Please mark your calendars and plan to attend a lecture by Professor Patsy Duff on Tuesday, November 6, 2012, 4:00-5:30 pm in ED 1201.



Language Socialization in Mutlilingual Contexts: Ideologies, Histories, and Practices in English Language Education in China and Hungary

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Despite their vast differences, China and Hungary have much in common with respect to English as a foreign language (EFL). Their ideologies, histories, and practices in English education include years of repression of the learning and use of English under earlier pro-Soviet regimes and isolation from the West, then the opening up of both countries and economies during periods of major reform in the late 1980s, and more recently the impact of globalization, urbanization, and assimilation on society and education.

In this presentation, I describe an ongoing study examining language socialization through English language education in provinces in the southwest of both countries, which are not only at a distance from their respective capital cities, but also have the largest number of linguistic and/or cultural minorities, many of whom encounter English as a third or fourth language. Based on interviews, essays, documents, textbooks, and classroom observations, I discuss teachers' and students' socialization into English through the affordances of pop culture, EFL materials, and mediation by teachers, and consider how their identities, communities, linguistic repertoires, and futures are potentially transformed as a result.