>	From Biology to Kinship: Doing Family beyond Heteronormative Anthropocentrism – <i>Hannah Sawall, Miriam Lind</i>
12:30-13:00	Queer Speech on the Malagasy Screen: Knou and the Mediation of Transgressive Femininity in Vola – <i>Seth Palmer, Johary Iharantsoa</i>	Sexual identity, lexical association, and the ideological marking of place in San Francisco – <i>Michael Senko, Grace Brown, Antón de la Fuente, Taiga Ikedo, Lorena Martín Rodríguez, Yin Lin Tan, Jonathan WuWong, Robert J. Podesva</i>	Queering the Voice: Phonetics of Sexual Orientation – <i>Yu-Leng Lin</i>	'Out of the frying pan and into the fire' – exclusion, authenticity, and the imagined centre of online transgender communities – <i>Gabe Jackson</i>
13:00-14:00	Lunch, 7GS Foyer			

Session title	Project Launch Session (Chair: Daniel Edmondson)	Pronouns (Chair: Lauren Hall-Lew)	Queer Nationalism (Chair: Christian Ilbury)	Queer Inclusion & Exclusion II (Chair: Alice Ross)
14:00-14:30	1. The Sound of Resistance: Sociolinguistics of Queer Nationhood in Poland – <i>Jay King</i> 2. LGBTQ+ Voices in Speech Data Collection and Technology Development – <i>Clíodhna Hughes</i>	Playful pronouns then and now: historical and current practices of explorative digital gender – <i>Theresa Heyd, Sol Tovar</i>	“Now that I can die here, I wonder when I will be able to live here”: Homonationalism as the gatekeeper of LGBTQ+ belonging in Israel – <i>Roey Gafter, Tommaso Milani</i>	“I’m Every Woman”: Mapping the conditions of a contested category – <i>Lexi Webster</i>
14:30-15:00	3. Do lesbians flirt differently with femme vs. masc presenting women? – <i>Melissa Ebert</i> 4. Quantifying “Chill” Affect: The Case of Bisexual Stoners – <i>Bayleigh Baldwin</i>	“He’s Here, He’s Not Queer”: The Indexical Potential of Pronoun Use on American Drag Reality Television – <i>Finn Verdonk</i>	The time has come for you to lipsync for your life - Affective demands in rejections of application for asylum for queer refugees in Denmark – <i>Nicolai Phraao, Kristine Køhler Mortensen</i>	"They can't police where I piss": Trans people's resistance to the UK Supreme Court judgment on the definition of ‘woman’ – <i>Gabe Jackson, Lucy Jones</i>
15:00-15:30	5. Nonbinar/i/ ? Nonbinar/u/ ! Vowel Quality Changes in Gendered Contexts – <i>Joy Dertinger</i>	Pronouns as Social Practice: Variability in Non-Binary Pronoun Use in Switzerland – <i>Elijah King, Jay King</i>	Listening for Silence: Queer (Dis)Belonging Beyond Linguistic Visibility in the Anglophone Caribbean – <i>Isaias Calderon</i>	LGBTQIA* – Usage, expansion and meaning of LGBT-based initialisms in German – <i>Lars Sörries-Vorberger</i>
15:30-16:00	Coffee break, 7GS Foyer			
16:00-17:00	Keynote 2: Prof. Erez Levon - Freedom to hate: Anti-gender discourse and the forging of fascist consensus (G.07)			
17.30-20:00	Welcome Reception (InSpace)			

Thursday 3rd September 2026

9.00-9.45	Coffee & refreshments, 7GS Foyer			
9.50-10.50	Keynote 3: Dr. Nikki Lane - The Love Language of Black Lesbians: Longing, Loss, and the Materiality of Black Lesbian Magazines in California's Bay Area (G.07)			
Room	G.07 Meadows Lecture Theatre	Seminar Room 1, CM	Seminar Room 2, CM	Seminar Room 4, CM
Session title	Panel: The Trouble with Normal: Queer linguistics meets minoritised languages (Chair: John Walsh)	Queering Identity (Chair: Daniel Edmondson)	Queer Intimacies (Chair: Ashley Wenjing Xing)	Queering Multilingualism (Chair: Cliodhna Hughes)
11:00-11:30	When voice signals belonging: on auditory gaydar in Catalan – <i>Mercè Prat-Rubio</i>	How to Do Things with Woofs: Examining the Use of Non-Human Vocalizations as a Genre of Paralanguage in the Queer Pup Play Kink Community – <i>Ellie McKeown</i>	#grindrlife: Modulated Sociality, Narrated Intimacies, and Mediated Desires on Grindr – <i>Spencer Chen, Carter Higgins</i>	Queering the reclamation and revitalisation of Meänkieli in Sweden – <i>Riitta-Liisa Valijarvi, Elsa Woodmeade</i>
11:30-12:00	Queer ethnopoetics in minoritised languages: an ethnographic case study on Galician rural LGBTIQ festivals – <i>Daniel Amarelo</i>	Sexuality as Interactional Achievement: Evidence from a Toronto Queer Oral History – <i>Nick Haggarty</i>	Building biliteracy and identity through Grindr in Taipei: Getting laid and beyond... – <i>Guillermo Balseiro-Barrios</i>	"I am different, I am outside of this grammatical gender": linguistic practices of non-binary L1 and L2 French, Italian, and Spanish speakers for self-expression – <i>Candice Guerbeau</i>
12:00-12:30	Creating a space for queer conversations in Breton: The Queeromp podcast – <i>Michael Hornsby</i>	Project Launch & lightning talks: 1. Role nouns in Dutch: Towards more inclusive linguistic practice – <i>Alexander Martin, Hans Wilke</i> 2. Analyzing anti-trans legislation in the United States – <i>Lillianna Lamagna, Dagan Fultz, Kameron Welch</i> 3. "A pathway to same-sex marriage": heteronormative argumentation and queer (dis)belonging in South Korea – <i>Jung In Lee</i>	Queering the Sexual Script: Intimacy, Heteropatriarchy, Sex and Power – <i>Manjot Multani</i>	Between linguistic identity and the prohibition of gender expression: the case of Québec French – <i>Alexandra Dupuy</i>
12:30-13:00	A community-based approach to queer terminology provision in Irish – <i>John Walsh, Jamie Murphy</i>		Stance and the enactment of intimacy in Sri Lanka – <i>Hasitha Pathirana</i>	Multilingual queer speech communities and languaging practices among Latine/Latinx college-aged speakers in the U.S. – <i>R Mata</i>

12:30-13:00		4. 'Kein(e) Pronomen': gender-neutral pronouns, or lack thereof, in German – <i>Henriette Johansen, Lydia Wiernik</i>		
13:00-14:00	Lunch, 7GS Foyer			
Session title	Lightning paper session (Chair: Daniel Edmondson)	Digital Queerness (Chair: Ashley Wenjing Xing)	Masculinities and Femininities (Chair: Christian Ilbury)	Queer Media (Chair: Ryan Shaw-Hawkins)
14:00-14:30	1. Conceptualising non-binary: a cognitive multimodal study of gender (self-)representation on YouTube – <i>Anna Wyrwa</i> 2. Default Masculinity and the Erasure of Gender Multiplicity in State School Textbooks in Pakistan: A Socio-Cognitive Analysis – <i>Lilith Alison</i>	Shifting Disability Narratives: Neuroqueering Reddit – <i>Margaux Kraemer</i>	Performative Males: The Making of a “Fake” Male Persona – <i>Yu-Xuan Tsai</i>	“Accept that you are different! Don’t invite people to war!” Affective-discursive practices in the representation of marriage equality in Estonian media – <i>Elisabeth Kaukonen, Raili Marling</i>
14:30-15:00	3. Queer Masculinities: How Men Use Tribes on Grindr to Understand Their Masculinity – <i>Vince Mallia</i>	‘Does anyone else find the use of “queer” problematic?’ Online LGBT+ identity and community construction across three languages – <i>Max Reuvers</i>	Queer Stylisation Beyond Visibility: Modelling Sajiao among Gay Men in Urban China – <i>Han Shutong</i>	Temporal Governance and the Construction of Trans (Dis)Belonging in South Korean Media – <i>Abigail Cowan, Jung In Lee</i>
15:00-15:30	4. Beyond the Straw Man: Redefining “Safe Space” Through Social Safety Theory and Queer Narratives – <i>Noé Fouquet</i> 5. They, dey, iel, elle: Towards a post-binary signifying economy – <i>Sam Nartus</i> 6. Queering choirs: a collaborative exploration of trans+ vocality and flourishing in UK-based LGBT+ choirs – <i>Pim Rommelaere</i>	How a transmedicalist subreddit constructs a dysphoric identity by exploiting the varying construals of dysphoric as a property – <i>Sumeyye Nabieva</i>	From Plague to PrEP: Gay Gen X and the Meaning of Midlife – <i>David Divita</i>	Multimodal constructions of transgender (dis)belonging in an American political talk show – <i>Martino Mangano</i>
15:30-16:00	Coffee break, 7GS Foyer			
16:00-17:00	Keynote 4: Dr. Stamatina Katsiveli - ‘But we who?’ The interactional making of queer (dis)belonging: From public discourse to psychotherapy (G.07)			

Friday 4th September 2026

9.00-9.45	Coffee & refreshments, 7GS Foyer			
9.50-10.50	Keynote 5: Dr. Eddie Ungless - Synthesising queerness: how AI represents queer identities (G.07)			
Room	G.07 Meadows Lecture Theatre	Seminar Room 1, CM	Seminar Room 2, CM	Seminar Room 4, CM
Session title	Seeking non-binary gender justice in Romance language education: Authority, legitimacy, and (dis)belonging (Chair: Julia Spiegelman)	Religion and Queerness (Chair: Alice Ross)	Queer Migration (Chair: Ryan Shaw-Hawkins)	Queer Labels (Chair: Han Shutong)
11:00-11:30	Yes, but: non-binary students' linguistic self-reference across languages – <i>Bel Olid</i>	“God made trans people”: Resisting trans disbelonging through religio-political rhetoric – <i>Philip Duncan</i>	Out of Place, Yet Speaking: Affect, Normativity and Haitian Migrant Visibility across Media in Mexico – <i>Diana Ortiz Rojo</i>	The Lexicalisation of Gay: Language, Normativity, and Queer Belonging in Chinese Sina Weibo ‘Tree-Hole’ Discourse – <i>Ningxin Yin</i>
11:30-12:00	A guide to nonbinary Galician language: collaborative experiences in a sociolinguistically minoritized, stateless nation – <i>Daniel Amarelo</i>	Rainbow Beasts: Legitimizing Rightwing Christian Nationalist Queerphobic Governance in Project 2025 – <i>David Peterson</i>	Languaging (Dis)Belonging: Queer Latinx Resistance, Fear, and Solidarity under Anti-LGBTQ+ and Anti-Immigrant Policies – <i>Fernando Lesniak</i>	#momtok : Labeling motherhood in hashtags on TikTok – <i>Katie Stemp, Yifan Wu, Marianne Laplante</i>
12:00-12:30	We can change the language: Linguistic (r)evolution among nonbinary high school learners of French & Spanish – <i>Julia Spiegelman</i>	“We don’t have beaches in our townships”: Muhsin Hendricks, gay Islam and queer translanguaging – <i>William Leap</i>	Languages of (Dis)Belonging: Chinese Gay Men Navigating Queer Identity Across Chinese, English, and Japanese – <i>Chuan Tian</i>	Queer FC? A cross-linguistic comparison of identity labels and inclusion-oriented lexis in amateur women and queer football clubs – <i>Cheryl Yeo, Océane Foubert</i>
12:30-13:00	Overcoming resistance to gender-inclusive language teaching: research-informed pathways for teachers in world language classrooms – <i>Diana Carter, Angela George, Francis Langevin</i>	Conflicted Identities: Religious Gay Speakers’ Use of Creaky Voice in Taiwan – <i>Yu-Che Jackson Chou, Tsung-Lun Alan Wan</i>	Lost in Translation, Found in Language: Queer (Dis)Belonging among Japanese-English Multilingual Nonbinary Individuals – <i>Yuka Takao</i>	What’s in a (trans) name? Indirect sociolinguistic profiling of personal names chosen by trans individuals in Spain – <i>Emma Machado de Souza, John Vinagre Vázquez</i>
13:00-14:00	Lunch, 7GS Foyer			

Session title	Queer Transgression and Resistance (Chair: Lauren Hall-Lew)	Queering Education and Academia (Chair: Clíodhna Hughes)	Queer slurs and reclamation (Chair: Ryan Shaw-Hawkins)	Queer Media (Chair: Han Shutong)
14:00-14:30	Transgressive Mouthings: Indexing Queerly in ASL – <i>Erin Moriarty, Octavian Robinson</i>	Discourses of diversity in Hong Kong Universities: belonging & identity in cosmopolitan, Confucian & Christian context – <i>Philip Freestone</i>	“Allowing More Speech”? – The legitimization of queerphobia in Meta’s hateful conduct policy changes – <i>Vinicio Ntouvlis</i>	The Unspeakable Tongue and a Borrowed Code: How the Korean Lez Clips English and Cuts through Silence – <i>Julia Kim</i>
14:30-15:00	When is "she" a "boy"? The acquisition of grammatical and social meanings of English third person pronouns – <i>Montreal Benesch</i>	The inclusional fallacy: Discourses of queer disbelonging in Norwegian textbooks – <i>Yvonne Jasmine Demirel</i>	Pragmatic camouflage: The Estonian slur pede across hostile, ironic, and ‘neutral’ uses – <i>Aet Kuusik</i>	The Book Object and Transness: Metaphor and Metonymy in Trans Codicology and The Magnus Archives – <i>Alba Roldán-García, Ainhoa Segovia-Ruiz</i>
15:00-15:30	Contextualizing (dis)belonging: Nonbinary attitudes towards style shifting beyond the queer safety vs. risk paradigm – <i>Ariana Steele, Elanur Sönmez</i>	“Between Analysis and Evocation”: A Discourse Analysis of First-Person Stances in Trans Scholarship – <i>Mary Ann Saunders, Katja Thieme</i>	“Any homophobe can take a new untarnished word and make it a slur by context and tone alone”: Perceptions of LGBTQ+ Slurs – <i>Sloane Cheesebrough</i>	Owning it, owning us: experiences of belonging and solidarity as a reaction to HIV/AIDS in the Swedish queer press, 1982–1986 – <i>Martina Terrazzano</i>
15:30-16:00	Coffee break, 7GS Foyer			
16:00-17:00	Discussion: Queer (dis)belonging & closing, G.07			

Other information

Gender neutral toilet finder: <https://estates.ed.ac.uk/buildings-information/gender-neutral-toilets>

WiFi: Eduroam or Guest-Ed using password: 758-26

Conference Committee

Dr. Christian Ilbury (lead)

Prof. Lauren Hall-Lew

Shutong Han

Ashley Xing

Clíodhna Hughes

Alice Ross

Ryan Shaw-Hawkins

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