

# International Linguistic Association

## *Monthly Lecture Series*

**Saturday, November 6, 2021. 11 AM - 12 PM (EST) on Zoom**

**Dr. Juan Eduardo Bonnin**

*Professor of Discourse Studies at the University of San Martín (UNSAM),  
Argentina and National Council of Scientific and Technological Research  
(CONICET)*

### **Discourse and Mental Health in Argentina: Looking for Reasons for Hope**

**Abstract:**

The aim of this presentation is to talk about the implications of ethnographic research in discourse and mental health in Argentina to think of a new agenda for discourse analysis, focused on voice, agency and hope. During four years, fieldwork was conducted at a public hospital located in an immigrant neighborhood in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Research questions were oriented towards the relationships between diversity and inequality in access to mental healthcare through the discourse practices, tactics and strategies deployed by patients with widely varying cultural, linguistic and social backgrounds. As an action-research process, it helped change communicative practices at the Hospital's outpatient mental healthcare service. This presentation will reflect on the entire process and its outcomes, arguing in favor of a critical, situated perspective on discourse analysis, theoretically and practically oriented to social change. It will also analyze the theoretical implications of results to discuss voice and agency as situated theoretical concepts. In the end, all of this exposition will reveal to be explicitly biased to looking for reasons for hope.

This Fall, ILA lectures will take place on Zoom. We have an amazing line-up of speakers.  
Check our ILA website: <https://www.ilaword.org/index.aspx>

**Date & Time: November 6, 2021. 11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

International Linguistics Association invites you to a scheduled Zoom Meeting

**Zoom link:** <https://bmcc-cuny.zoom.us/j/85156640226>

One tap mobile

Meeting ID: 851 5664 0226

Find your local number: <https://bmcc-cuny.zoom.us/u/kcqxklvkcz>

## Juan Eduardo Bonnin

*Professor of Discourse Studies at the University of San Martín (UNSAM), Argentina and  
Researcher at National Council of Scientific and Technological Research (CONICET)*



Dr. Bonnin is the Director of the Workers' Innovation Center (*Centro de Innovación de los Trabajadores*), a research institution funded by the National Council of Scientific and Technological Research (CONICET) and the Metropolitan University for Education and Work (UMET), and Professor of Discourse Studies at the University of San Martín (UNSAM), Argentina. He is a researcher in Sociolinguistics and Discourse Analysis, and is interested in the role of language in the access to human rights, especially as a domain for the exercise of voice, agency and social change. His latest book is *Discourse and Mental Health. Voice, Inequality and Resistance in Medical Settings* (Routledge, 2019)

For more information about our speaker, click on the link below:

<https://www.routledge.com/authors/i20075-juan-eduardo-bonnin>