

SEMINAR SERIES

Communication, Health, and Social
and Cultural Well-Being



Seminar 51: Hidden Patterns: The Linguistic Landscape of Northwest Amazonia

This multidisciplinary seminar series aims to create a forum centered in Jawun. It is for researchers at CQUniversity, across Queensland and all over the world, as a forum to share their research findings and establish potential synergies, leading to joint grant applications, and partnerships that endeavor to advance knowledge in various disciplines.

Location

Room 3.06, CQUniversity Cairns Campus
Corner Abbott Street and Shields Street
Or [via Zoom](#) Passcode: 821270

Date and Time

Thursday, 19 February 2025
4:00pm – 5:30pm QLD time
Light refreshments provided.



Speaker

Dr Katarzyna Wojtylak
from the University of
Warsaw.

BIO

Dr Kasia I. Wojtylak earned her PhD in Anthropological Linguistics from James Cook University, working on the Murui language from Northwest Amazonia. Currently an assistant professor at the University of Warsaw, Dr. Wojtylak focuses on European and Amazonian minority languages. She has conducted fieldwork in Colombia since 2011, working with local communities to preserve their linguistic heritage. Research.

Abstract

Northwest Amazonia is one of the world's most linguistically diverse regions, where languages from distinct families intertwine through centuries of multilingual interaction. The Caquetá-Putumayo area stands out as a vibrant hub of linguistic convergence, shaped by sustained cultural exchange and social mobility. This talk delves into the languages of this region, exploring how contact and coexistence among diverse communities have influenced their grammatical structures and linguistic identities. Through an analysis of shared patterns and unique innovations, it reveals the powerful role of multilingualism in shaping language evolution. By situating the Caquetá-Putumayo region within the broader context of Northwest Amazonia, this study offers fresh insights into the intricate relationship between language, culture, and society, inviting a deeper appreciation of the dynamics that sustain linguistic diversity in South America.

Please note the talk will followed by a panel discussion.

RSVP

Please RSVP in person attendance to JRC Administration via email: jrc@cqu.edu.au