

## Lecture cum Seminar

### Thursday, June 21, 2012, 4 - 7 pm

Freie Universität Berlin, Habelschwerdter Allee 45, Room J 24/122d

### Hafid Ismaili Alaoui

(Zukunftsphilologie Fellow 2011-2012 am Forum Transregionale Studien)

# **Arabic Grammatical Theory and Modern Linguistics**

### **Chair: Islam Dayeh**

(Zukunftsphilologie / Freie Universität Berlin)

#### Abstract:

The seminar will offer a broad survey and discussion of recent developments in Arabic grammatical thought in light of the translation and reception of European linguistics since Ferdinand Saussure, with a particular focus on the contributions of North African linguists. Note: The working language of the seminar is Arabic.

Hafid Ismaili Alaoui is Associate Professor of Arabic at the Faculty of Literature and Humanities, Ibn Zohr University, Agadir/Morocco. He received his PhD in Linguistics in 2003 with a dissertation on "Linguistics in contemporary Arab culture: A critical analytical study of issues of reception and its problems" (Al-lisaniyyat fil-thaqafa al-arabiyya al-mu'asira, Beirut 2009). Alaoui is the academic coordinator of a research group on language communication and argumentation at the University of Ibn Zohr. He has published three books and more than twenty articles which cover a wide range of language-related themes including Arabic linguistics, epistemology and argumentation theory and the Arabic reception of contemporary Western linguistic theory. More recently, he has co-organised (together with Islam Dayeh) a workshop entitled Reading Wittgenstein in Arabic (11-12 May 2012).



#### Lecture-cum-Seminar

The Lecture-cum-Seminar series is a central element of the scholarly program of the Zukunftsphilologie project. It is conceived as a working seminar of 3 hours. The lecture (ca. 45-60 minutes) is meant to introduce the audience to the research problem and provide the general analytical and theoretical framework for the topic. This is followed by a practical seminar, wherein the speaker demonstrates his or her case by reference to texts in the original language and in English translation. It is hoped that this Lecture-cum-Seminar series, a combination of theory and a direct engagement with texts, will enable scholars to examine the comparative aspect of the problematic without neglect of the local and singular nature of the texts examined.

### **Zukunftsphilologie: Revisiting the Canons of Textual Scholarship**

Zukunftsphilologie aspires to support research in marginalized and undocumented textual practices and literary cultures with the aim of integrating texts and scholarly traditions from Asia, Africa, and the Middle East as well as from Europe itself, by way of a critical recuperation of philology. The project takes as its point of departure the increasingly growing concern with the global significance of philology and the potential of philology to challenge exclusivist notions of the self and the canon. Zukunftsphilologie refers to the polemic between the classicist Ulrich von Wilamowitz and Friedrich Nietzsche around the method and meaning of classical studies. As a project it sees itself as part of a growing trend towards a more global intellectual history. It is inspired in particular by the work of Edward Said and Sheldon Pollock.

In order to promote historically-conscious philology, Zukunftsphilologie will foster research in the following areas: genealogies and transformations of philological practice, philology's place in the system of knowledge (e.g. its relation to science, theology and jurisprudence), and philology and the university. Furthermore, Zukunftsphilologie aims to support critical reviews of historical and philological practice. In revisiting important "philological wars", the goal is not to merely evaluate the argumentative worth of these debates, but to reflect on the wider cultural and political context in which these "philological wars" emerged and how they have shaped our knowledge of the past.

The project Zukunftsphilologie is co-directed by Angelika Neuwirth, Manan Ahmed and Islam Dayeh (all Freie Universität Berlin) and is associated with and located at the Friedrich Schlegel Graduate School of Literary Studies at Freie Universität Berlin. Zukunftsphilologie is a project at the Forum Transregionale Studien.

#### Information

www.rukunftsphilologie.de www.forum-transregionale-studien.de www.fsgs.fu-berlin.de/fsgs/kooperationen/Zukunftsphilologie

**Contact**: zukunftsphilologie@trafo-berlin.de