



Dr Damien Mooney
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Lecturer In French Linguistics

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Summary

Dr Damien Mooney's published research focuses on contact induced transfer in bilingual speech, language death theory, and on the role of language and dialect contact in the loss or retention of pronunciation and grammatical features in regional varieties of French and the regional languages of France.

Dr Mooney's D.Phil thesis (Oxford, 2014) entitled 'Linguistic transfer and dialect levelling: a sociophonetic analysis of contact in the regional French of Béarn' investigates the genesis and evolution of the regional variety of French spoken in Béarn, southwestern France. This research appeared in 2016 as a monograph entitled *Southern Regional French: A Linguistic Analysis of Language and Dialect Contact* (Oxford: Legenda).

His current research project, funded by the British Academy (2016-18) examines linguistic variation and change in Béarnais (Gascon), a localised variety of *langue d'oc* spoken in southwestern France, focusing on the interplay between the linguistic and social processes that lead to language and dialect death as Béarnais contracts under pressure from the national language, French, and the standardised *langue d'oc* variety, Occitan. This research will be published as a monograph entitled *Language and Dialect Death: Theorising Sound Change in Obsolescent Gascon* (under contract with Palgrave Macmillan).

Dr Mooney has recently started a new research project entitled 'Queer speech in Europe and Canada' which investigates the participation of sexual minorities in mainstream language change by examining linguistic variation in the speech of gay men, lesbians, and heterosexual men and women in Paris, London, Montréal and Toronto. The project's primary aim is to provide a hollistic analysis of the relationship between self-identified homosexual speech, the perception of sexual orientation in speech, and the participation of sexual minorities in mainstream phonetic/phonological changes in progress.

Biography

Dr Mooney holds a D.Phil in General Linguistics and Comparative Philology from the University of Oxford, an M.Phil in Linguistics from the University of Cambridge, and a BA in French and Mathematics from Trinity College Dublin. He has also studied at the École Normale Supérieure in Paris, rue d'Ulm. Before joining the Department of French at Bristol, he taught at Paris III (Sorbonne Nouvelle), the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and at Queen's University Belfast.

Teaching

In the academic year 2018/2019, Dr Mooney will be teaching on the following units:

- FREN10008 *Shaping France*
- FREN10011 *Global French* (Unit Director)
- FREN20044 *The French Language: Structures and Varieties* (Unit Director)
- MODL20016 *General Linguistics* (Unit Director)
- FREN30001 *French Language 3 (Translation)*
- FREN30043 *French Dialectology: Geographical Variation and Change in the Espace Francophone* (Unit Director)
- MODL30016 *Sociolinguistic Anthropology: Language, Culture, and Society*

Memberships

Organisations

[Department of French](#)

Organisational groups

- [Department of French](#)
- [School of Modern Languages school officers](#)

Recent publications

- Mooney, D, 2021, '[Language and Dialect Death: Theorising Sound Change in Obsolescent Gascon](#)'. Palgrave Macmillan
- Mooney, D, 2020, '[Future temporal reference in French and Gascon: aller/anar + infinitive periphrasis and structural transfer in the bilingual grammar](#)'. in: Martin Maiden, Sam Wolfe (eds) *Variation and Change in Gallo-Romance Grammar*. Oxford University Press
- Mooney, D & Hawkey, J, 2019, '[The variable palatal lateral in Occitan and Catalan: Linguistic transfer or regular sound change?](#)'. *Journal of French Language Studies*.
- Mooney, D, 2019, '[Phonetics and phonology of Romance languages: Occitan](#)'. in: Christoph Gabriel, Randall Gess, Trudel Meisenburg (eds) *Manual of Romance Phonetics and Phonology*. de Gruyter, Berlin
- Mooney, D, 2018, '[Quantitative approaches for modelling variation and change: a case study of sociophonetic data from Occitan](#)'. in: Wendy Bennett, Janice Carruthers (eds) *Manual of Romance Sociolinguistics*. de Gruyter, Berlin
- Mooney, D, 2017, '[Phonetic transfer in language contact: Evidence for equivalence classification in the mid-vowels of Occitan-French bilinguals](#)'. *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*.
- Mooney, D & Jones, MC, 2017, '[Creating Orthographies for Endangered Languages](#)'. Cambridge University Press
- Mooney, D, 2016, '[Transmission and diffusion: Linguistic change in the regional French of Béarn](#)'. *Journal of French Language Studies*, vol 26., pp. 327-352
- Mooney, D, 2016, '["C'est jeu!i, la Gasceugne!" L'antériorisation du phonème /j/ dans le français régional du Béarn](#)'. *French Studies*, vol 70.
- Mooney, D, 2016, '[Southern Regional French: A Linguistic Analysis of Language and Dialect Contact](#)'. Legenda

[View complete publications list](#) in the University of Bristol publications system