

## Call for Papers

Abstracts are invited for a conference on language standardization and language variation in Asia. There has been much work in sociolinguistics on language standardization and language diversity in both Western and Asian scholarships. Though this conference places emphasis on the scholarship developed in Asia due to its venue, multidirectional comparisons and contrasts between different contexts are also welcome.

As is widely acknowledged, societies in Asia have become increasingly multilingual and multicultural as a result of increased mobility and modern transportation. Inevitably, these societies have all been struggling to balance language standardisation in the context of diverse ethnicity and culture. To better understand the changing sociolinguistic landscape, tensions between standardization and diversity, and policies and measures to address issues, for this conference, we welcome papers on theoretical frameworks, concepts, policies and practices with a focus on either language standardization or its relation to linguistic variation from sociolinguistic perspectives by educators, policy makers and researchers.

Equally we are interested in papers featuring how standardization and diversity could be reconciled in different multilingual and multicultural contexts of Asia.

The conference will take place at Ningbo, China (about two hours by train south of Shanghai), and we look forward to papers on Mandarin Chinese as well as the other languages of China, and the wider Asian region. Papers taking a comparative approach are also welcome. The language of the conference is English.

Areas of interest include – but are not limited to – those outlined below.

1. The history of language standardization: selection, elaboration and codification
2. Theories and methodological approaches to language standardisation
3. Standard language ideology and language attitudes
4. Multilingualism and lingua franca
5. Language standards and language testing
6. New media and challenges to language standardization
7. Reconciling linguistic/ethnic diversity and language standardization
8. Comparisons and contrasts in language standardization and linguistic variation in different contexts

The conference is co-hosted and co-sponsored by the University of Nottingham, UK, (UNUK) and University of Nottingham Ningbo China (UNNC).

Abstracts (in English) of about 200-250 words should be submitted by June 30th, 2017. Please send your abstract to [languagestandards@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:languagestandards@nottingham.ac.uk)