

RESEARCH CLINIC

General information

Supervisor:	Cynthia Groff
Title of clinic:	Language and Belonging in Educational Contexts
Number of students:	2-4
Major (<i>if applicable and approved by the Major Convener</i>):	Human Diversity (2 students)
(Pre)requisites (<i>if applicable</i>):	Preference: Dutch language fluency

Research context

Interviews will be conducted with high school students in The Hague. This research forms part of my Marie-Curie project: “Voices of Belonging”: Minority Identities, Language and Education in the Netherlands. In the context of urban diversity, educational disparities, and youth radicalization, I focus on the role of language and education in young people’s identity formation and sense of belonging. Thus, this is a study of multilingualism in educational contexts from youth perspectives. Language ideologies, policies, and practices in educational contexts send messages for youth regarding their belonging and/or value in society: the voices heard by youth. In addition, youth communicate their sense of belonging and the belonging of others through their words and actions, including their language choices and social affiliations: the voices of youth. The broad objective of this research is to inform policies and educational programs that serve ethnically diverse youth, providing foundations for the development of more culturally responsive pedagogy in the Netherlands and throughout Europe.

Students’ tasks and activities

Please specify the tasks and activities, timeline, the learning aims and how they are assessed, i.e. what the deliverables will be.

Students with Dutch language skills will conduct semi-structured interviews with high school students. They will then transcribe the interviews, using basic transcription software, and learn to use the Atlas.ti program to begin preliminary qualitative analysis of the transcripts. Students who are not fluent in Dutch may be able to conduct a few English interviews but will primarily focus on summarizing and organizing interdisciplinary literature relevant to the research themes.

Learning aims: experience with conducting interviews and interview transcription (including a chosen transcription program), as well as qualitative analysis of interviews (using Atlas.ti); exposure to literature and concepts related to minority rights, minority identity, diversity in educational contexts, multilingualism, language policy and language ideology.

Students will keep a log of research hours and will create an annotated bibliography based on their own selection of relevant research articles.