

Towards a Surinamese Standard Dutch norm?!

Anne-Sophie Ghyselen
Ghent University

For the study of language contact and sound change, multilingual and multi-ethnic Suriname presents us with an utterly interesting case. In this talk, I will focus on the way in which centuries of language contact have influenced the Dutch spoken in Suriname since 1667. More specifically, I will test the hypothesis that a separate Surinamese Standard Dutch norm has taken shape via endoglossic standardisation. I will test this hypothesis against (1) production data, focussing e.g. on *t*-deletion patterns in the speech of highly educated, Creole mother tongue speakers of Dutch (cf. Vervaeke, Goeman & Ghyselen submitted) and (2) perceptual and attitudinal data (cf. Ghyselen, Grondelaers, Doerga Misier-Patadien & Balesar 2022). I will show how acceptance versus rejection of the Surinamese Standard Dutch norm hypothesis strongly depends on how the concept of a standard norm is operationalized.