

# DIVISION OF LINGUISTICS AND MULTILINGUAL STUDIES



You are cordially invited to attend a seminar on:

*English: One language*

By

**Dr Anthea Fraser Gupta**  
School of English  
University of Leeds

**Date: Friday, 31 July 2009**

**Time: 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon**

**Venue: HSS Seminar Room 6 (S3.2-B3-06)**

## Abstract

There are many ways of picturing English as a global language, mostly on the basis of the history and social role of English in different countries. My way of picturing English is linguistic, dividing English into *continuity* and *contact* varieties on the basis of formal features, especially the structure and inflexional morphology of the verb. One continuity variety, Standard English, is so pervasive everywhere English is used that few other varieties, either contact or continuity, are used in sustained texts without some of its features alongside their own. Standard English differs little from one place to another, and is a major element in the unity of English. English should be thought of one English rather than many Englishes.

## About the Speaker

Anthea Fraser Gupta is a sociolinguist with degrees in English linguistics from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne (BA and MA) and the University of York (DPhil). She worked in the Department of English Language and Literature at the (National) University of Singapore from 1975 to 1996, since when she has been in the School of English at the University of Leeds. She has published extensively on English in Singapore, and on English as a world language. Her first book (*The Step-Tongue*) was on children's English in Singapore and her forthcoming book (*One world English: exploring written texts*) introduces a new way of analysing written English in a truly global way.

**All are welcome.**

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