

Dr Caroline Tagg

Lecturer in Applied Linguistics

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About

I am a lecturer in the Department of English Language and Applied Linguistics at the University of Birmingham. I have a background in English Language teaching and training. My research focuses on digital interaction, including text messaging and online social media.

For a discussion of my research, here is a podcast recorded in May 2012 with the Ideas Lab at the University of Birmingham.

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/Audio/news/Dr-Caroline-Tagg-podcast.mp3> (<https://owa.bham.ac.uk/owa/redir.aspx?C=07630b3fdf1a44a9b50048f844e7dd70&URL=http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/Audio/news/Dr-Caroline-Tagg-podcast.mp3>)

You can also follow me and colleagues on Twitter @linguasocmedia, where we tweet about language and social media.

Qualifications

- PhD in English from the University of Birmingham, 2009, 'A corpus analysis of SMS text messaging'
- MA in Applied Linguistics and TESOL from Leicester University, 2004
- Trinity College TESOL Certificate, 1997
- BA (Hons) in History and Politics from the University of Exeter, 1997

Biography

I started work at the University of Birmingham in September 2011. Before that, I held a lecturer post at the Open University from 2009 to 2011. I had previously taught English as a foreign language in Spain, Vietnam and Birmingham.

Teaching

I teach on both the campus-based and distance MA programmes, as well as on undergraduate modules in the English Department at the University of Birmingham.

I am on study leave in the autumn term of 2014-2015. In the spring term, I am teaching on the third-year undergraduate module, 'Ordinary Creativity', and on the postgraduate module, 'Language and New Media'.

Postgraduate supervision

I am interested in supervising students in the following areas:

- language use and communication on new media sites
- creativity and code-switching (particularly, but not only, online)
- projects involving the use of corpus approaches, alongside other methods
- pedagogic applications of the above.

Research

My research interests lie predominantly in the area of digital interaction, and I am particularly interested in text messaging (which formed the basis of my PhD research) and social network sites such as Facebook and Twitter. I am currently researching multilingual interactions on social media, and particularly the way in which the use of English, alongside other languages, facilitates new translocally-configured communities online.

I am interested in language play and creativity in everyday contexts, including online domains. I have used corpus analysis tools in my research, and am interested in research which combines corpus methods with other approaches.

I am Co-I on the AHRC project '[Translanguaging and translation: investigating linguistic and cultural transformations in superdiverse wards in four UK cities](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/education/translation-and-translanguaging/index.aspx)' (PI Angela Creese) which runs from April 2014 for four years.

Other activities

I am a member of [IRIS](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/superdiversity-institute/index.aspx) (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/superdiversity-institute/index.aspx>), the Institute for Research into Superdiversity, at the University of Birmingham.

I am co-founder and secretary of the BAAL SIG, Language and New Media.

Publications

Authored books

- Tagg, C. (2015) *Exploring Digital Communication: language in action*. Abingdon: Routledge.
- Tagg, C. (2012) *The Discourse of Text Messaging: analysis of SMS communication*. London: Continuum.

Edited collections

- Seargeant, P. and Tagg, C. (eds) (2014) *The Language of Social Media: identity and community on the internet*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Hewings, A. and C. Tagg (eds) (2012) *The Politics of English: conflict, competition, co-existence*. Abingdon: Routledge.

Chapters in books

- Tagg, C. (forthcoming, 2016) 'Storytelling and identity performance through social media' in Maybin, J. (ed.) *Narrative and creativity: contemporary approach*.
- Tagg, C. and Seargeant, P. (forthcoming, 2015) 'Facebook and the discursive construction of the social network' in Georgakopoulou, A. and Spilioti, T. (eds) *The Routledge Handbook of Language and Digital Communication*. Abingdon: Routledge, pp. 339-353.
- Tagg, C. and P. Seargeant (2014) 'Audience design and language choice in the construction of translocal communities on social network sites' Seargeant, P. and Tagg, C. (eds) *The Language of Social Media: identity and community on the internet*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Tagg, C. (2012) 'Corpora and texting' in Hyland, K, Chau, M. H. and Handford, M. (eds) *Corpora in Applied Linguistics: Current approaches and future directions*. London: Continuum.
- Tagg, C. (2012) 'Good and Bad English' in Hewings, A. and Tagg, C. (eds) *The Politics of English: competition, conflict, co-existence*. Abingdon: Routledge.
- Tagg, C. (2012) 'Digital English' in Allington, D. and B. Mayor (eds) *Communicating in English: text, talk, technology*. Abingdon: Routledge.
- Tagg, C. (2010) 'wot did he say or could u not c him 4 dust? Written and Spoken Creativity in Text Messaging' in Ho et al (eds) *Transforming literacies and language: Innovative technologies, integrated experiences*. London: Continuum.
- Tagg, C. (2007) 'Corpus-based analysis of SMS text messaging' in Teo, P. and C. Ho (eds) *Discourse in the Modern World: Perspectives and Challenges*. Singapore: McGraw Hill, pp. 267-284.

Journal articles

- Tagg, C. (in prep) 'Monolingual but multivoiced: heteroglossic analysis of a corpus of British text messages'.
- Littlemore, J. and C. Tagg (in prep) 'Metonymy and text messaging: positing a data-driven framework for understanding creative metonymy'.
- Drasovean, A. and C. Tagg (forthcoming) 'Evaluative language and its community-building role on TED.com: an Appraisal and corpus analysis' *Language@Internet*
- Tagg, C. (2013) "'Scraping the barrel with a shower of social misfits": everyday creativity in text messaging. *Applied Linguistics* 34/4: 480-500.
- Tagg, C., Baron, A. and Rayson, P. (2013) "'I didn't spel that wrong did i. Oops": analysis and standardisation of SMS spelling variation' *Linguisticæ Investigationes*, 35/2: 367-388.
- Seargeant, P., Tagg, C. and Ngampramuan, W. (2012) 'Language choice and addressivity strategies in Thai-English social network interactions', *Journal of Sociolinguistics* 16:4: 510-531.
- Tagg, C. and Seargeant, P. (2012) 'Writing systems at play in Thai-English online interactions', *Writing Systems Research* 4/2: 195-213.
- Seargeant, P. and Tagg, C. (2011) 'English on the internet and a post-varieties approach to language', *World Englishes* 30/4: 496-514.

