

Presentation of the funded projects in 2010 for the « franco-allemand » Programme

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« franco-allemand » programme

YEAR 2010

Project title CERAMALEX - ANCIENT POTTERY IN ALEXANDRIA

Abstract

As the greatest commercial metropolis of the Hellenistic and Roman East, Alexandria played an important role in the economic structure of the Mediterranean. At the same time it was the focus for contact between the Greek, Roman and Egyptian cultures. Because of intensive research since the 1980s a series of well documented and stratified excavations is available. The late quantities of data generated by them allow for the first time systematic investigations of economic and cultural historical questions to be carried out. Alexandria as a hinge between the Mediterranean and the Nile Valley offers a general view of the many-sided spectrum of ceramic production in the country and its economic relationships. The necessary basis in the form of overall chronological and typological systems is still lacking, however. The first goals of the project are the extension and integration of the databases of the German and French excavations in Alexandria, Schedia and Marea, as well as the elaboration of a common typology and terminology. Scientific investigations will help in the determination of provenience and the formation of groups. On this basis, an overarching chronological system will be elaborated through the comparison with other relevant excavation data and external projects. This work will flow into an atlas of the Ptolemaic-Roman pottery of Alexandria. Finally, on the basis of statistical investigations economic and cultural historical questions will be pursued with long-term perspectives (4th century BCE – 8th century CE). This innovative project requires differentiated cooperation: the generation of basic data takes place in the single projects, while a central German-French working group will be established for questions of standardization, integration and overall evaluation. Other joint tasks will be delegated (CEA: natural sciences, AI Köln: Database/GIS, Internet platform).

Partners

CENTRE D'ETUDES ALEXANDRINES (CEAalex)
IFAO

Coordinator

Jean-Yves EMPEREUR - CEAalex

ANR funding

299 999 €

Starting date and duration	Février 2011 – 36 mois
Reference	ANR-10-FRAL-014
Cluster label	-

Project title

CIPIA - CIRCULATION OF IRON PRODUCTS IN THE IRON-AGE OF EASTERN FRANCE AND SOUTHERN GERMANY: MULTIDISCIPLINARY AND METHODOLOGICAL APPROACHES TOWARDS THE PROVENANCE OF ANCIENT IRON

Abstract

During Iron Ages, the Central and North-West Europe is not a uniform area, many variants emerge and motor centres appear and are replaced by others. These changes are mainly interpreted in terms of trade relations and influence with the Mediterranean world economy. Iron is routinely interpreted as taking an important role in every phase of great upheaval, without having however sufficient archaeological data both in terms of production or trade of ferrous products. The first Iron Age (800-500BC) in Europe is characterised by an aristocracy of very high rank with chariot burials using more and more prestige goods and Mediterranean imports. In the interpretative models, iron is considered driving social hierarchy processes and geostrategic changes in post Bronze Age societies. Contrary to what has been already proposed, there is still no archaeological evidence that may help linking the emergence of first centralized societies to any iron ore exploitation. The hypothetical link between development of social complexity and iron production emerge actually from a convergence between the presence of historical ore mining and the appearance of burials with Mediterranean imports in the same area. More lately, from the 5th century the group Aisne-Marne and the Hunsrück-Eifel-culture, is substituting more in the north the former north-Alpine complex. The disruption of trade routes moves closer centres of political and economic power to early iron production sites. However, it is not possible to formally link the emergence of these new centres with iron production. However, no precise data are available on the trade of iron products in short, medium or long distance. The objective of this program is twofold. It has a methodological orientation in Archaeometry and discusses anthropological and historical issues related to proto-historical periods. The first objective is to exploit, to confront and develop in a complementary way both archaeometric methods for determining the origins of iron products. Indeed, recent methodological development that occurred both in German and French archaeometry laboratories allows now to envisage

provenance studies for ferrous and steel archaeological artifacts. This is a real breakthrough for the issues related to Iron Age societies. The second objective is, by applying these methods, to address the two chronological periods of the Iron ages evocated previously and bring a renewed vision of trade relations and of the role of iron in each of the major changes occurring in these periods. For this, we address a specific set of archaeological material on which will be applied innovative methods for determining the origins developed in France and Germany. The archaeometric methods developed by the two teams are based on the determination of trace element chemical and isotopic (Osmium) signature of production area. Thus in a first step, this signature will be followed in ore, archaeological slag and other wastes of the operating chains found on the sites of potential production areas linked to the issue; i.e. Lorraine, Baden Wuerttemberg, Sénonais, Pays de Bray, West Bavaria. In a second step, we will analyze the chemical signature of two types of objects characteristics of these periods: bipyramidal ingots preferentially distributed in the geographical area of the northern Alps complex and tires of chariot burials representatives of ostentatious funeral deposit zones.

Partners

Laboratoire Métallurgies et Cultures (LMC – IRAMAT)
CNRS DR04 Ile de France Sud

Coordinator

Philippe DILLMANN - LMC / IRAMAT

ANR funding

359 999 €

Starting date and duration

Avril 2011 – 36 mois

Reference

ANR-10-FRAL-007

Cluster label

-

Project title

CORANICA - From context to text. Data collection and research for a history of the Quranic text.

Abstract

Until now, the history of the Koranic text was made through the examination of the Arabo-Islamic tradition. The discovery of two groups of ancient Koranic manuscripts in Yemen showed however that we have many testimonies of the text which go back to the early days of Islam. The first part of the project CORANICA is dedicated to the publication and study of these testimonies. The second part focuses on the languages and religions of Arabia during Muhammad's lifetime, and on the imprint they have left in the lexicon of the Koran. Part 1: Manuscripta et testimonia coranica The first objective of the project is to contribute to the history of the Koranic text through the edition and study of the oldest manuscripts of the Koran (Task no. 1). All the manuscripts which may be earlier than the end of the Umayyad period and which are written in the hijâzî script will be selected. As far as the edition is concerned, the creation of a new collection has just been accepted by Brill. Each volume will contain the reproduction of the manuscript, the transliteration of the text and the relevant codicological information. As far as the study is concerned, the study will focus on the identification of the textual and spelling variations, using as a reference the printed edition of Cairo (1924). Particular attention will be devoted to the dating of the manuscripts (Task no. 2). The expected results are a new sketch of the history of writing, spelling, page layout, cutting, binding, materials used, etc. This work, which will be supplemented by an inventory of the Koranic quotations in the oldest dated documents (Task no. 3), aims at contributing to a future critical edition of the Koran. Part 2: Glossarium coranicum The second part of the project deals with the relationship of the Quran with its linguistic and cultural environment. The Quran has made many loans to the main languages of the Middle East in Late Antiquity. The reference book, published by Arthur Jeffery in 1938 (The Foreign Vocabulary of the Qur'an, Baroda), remains broadly valid but significant improvements can be made to it. In order to identify correctly the languages in contact, Task no. 4 will study the linguistic and religious situation in Arabia during the last centuries before Islam. Until now, researchers were mainly interested in the genesis of

classical Arabic. Our ambition is to complement this approach through the examination of the inscriptions. In the richest linguistic field – the epigraphy of Himyar and of Northwest Arabia – the ambition is also to consider the degree of linguistic homogenization between southern and western Arabia on the eve of Islam. Was there a mutual understanding between Arabs and Himyarites ? A good knowledge of the diffusion and degree of penetration of the main foreign religions, which convey both concepts and new terms through liturgy and teaching, is also required. Task no. 5 will deal with the non-Arabic lexicon of the Koran. Himyaritic and Aksûmite epigraphical discoveries of the last fifty years change radically the chronology of certain loanwords. The way some of the words were borrowed is being clarified. The result will be the reedition (in a redesigned form) of Arthur Jeffery’s work. In order to give as much coherence to the project, three cross-cutting themes will be discussed during jointly held conferences. The project strengthens and complements the project Corpus Coranicum of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences. It strengthens it since the quick edition of the oldest Koranic manuscripts will supply the CC database with its images and transliterations. It complements it since CC does takes into account neither the Arabian and aksûmite epigraphy nor the exhaustive study of loanwords in the Koran.

Partners

Orient et Méditerranée (O&M)
 CNRS DR01 Délégation régionale Paris A
 Proche Orient, Caucase, Iran: continuités et diversités
 INALCO

Coordinator

Christian ROBIN - O&M

ANR funding

139 984 €

Starting date and duration

Mars 2011 – 36 mois

Reference

ANR-10-FRAL-018

Cluster label

-

« franco-allemand » programme

YEAR 2010

Project title

CROSSMOD - Cross-modal integration of language and face cues in German and French infants

Abstract

This project aims to investigate when and how infants are able to bind auditory and facial speech cues into a coherent and meaningful representation. The very few studies that have addressed this question found some type of binding between voice characteristics and facial movements in infants, but so far failed to identify any relevant matching cues. We aim to determine when this binding emerges, how specific it is to a particular language and whether it narrows down to the native language toward the end of the first year. To address those questions we will use two languages, French and German, that greatly differ in terms of phonetic repertoire and prosody (intonation and rhythm). On the contrary, German and French faces are rather similar, which will avoid any "other-race effect". In 4 experiments, we will systematically investigate the proposed binding between auditory and visual face cues and the role of phonetic and prosodic information. Using language which belongs to the same or different rhythmic classes as German or French, we also intend to investigate the generalization of the audio-visual binding. We will study whether the binding can be generalized to languages belonging to the same rhythmic class, such as English (like German) and Spanish (like French). In a last experiment, we will determine, with an eye tracking system, how infants visually explore the faces showing their native or a non native language. We are expecting to find difference in the attention toward the mouth region depending on the language used. The cross-linguistic aspect of the project requires a French-German collaboration. This makes it possible to recruit and study French and German learning infants from monolingual families. Most previous cross-linguistic studies focused on very different topics and only tested participants from one language with different language stimuli. The intended project, however, will take advantage of a cross-over design and use the unique possibility of a French-German collaboration to study participants with different native languages by using the same language stimuli in a joint project. Our proposed experiments are designed to chart the development of the binding between visual and auditory cues in speech. By conducting these tests

at different ages we will provide a developmental profile of how experience shapes the multimodal representation of language. The two labs involved in this project are internationally renowned for their research on infants and the two PIs are used to work in collaboration onto developmental projects.

Partners

Laboratoire de Psychologie et NeuroCognition (LPNC)
CNRS - DR 11 Alpes

Coordinator

Olivier PASCALIS - CNRS

ANR funding

140 000 €

**Starting date
and duration**

Février 2010 – 36 mois

Reference

ANR-10-FRAL-017

Cluster label

-

Project title

Emotion - Emotions in time and space: the functional role of basic emotions in reading

Abstract

This project aims at understanding the functional role of basic emotions in reading. The main interest of this work is in gaining deeper insights into how phylogenetically ancient brain structures that process basic emotions in all mammals (e.g., the insula) actively participate in high-level cognitive skills, such as language, that are specific to humans and mainly hosted in the most recent parts of the cortex. While a few existing brain imaging studies show associations between classic emotion brain regions and reading, such studies do not show that the processing of basic emotions occurs in the first stages of word perception and is necessary to the recognition of these words. The goal of the present study is to show that the activation of primary emotion areas in visual word recognition is early and functional. For that, we will use in both countries Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS), a tool that makes it possible to establish causal brain-behavior relations by disturbing the behavior of healthy participants following local and temporally precise cortical stimulation. In Germany, repetitive TMS will be combined with functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) to investigate the effects of focal "virtual lesions" on the activity of the whole brain (BOLD response) and on the behavioral performance of the subjects during reading. In France, single pulse TMS will be combined with ElectroEncephaloGraphy (EEG) to investigate the time course of emotional processing in word perception. The strength of the project is that it brings together experts from different fields to work on a single question, the role of basic emotions on reading. Although this is innovative and technically challenging, the high level of competence and the complementary skills of the partners make this project highly feasible. The anticipated outcomes are unique and of major interest to Psychology and Affective Neuroscience.

Partners	Laboratoire de Psychologie Cognitive <i>CNRS DR 12 Provence et Corse</i>
Coordinator	Johannes ZIEGLER - Laboratoire de Psychologie Cognitive
ANR funding	219 999 €
Starting date and duration	Mars 2011 – 36 mois
Reference	ANR-10-FRAL-005
Cluster label	-

« franco-allemand » programme

YEAR 2010

Project title

ERMED - Fallibility and error's culture in medicine. Historical, epistemological and ethical aspects (1500-1650)

Abstract

Medical mistakes (germ. Kunstfehler, fr. faute opérationnelle, lat. *deceptio* or *falsum*) are the stuff of everyday practice while errors (germ. *Irrtum*, fr. *erreur*, lat. *error*) relate to clinical reasoning or the construction of scientific theory. The history of these two fundamental concepts (mistake/error), with their distinct ethical and epistemological implications, is inseparable from the emergence of contemporary medical thinking. Between the 16th and 17th centuries, debate about medical errors took place largely in France, Italy and Germanic countries. Medical fallibility seemed to preoccupy physicians in a completely new manner, as the prevention of mistakes and errors was increasingly included in conjectures about medical decision-making. Tradition and innovation collided. However, these indications of an awareness of medical error have been hitherto neglected. The project ERMED aims to study the genesis and development of thinking about medical fallibility. Our three main goals are firstly, to write a forgotten chapter of the history of modern medicine, by re-charting a debate in which cultural transfers are characterized by a pronounced taste for criticism and the exercise of free speech (*parrhesia*) ; secondly, through the cross-referencing of sources and the comparative analysis of the contexts which fostered the debate, we will try to demonstrate how Renaissance medicine drew simultaneously on epistemological and ethical ways of thinking to answer the challenges posed by the changes in practice; thirdly, to provide a backdrop to the current debate on medical malpractice and mistakes as well as on Personalised Medicine by throwing new light on its cultural history.

Partners	Lettres, Idées, Savoirs (LIS) <i>Université Paris Est - Créteil</i>
Coordinator	Roberto POMA - LIS
ANR funding	230 000 €
Starting date and duration	Juin 2011 – 36 mois
Reference	ANR-10-FRAL-006
Cluster label	-

« franco-allemand » programme

YEAR 2010

Project title

EUROSCIENTIA - Locating state science : construction and circulation of state knowledge in Europe, 1750-1850

Abstract

The EUROSCIENTIA project aims at combining searching academics from various knowledge areas around a French-German knot. It is devoted to the study of state knowledge building and institutionalization as it developed in many different contexts between 1750 and 1850. "State Knowledge" is here to be understood as multiple knowings, which were conceived and reshaped both for and by states and their active brains. The main goal is to reach a better understanding of how the Republic of letters converted into a national and transnational (as international) web. The spatial metaphor leads as commonly to an abstract topology (dedicated to knowledge areas insofar as they remain contiguous and dependent) and to an objective geography addressing to localities, to flows and webs intertwining capital cities and territories. A particular attention will be granted to the impact of territorial metamorphoses which occurred from revolutionary wars and French first Empire manoeuvres. As a French-German development, this very project will allow various working stances including both distance and proximity : distance between institutions and knowledge practices, territorial and political proximity. Furthermore, knowledge pay-backs from non European worlds will not be outcasted. Working days, seminars and a doctoral workshop will punctuate this program. An open-access web-site will bring to the academic community the team main achievements and a dynamic mapping dedicated to state knowledges in Europe. As a closing point, a collective work will be published (in English-language).

Partners	Modernités et révolutions <i>Université Panthéon-Sorbonne : Paris I</i> Sciences historiques <i>Université de Strasbourg</i>
Coordinator	Christine LEBEAU - Modernités et révolutions
ANR funding	239 999 €
Starting date and duration	Février 2011 – 36 mois
Reference	ANR-10-FRAL-011
Cluster label	-

« franco-allemand » programme

YEAR 2010

Project title

Gallo-civi - Gallotropismus und Zivilisationsmodelle im deutschsprachigen Raum (1660-1789)

Abstract

This project – using the innovative concept of ‚tropism‘ – focuses on the research of the German-French cultural relations from the last third of the 17th century through the epochal year 1789. „Tropism“ in this case is the result of a conceptual transfer from the field of natural sciences into literary studies. In French the metaphorical meaning of „tropisme“ – „force obscure qui pousse un groupe, un phénomène à prendre une certaine orientation“ – reveals already the epistemological prospects of this term. It is intended to comprehend the act of orientation towards foreign models of civilization, without drawing on the traditional schematism of admiration (Gallogophilie) and renunciation (Galloghobie). From this perspective civilization seems to be a complex ensemble of mental and material elements.

It is the main objective of this project to comprehend precisely the conditions under which gallotropism in the German-speaking countries turns towards one of the elements while another one remains unconsidered. This history of cultural perception also has to include the almost parallel development of Cultural Critique in Germany. The significant benefit of this thematically und methodically interdisciplinary cooperation is a decidedly multiperspectival approach to a highly complex field of research. This cooperation is intended to be an important contribution to humanities fundamental research, aiming at the compilation of a multi volume compendium integrating the intensive participation of young scientists.

Partners	Lumière Nature Société <i>Université Michel de Montaigne Bordeaux 3</i>
Coordinator	Jean MONDOT - Lumière Nature Société
ANR funding	70 997 €
Starting date and duration	Janvier 2011 – 36 mois
Reference	ANR-10-FRAL-002
Cluster label	-

« franco-allemand » programme

YEAR 2010

Project title

HIGEOMES - The Historical Geography of Upper Mesopotamia in the 2nd Mill. BC. An Interdisciplinary Research Project

Abstract

The geo-strategical situation and the multifold conditions of the natural environment accounted massively for importance of Upper Mesopotamia within the history of the Ancient Near East. The concrete physical parameters of the region influenced the degree and forms of its socio-economic appropriation and political occupancy. During the last decades increased research led to an enormous amount of archeological and epigraphical materials as well as a data from paleo-scientific analysis, thus allowing for new basic insights into the historical geography of the area. The project aims at integrating the informations from these typologically different sources, yet limiting the focus in an exemplary way to the 2nd mill BCE. In the (historically) long-term perspective of a millennium the interaction of natural environment, settlement patterns and ways of communication are analysed in terms of a holistic view. The geographically focussed investigation of changes and transformations in Upper Mesopotamia under varying types of political control is to highlighth continuities and discontinuities in anthropogenic access to the area. Archeological evidence, information from written sources and paleo-data will not only be assessed in their own right, but also be processed by means of IT-semantic modelling and thematic surveys. The chronotope of the 2nd millennium seems particularly interesting for its historical and cultural diversification and hence a heterogeneous repertoire of sources. At the same time, an extremely dynamic research is characterised by a mainly disciplinary oriented processing of evidence. The distinctive feature of the proposed cooperation is the association of complementary competences of the French and German partners: this regards not only correlation in archeology, assyriology and geoinformatical modelling, thus disciplinary matters, but also in thematical and methodological specialization within the disciplines. HIGEOMES is based on earlier cooperative works of the partnes (projet Procope 2007-2008 ayant débouché sur la publication d'un livre: E. Cancik-Kirschbaum / N. Ziegler, *Entre les Fleuves*, Berliner Beiträge zum Vorderen Orient, Gladbeck, 2009), where i.a.

methodological premises and specific problems central to HIGEOMES have been established.

Partners

Proche Orient, Caucase, Iran : continuités et diversités
CNRS DR Paris A

Coordinator

Nele ZIEGLER - Proche Orient, Caucase, Iran : continuités et diversités

ANR funding

210 000 €

Starting date and duration

Février 2011 – 36 mois

Reference

ANR-10-FRAL-003

Cluster label

-

« franco-allemand » programme

YEAR 2010

Project title **Langacross_2 - Utterance structure in context : language and cognition during acquisition in a cross-linguistic perspective**

Abstract

The overarching aim of LANGACROSS_2 is to study cognitive and linguistic determinants of language acquisition in a cross-linguistic perspective that takes into account discourse factors in language use. The project is framed within a large comparative approach that combines many languages (and language families) and different types of speakers (children and adults) focusing on effects of diversity. LANGACROSS_2 (2011-2013) extends the preceding LANGACROSS project (2008-2010) in two ways: it pursues some of the research already begun over the last three years, as well as investigate new questions that have emerged from it particularly around the question of the relation between language and cognition. The project investigates two research domains: I-Space/Time, II- Contrastive and additive relations in discourse. It considers two main research themes: 1) typological constraints across languages and uncovering their cognitive implications for native speakers; 2) processes of conceptualization and reconceptualization during L1/L2 acquisition and in bilingualism. In addition, it simultaneously addresses two specific research questions in each domain: 1) the study of cross-linguistic differences in speakers' output, as measured in production tasks aiming at studying the impact of language-specific properties on how speakers organize information in discourse; 2) the study of the cognitive underpinnings underlying these different outputs, as measured by a variety of psycholinguistic tools aiming at providing access to speakers' internal representations (e.g. eye movements, categorization, memory), mainly in relation to productions elicited in controlled situations. Finally, it examines these questions in two types of data bases for which some corpora are already available or in progress and others will be collected in new experimental situations and in new languages: 1) native speakers of different languages and 2) different types of learners, including children acquiring their first language, bilingual children acquiring two languages simultaneously, adults acquiring a second language, and balanced bilingual adults.

Partners	Structures Formelles du Langage (SFL) CNRS Paris A Savoirs, Textes, Langage (STL) Université Lille 3
Coordinator	Maya HICKMANN - SFL
ANR funding	320 000 €
Starting date and duration	Février 2011 – 36 mois
Reference	ANR-10-FRAL-008
Cluster label	-

« franco-allemand » programme

YEAR 2010

Project title	LOTWOR - Local Traditions and World Religions: The Appropriation of "Religion" in Southeast Asia and Beyond
Abstract	<p>1.5. Résumé Drawing upon their ongoing scientific collaboration, the French and German participants to this research project aim at investigating various processes of localization and appropriation of "religion" by peoples in Southeast Asia and beyond, specifically by contrasting the modes of rationalization and secularization resulting respectively from Semitic religions (Christianity and Islam) and Asian traditions (Hinduism and Buddhism). On the whole, in the name of modernity and progress, the contemporary states in our region tend to press their populations, including marginal ones, to have a "religion". In this respect, we address religion as a process – the process of "religionization" –, implying that adherents of indigenous religions are "not yet religious" and therefore are expected to be "religionized". With this perspective in mind, our working hypothesis is that, in the various cases we are investigating, there exists an ongoing and shifting tension between proponents of local world views and customary ritual practices, who consider them as both self-sufficient and deserving the label "religion" in their own right, and advocates of a translocal religion of foreign origin, having a claim to universalism, who commonly deny those local traditions the qualification of "religion". Accordingly, in each of our case studies, we purpose to elucidate what gets identified and legitimized as "religion", by whom, for what purpose, in which circumstances and under what political conditions.</p>
Partners	Centre Asie du Sud-Est <i>CNRS - Delegation regionale Paris A</i>
Coordinator	Bénédicte BRAC DE LA PERRIERE - Centre Asie du Sud-Est
ANR funding	199 999 €
Starting date and duration	Janvier 2011 – 36 mois
Reference	ANR-10-FRAL-001

Cluster label -

« franco-allemand » programme

YEAR 2010

Project title

NOMINAL - Nominalizations : Philosophical and Linguistic Perspectives

Abstract

Nominalizations figure prominently in both linguistics (syntax and semantics) and philosophy. Nominalizations are of interest to syntacticians because of differences and similarities between the base from which the nominalization is derived and the nominalization (such as its argument structure and syntactic features). Semanticists studying nominalizations are interested in the connection between the semantics of the base expression and the semantics of the nominalization in particular because the nominalization can be used to form a referential term, referring, it appears to some object which is in some way related to the content of the base expression. Nominalizations figure prominently in ontological discussions in philosophy since nominalizations appear to form terms that refer to abstract objects (such as propositions, properties, or facts) or 'minor entities' (such as events, states, or tropes). There is as yet very little interaction, though, between linguists working on the syntax and semantics of nominalizations and philosophers interested in the objects to which nominalizations apparently refer. This project aims to fill that gap, bringing together a number of linguists especially on the French side, some of which are involved already in research groups studying nominalizations, with a group of German philosophers with a focus on ontology. They will systematically explore questions that require the joint contribution of the two disciplines. The questions cover, first, a range of fundamental issues in semantics and ontology (IP1), as well as semantics and meta-ontology (IP2). But analyses of nominalization also have wide-reaching consequences for debates not primarily belonging to ontology which will be examined as well, including debates about mental attitudes (IP3), and philosophical logic (IP4).

Partners	Institut d'Histoire et de Philosophie des Sciences et des Techniques (IHPST) <i>Ecole normale supérieure</i>
Coordinator	Friederike MOLTMANN - IHPST
ANR funding	289 998 €
Starting date and duration	Février 2011 – 36 mois
Reference	ANR-10-FRAL-015
Cluster label	-

Project title

Origram - On the origins of grammar : from structural complexity in auditory sequences to syntactic structures.

Abstract

A still unresolved issue in the fields of theoretical linguistics, neurolinguistics, and cognitive psychology of language processing is how the unique ability to process syntactic structure emerged in humans, underpinning the specificity of Language Faculty (LF). Furthermore, recent research on theoretical and neurocognitive aspects of syntax is currently pointing towards possible functional equivalence of structural rules implemented in non-linguistic sequences and syntactic processing in humans. Such co-evolution may reside in and still rely on a fronto-striatal brain system when processing sequences and syntax. Furthermore, this brain system in its capacity to tag temporal attributes (e.g. Pastor et al., 2006; Kotz et al., 2009) may be responsible for the synchronization of predictive temporal and sequential cues in auditory language processing. However, one remaining mystery is to understand both the emergence of syntactic capabilities, including recursive computation and the processing of hierarchical linguistic structures, from the temporal and sequencing capacities of a fronto-striatal system. The current project aims at realizing significant advancement in relation to these open issues. This will be possible by setting up an interdisciplinary research team offering the unique opportunity to combine cross-linguistic and cross-species experimental work and modelling approaches. In particular, we will combine behavioural, electrophysiological (ERP), and functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) experiments in healthy participants, patients with fronto-striatal disruptions (unmedicated (early) and medicated (in progression) Parkinson's disease), computational modelling, and an innovative animal model of early fronto-striatal function disruption in order to identify the computational origins of grammar in humans.

Partners	Institut cellules souches et cerveau <i>Inserm DR Rhône-Alpes, Auvergne</i>
Coordinator	Michel HOEN - Institut cellules souches et cerveau
ANR funding	186 999 €
Starting date and duration	Mars 2011 – 36 mois
Reference	ANR-10-FRAL-012
Cluster label	-

« franco-allemand » programme

YEAR 2010

Project title

POC/K - Political Corruption: Practices of favor and public debates in Germany and France in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries

Abstract

During the last twenty years, the collective debates on the political corruption took a considerable importance. In every country, as within the Council of Europe, these debates have led to the creation of new standards, aimed at eradicating corruption (Council of Europe 2008). By contrast, the historical study of the phenomenon is still at its beginning, particularly in France and in Germany. This comparative project wants to show how the phenomenon of corruption, in its current form, appeared, in France and in Germany, between the early XIXth century and the first half of the XXth century. Breaking with the Ancien Régime system marked by aristocratic patronage, the politicization of society and the institutionalization of the State created an « absolute criticism » of corruption, from the bend of the XVIIIth and XIXth centuries. Far from being timeless, the political corruption has at first a history. Today, the current conception sees corruption as the abuse of a public position for private purposes. This project sets its sights in showing how, in both countries, the notion of corruption refers to variable public perceptions of practices characterized by favours and preferential treatments. The project captures the phenomenon of corruption in its two essential dimensions: political practices dominated by favours; publicisation which, with the development of massmedia, transforms the scandals and the business affairs into recurring public debates. A general trend, in both countries, leading to an « absolute criticism » of political corruption cannot be eluded. It gives rise to questions about public morality and the cultural construction of ideal models on the probity of government. The project assumes that cases of corruption and scandals are not only indicative of existing civic cultures. They also reveal, at key moments, the institution of these ethical models.. In the context of both countries, with different state models and political traditions, which appeared above all during the 19th and at the beginning of 20th centuries, the project expects, through comparative research, some insights: the national peculiarities and the general trends – as historical research on corruption has not been very extensive on that point-.

Partners	Centre Norbert Elias (CNE) <i>Université d'Avignon et des Pays de Vaucluse</i> Centre régional universitaire lorrain d'histoire (CRULH) <i>Université de Metz</i>
Coordinator	Frédéric MONIER - CNE
ANR funding	299 990 €
Starting date and duration	Mars 2011 – 36 mois
Reference	ANR-10-FRAL-004
Cluster label	-

« franco-allemand » programme

YEAR 2010

Project title

PROMETEE - Property in Moslem Transitional Environments

Abstract

The PROMETEE program conducts an anthropological study of the law in societies wholly or partly Muslim. It seeks first to question the relationship between law and Islam, while re-specifying the answer that is given to it. It starts from the lack of attention given to the question of legal practices. To make up this deficit, it proposes to substitute for the anthropology of Islamic law an anthropology of legal practices of Muslims in German speaking Europe and in Muslim countries formerly colonized by France. It targets an essential part of the law, i.e. property, the contract which relates to it, and its transmission. Methodologically, it combines an ethnography of legal, linguistic, and interactional practices in Muslim contexts. The Program pursues a double objective. On the one hand, it aims at developing a descriptive, non-ideological theory of the plural nature of law, hereby making substantial progress in the social sciences of law. It treats the question of law starting from the practices, the language and the texts; and also wants to show the inextricably dependent character of economic and legal decisions towards which the people involved orient themselves, i.e., to refute the idea of an anthropology of law separated from economic considerations (and conversely). On the other, it "de-essentializes" and "de-culturalizes" the references which are made to Islam. It is thus building and carrying out a praxiological anthropology of property. The reference to the authority of Islam is probably occasional and, when it appears, is part of the banality and routine of carrying out legal practice. Does this mean that there is no specifically Islamic authority in legal rules? We would rather re-specify the question: instead of wondering what is the Islamic authority of legal rules, we will try to describe, in context and action, the modes of use and reference to legal rules and their production. And eventually (only at the end of the enquiry), we might be able to assess what is specifically Islamic.

Partners	Institut d'Etudes de l'Islam et des Sociétés du Monde Musulman (IISMM) <i>Centre Jacques Berque</i>
Coordinator	Baudouin DUPRET - CJB
ANR funding	269 999 €
Starting date and duration	Février 2011 – 36 mois
Reference	ANR-10-FRAL-013
Cluster label	-

« franco-allemand » programme

YEAR 2010

Project title

Trivium - Trivium. Deutsch-französische Zeitschrift für Geistes- und Sozialwissenschaften

Abstract

Founded in 2008 with support from the ANR, the DFG, the DGLFLF and the DVA-Foundation, the electronic journal TRIVIUM (<http://trivium.revues.org/>) has been conceived as a tool in the service of the humanities and social sciences research and of the Franco-German scientific cooperation.

Trivium is publishing French translations of important articles selected in German journals and German translations of articles selected in French journals. It's in a way a review of reviews published in gratis Open-Access and in both languages thrice a year. Topics are accepted on recommendation by the scientific board of the journal.

Each thematic volume is entrusted to both a French and a German specialist in the field concerned. In general, each thematic volume of the journal is publishing simultaneously translations of French and of German articles. However, according to specific situation of the reception in the concerned scientific domain, Trivium may also publish some "unilateral" volume, with translations only from one language.

The conception of the volumes aims to increase the dissemination of Trivium largely beyond France and Germany (cf consultation figures in another country). The global objective is to develop the scientific exchanges by supporting translations in a new way, to ensure and promote French and German as scientific languages.

The conception of the thematic volumes leans on the research in progress and aims to give new impulsions to research and scientific cooperation. Trivium may also be used by research consortia financed within the framework of ANR/DFG or other international research funding.

Partners	Fondation Maison des sciences de l'homme (FMSH)
Coordinator	Falk BRETSCHNEIDER - FMSH
ANR funding	119 849 €
Starting date and duration	Septembre 2011 – 36 mois
Reference	ANR-10-FRAL-016
Cluster label	-

Project title

UniversalRead2 - When universal visuo-motor mechanisms meet endogenous and language-related processes: Determining principles of eye-movement control in reading.

Abstract

Reading is probably the most complex cultural skill which is made possible by the successive movements of our eyes along the lines of text. The present research proposal is the result of a first ANR-DFG project (2007-2010) and hence three years of joint research effort between the French and the German partners on the psychology of reading. We contributed significant new results to the fields of reading, eye-movement control and psycholinguistics and demonstrated how psychological research on the reading process may benefit from computational modelling and the neurosciences of active vision and linguistics. These new interdisciplinary and integrated research questions will be addressed here, benefiting from the different and complementary expertises of the researchers involved. The first goal is to specify the basic universal visuo-motor mechanisms that underlie reading in order to elaborate a neurophysiologically plausible model based on experimentation (from simple oculomotor tasks to word reading) as well as mathematical modelling. We will revise and extend our initial Center-of-Gravity (CoG) model of initial landing sites within words. The second goal is to determine experimentally and computationally how the CoG model can be reconciled with evidence for Bayesian estimation (discovered in the first project) as well as attention-based eye guidance. The third goal is to determine how Human-specific language processes combine with universal visuo-motor constraints, expectations, and attention, with particular emphasis on the interaction between semantics and syntax. In perspective, this multi-level approach of reading might help setting up the bases for early dissociation of oculomotor, expectation-based, attentional, and language-related components of reading difficulties and dyslexia.

Partners	Laboratoire de Psychologie Cognitive (LPCS) <i>CNRS DR 12 Provence et Corse</i> Laboratoire Bases, corpus, Langage (LPCS) <i>Université de Nice - Sophia Antipolis</i>
Coordinator	Françoise VITU-THIBAULT - LPCS
ANR funding	219 999 €
Starting date and duration	Février 2011 – 36 mois
Reference	ANR-10-FRAL-009
Cluster label	-

« franco-allemand » programme

YEAR 2010

Project title	Xanthiaca - Poleis, sanctuaries and lands in the xanthian valley in Greek and Roman times
Abstract	The valley of Xanthus river concentrated in Antiquity the main political, economical and social features of Lycia as a whole. One can follow there the stream of all important political events pertaining to the dynastic phase, the period of the Lycian League and so on. The aim of the present French-German project is to bring together all the evidences at hand in the field of archaology and history, as much as other fields such as archaeozoology, botanics. In that region, the ancient towns of Xanthus and Tlos played a proeminent role, as much as the neighboring sanctuary of Letoon. French archaeologists are currently digging in Xanthus and Patara, as for German colleagues, their are involved in the exploration of Tlos. They intend to bring together their works in order to build up a wide ranging study of any historical and archaeological aspects of this area throughout the Greek and Roman period.
Partners	Institut AUSONIUS <i>CNRS DR15</i>
Coordinator	Jacques DES COURTILS - Institut AUSONIUS
ANR funding	349 998 €
Starting date and duration	Avril 2011 – 36 mois
Reference	ANR-10-FRAL-019
Cluster label	-