

Malcolm Coulthard, Alison Johnson and David Wright (2016) *An Introduction to Forensic Linguistics: Language in Evidence* (2nd edition)

An Introduction to Forensic Linguistics: Language in Evidence has established itself as the essential textbook written by leading authorities in this expanding field. The second edition of this bestselling textbook begins with a new introduction and continues in two parts. Part 1 deals with the language of the legal process, and begins with a substantial new chapter exploring key theoretical and methodological approaches. In four updated chapters it goes on to cover the language of the law, initial calls to the emergency services, police interviewing and courtroom discourse. Part 2 looks at language as evidence, with substantially revised and updated chapters on the following key topics: the forensic linguist, forensic phonetics, authorship attribution, the linguistic investigation of plagiarism, the linguist as expert witness. The authors combine an array of perspectives on forensic linguistics, using knowledge and experience gained in legal settings. Research tasks, further reading, web links, and a new conclusion ensure that this remains the core textbook for courses in forensic linguistics and language and the law. (from publisher's website)

Routledge. ISBN 9781138641709 (270pp.) routledge.com

Karen Tracy (2016) *Discourse, Identity, and Social Change in the Marriage Equality Debates*

Karen Tracy examines the identity-work of judges and attorneys in state supreme courts as they debated the legality of existing marriage laws. Exchanges in state appellate courts are juxtaposed with the talk that occurred between citizens and elected officials in legislative hearings considering whether to revise state marriage laws. The book's analysis spans ten years, beginning with the U.S. Supreme Court's overturning of sodomy laws in 2003 and ending in 2013 when the U.S. Supreme Court declared the federal government's Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) unconstitutional, and it particularly focuses on how social change was accomplished through and reflected in these law-making and law-interpreting discourses. Focal materials are the eight cases about same-sex marriage and civil unions that were argued in state supreme courts between 2005 and 2009, and six

of a larger number of hearings that occurred in state judicial committees considering bills regarding who should be able to marry. Tracy concludes with analysis of the 2011 Senate Judiciary Committee Hearing on DOMA, comparing it to the initial 1996 hearing and to the 2013 Supreme Court oral argument about it. The book shows that social change occurred as the public discourse that treated sexual orientation as a 'lifestyle' was replaced with a public discourse of gays and lesbians as a legitimate category of citizen. (*from publisher's website*)

Oxford University Press. ISBN 9780190217969 (224pp.) oup.com

Elizabeth Mertz, William K. Ford and Gregory Matoesian, eds (2016) *Translating the Social World for Law: Linguistic Tools for a New Legal Realism*

In coordinated papers that are grounded in empirical research, the volume contributors use careful linguistic analysis to understand how attempts to translate between different disciplines can misfire in systematic ways. Some contributors also point the way toward more fruitful translation practices. The contributors to this volume are members of an interdisciplinary working group on Legal Translation that met for a number of years. The group includes scholars from law, philosophy, anthropology, linguistics, political science, psychology and religious studies. The members of this group approach interdisciplinary communication as a form of 'translation' between distinct *disciplinary* languages (or, 'registers'). Although it may seem obvious that professionals in different fields speak and think differently about the world, in fact experts in law and in social science too often assume that they can communicate easily when they are speaking what appears to be the 'same' language. While such experts may intellectually understand that they differ regarding their fundamental assumptions and uses of language, they may nonetheless consistently underestimate the degree to which they are actually talking past one another. This problem takes on real-life significance when one of the fields is law, where how knowledge is conveyed can affect how justice is meted out. (*from publisher's website*)

Oxford University Press. ISBN 978-0199990559 (312pp.) oup.com

Philip Gaines (2016) *From Truth to Technique at Trial: A Discursive History of Metavalues in Trial Advocacy Advice Texts*

From Truth to Technique addresses key questions raised by the burgeoning literature in what Philip Gaines calls advocacy advice texts – manuals, handbooks, and other how-to guides – written by lawyers for lawyers, both practising and aspiring, to help them be as effective as possible in trial advocacy. In these texts, advice authors share principles, strategies and techniques for persuading juries

and winning cases. Some manuals even form the basis for required advocacy courses in law schools. Helping advocates learn how to win cases may be the ultimate purpose of advice texts, but to what extent are ideas about the values of truth and justice – what Gaines calls metavalues – incorporated into discussions about winning tactics and techniques? To explore this question, Gaines takes the reader through a discursive history of the relation between technique and metavalues as presented in advocacy advice – beginning with a thematic analysis of the first texts published in the Anglo-American tradition in the early seventeenth century, through treatises written during seasons of radical change in the profession in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and up to the present day with a look at the more than 200 trial manuals currently in print. This diachronic study reveals dramatic changes in the place authors give to the metavalues of truth and justice when lawyers advise other lawyers about how to be effective in the courtroom. (*from publisher's website*)

Oxford University Press. ISBN: 9780199333608 (232pp.) oup.com

Almut Braun (2016) *The Speaker Identification Ability of Blind and Sighted Listeners: An Empirical Investigation*

Almut Braun carried out forensic phonetic speaker identification experiments (voice lineups) with 306 lay listeners. Blind listeners significantly outperformed sighted listeners when the speech recordings were presented in studio quality. For recordings in mobile phone quality or of whispering voices, blind and sighted listeners achieved similar results. The data can be used as reference material for real cases with blind earwitnesses. Furthermore, it is discussed whether blind individuals are particularly suitable to work as forensic audio analysts for law enforcement agencies. (*from publisher's website*)

Springer. ISBN 9783658151973 (133pp.) springer.com

Colin D. Robertson (2016) *Multilingual Law: A Framework for Analysis and Understanding*

This book introduces and explores the concept of multilingual law. Providing an overview as to what is 'multilingual law', the study establishes a new discourse based on this concept, which has hitherto lacked recognition for reasons of complexity and multidisciplinary. The need for such a discourse now exists and is becoming urgent in view of the progress being made towards European integration and the legal and factual foundation for it in multilingualism and multilingual legislation. Covering different types of multilingual legal orders and their distinguishing features, as well as the basic structure of legal systems, the author

studies policy formation, drafting, translation, revision, terminology and computer tools in connection with the legislative and judicial processes. Bringing together a range of diverse legal and linguistic ideas under one roof, this book is of importance to legal-linguists, drafters and translators, as well as students and scholars of legal linguistics, legal translation and revision. (*from publisher's website*)

Routledge. ISBN 9781409421887 (274pp.) routledge.com

Alessandro Capone and Francesca Poggi, eds (2016) *Pragmatics and Law: Philosophical Perspectives*

This volume highlights important aspects of the complex relationship between common language and legal practice. It hosts an interdisciplinary discussion between cognitive science, philosophy of language and philosophy of law, in which an international group of authors aims to promote, enrich and refine this new debate. Philosophers of law have always shown a keen interest in cognitive science and philosophy of language in order to find tools to solve their problems: recently this interest was reciprocated, and scholars from cognitive science and philosophy of language now look to the law as a testing ground for their theses. Using the most sophisticated tools available to pragmatics, sociolinguistics, cognitive sciences and legal theory, an interdisciplinary, international group of authors address questions like: Does legal interpretation differ from ordinary understanding? Is the common pragmatic apparatus appropriate to legal practice? What can pragmatics teach about the concept of law and pervasive legal phenomena such as testimony or legal disagreements? (*from publisher's website*)

Springer. ISBN 9783319303833 (267pp.) springer.com

Douglas A. Kibbee (2016) *Language and the Law: Linguistic Inequality in America*

Language policy is a topic of growing importance around the world, as issues such as the recognition of linguistic diversity, the establishment of official languages, the status of languages in educational systems, the status of heritage and minority languages, and speakers' legal rights have come increasingly to the forefront. One fifth of the American population do not speak English as their first language. While race, gender and religious discrimination are recognised as illegal, the US does not currently accord the same protections regarding language; discrimination on the basis of language is accepted, and even promoted, in the name of unity and efficiency. Setting language within the context of America's history, this book explores the diverse range of linguistic inequalities, covering voting, criminal and civil justice, education, government and public services, and

the workplace, and considers how linguistic differences challenge our fundamental ideals of democracy, justice and fairness. (*from publisher's website*)

Cambridge University Press. ISBN 9781107025318 (240pp.) cambridge.org