

PROF. DR. LUDMILA ISURIN

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, USA

**LANGUAGE ATTRITION IN BILINGUAL IMMIGRANTS:
ATTITUDE, IDENTITY, AND EMOTION**

Vortrag am 16.05.18 um 18 Uhr c.t.
in Raum M110 Hauptgebäude

This talk discusses studies on first language (L1) attrition in immigrants. It focuses on the interconnected nature of language attitudes, sense of self, and emotional connections to the first language as exhibited by first-generation immigrants in a variety of socio-cultural and linguistic settings. The majority of studies on L1 attrition look into various sociolinguistic and psycholinguistic variables that might account for better maintenance of L1 in bilingual immigrants. Among such variables are the immigrants' language attitude, their self-perception/identity negotiation, and their emotional connection to the native language, country, and culture. Thus each of these variables – individually and in interaction with other variables – is discussed in this talk. In addition, the level of the emotional connection with the native language and country in immigrants often defines the language transmission between generations. While the extensive discussion of studies on heritage speakers remains beyond the scope of this presentation, the importance of looking into the connection between the emotional factors in the parents' attitudes toward their L1 and how the language is preserved in the family adds an additional angle to the discussion.

