

# Interrelations among different forms of human communication

Workshop on important research problems

## ARRANGERS

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## INVITED RESEARCHERS

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Furthermore, researchers from the Linnaeus University Centre for Intermedial and Multimodal Studies (IMS) will participate without presenting papers.

## BACKGROUND

We believe that any serious endeavor for understanding the human mind and culture will have to deal with problems of relating, comparing, integrating, and differentiating between diverse types of sign processes and communication. One of the functions of theory is to organize and govern practices of observation, anchoring them on reliable premises. The notions of media and modes are used as regulatory principles for observation of communication artifacts and practices. They direct attention towards certain phenomena and certain aspects of those phenomena, and they also inform

and organize the results of observation, making it possible to relate different observations and draw conclusions.

## RELEVANT RESEARCH AREAS

Cognitive Science

Human Communication

Intermediality

Linguistics

Multimodality

Philosophy

Psychology

Semiotics

etc.

## AIM AND GOAL

The aim of this workshop is to identify and specify important research problems in the study of interrelations among different forms of human communication. Although theoretical modeling is our starting point, “important” should be understood as concretely as possible – in terms of relevance not only for theory but for society and the lives of individuals.

Guiding key question: *Why is it essential to explain the interrelations among different forms of human communication (to be understood as various types of media involving sign processes)?*

We want to look for answers to this question in terms of *important problems that may be formulated, investigated, and hopefully solved* with the aid of such studies. The goal is thus to sharpen our notions of what are imperative, far-reaching research problems concerning the interrelations among different forms of human communication. It might be that there are research problems in the swing that are

actually not that vital, and it might be that there are truly significant questions that are not yet identified or perhaps only vaguely formulated.

## AGENDA

1. 14 September 2018. Invited researchers and arrangers submit a brief and concise paper (no more than 1000 words in total) stating tentative answers to the guiding key question. We suggest short and very specific titles. Please include up to six keywords and a brief bioblurb.
2. 29–31 October 2018. Discussions at a workshop at Linnaeus University, Sweden, hosted by IMS. All papers should be read in advance.
3. 2019. If we are satisfied with the results of the workshop, we may write (collaborative) articles on the subject and publish an edited collection.
4. 2020. Possibly a major conference on the subject at Linnaeus University.

## PRACTICAL ISSUES

IMS, supported by Riksbankens Jubileumsfond, will pay for travels and accommodation. Email to the IMS coordinator: [ims@lnu.se](mailto:ims@lnu.se).

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