

Call for papers

SPECIAL ISSUE OF

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on

Terminology, ideology and discourse

Guest editors

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Introduction

Terms have traditionally been considered as the linguistic representation of concepts, which are produced by a community of experts through a conscious human activity and are used for the development of cognitive processes and communication (Sager 1997, 25). Since term formation is a conscious naming activity, “terms are also the reflection of how knowledge is structured in the expert’s mind” (Fernández-Silva, Freixa, and Cabré 2011, 49).

The last two decades have witnessed a burgeoning interest in the dynamics of terminology from both a synchronic and a diachronic perspective (see, for instance, Temmerman and Van Campenhoudt 2014). The ensuing literature shows that the multidimensionality and variation characterizing terminology derive from the complexity of the specialized domains and the multiple variables that interplay in specialized communication. One of these variables is the motivation underlying term choice: the sender of the message may have various reasons for choosing one variant over another, such as the need or wish to highlight a particular vision, dimension or facet of the concept and emphasize “the most salient aspects of the concept in a specific situation” (Fernández-Silva, Freixa, and Cabré 2011, 70). It follows that the sender may also choose one particular term to support their argumentation, to influence the reception or interpretation of the concept by the addressees or to manipulate their understanding. This means that the specialized language used,

which is generally considered referential, neutral, objective, non-emotive and essentially informative, may acquire persuasive or even ideological overtones.

The purpose of this special issue is to investigate whether and how terminology in discourse can be used as a carrier of persuasive, consensus-generating or ideological meaning (see, for instance, Mattiello 2019; Nikitina 2020). The special issue also aims at attracting novel research taking into account not only communication at the “intraspecialist level”, i.e. “communication from specialist to specialist within the same disciplinary field” (Garzone 2020, 20, drawing on Cloître and Shinn 1985), but also communication at the interspecialist level, didactic/pedagogical level, and popular level (Garzone 2020, 20).

Topics of the Special Issue

Authors are expected to submit papers discussing the use of terminology with possible connotative or ideological implications, intentional or otherwise, in various domains and in different communicative situations (intra- and interspecialist communication, knowledge dissemination for didactic/pedagogical purposes, popularization, etc.). Authors are invited to discuss one or more of the following topics:

- the use of terminology with connotative or ideological implications or intentions in different communicative situations
- the role of non-experts (e.g., journalists) in fostering connotative and ideological uses of terms resulting in terminology taking on connotative and ideological undertones
- the role of collaborative work (e.g., editorial teams) in the development of connotative and ideological terminology
- the role of metaphors in the creation of connotative and ideological terminology
- the consequences of using connotative and ideological terminology in different communicative situations
- the challenges posed by connotative and ideological terminology to terminology representation and management
- terminology and political correctness in e.g., gender issues, woke culture, etc.
- the role of translation in assigning ideological significance to terminological units

References

- Cloître, Michel, and Terry Shinn. 1985. "Expository Practice: Social, Cognitive and Epistemological Linkages." In *Expository Science. Forms and Functions of Popularization*, edited by Terry Shinn and Richard Whitley, 31–60. Dordrecht/Boston/Lancaster: Reidel.
- Fernández-Silva, Sabela, Judit Freixa, and Maria Teresa Cabré. 2011. "A Proposed Method for Analysing the Dynamics of Cognition through Term Variation." *Terminology* 17 (1): 49–74. <https://doi.org/10.1075/term.17.1.04fer>.
- Garzone, Giuliana. 2020. *Specialized Communication and Popularization in English*. Roma: Carocci Editore.
- Mattiello, Elisa. 2019. "'Designer Babies' and 'Playing God': Metaphor, Genome Editing, and Bioethics in Popular Science Texts." *Lingue Culture Mediazioni/Languages Cultures Mediation* 6 (1): 65–88.
- Nikitina, Jekaterina. 2020. "Representation of Gene-Editing in British and Italian Newspapers: A Cross-Linguistic Corpus-Assisted Discourse Study." *Lingue e Linguaggi* 34: 51–75.
- Sager, Juan C. 1997. "Term Formation." In *Handbook of Terminology Management: Basic Aspects of Terminology Management*, edited by Sue Ellen Wright and Gerhard Budin, 25–41. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.
- Temmerman, Rita, and Marc Van Campenhoudt, eds. 2014. *Dynamics and Terminology. An Interdisciplinary Perspective on Monolingual and Multilingual Culture-Bound Communication*. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.

Scientific committee

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Submissions

The issue consists of an introduction and 5–6 articles. The articles should be written in English and count between 20 and 30 pages (max. 9,000 words including references). More information on formatting requirements can be found on the John Benjamins website under the heading *Guidelines* (<https://benjamins.com/catalog/term>).

Important dates

Deadline for submission of abstracts (max. 500 words, references excluded):
September 30th 2022

Acceptance/rejection of abstracts: November 20th 2022

Deadline for submission of full papers: April 30th 2023

Acceptance/rejection notice: September 3rd 2023

Final papers due: December 17th 2023

Scheduled publication date: mid-2024

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