2019/2020

LINGUISTISCHES KOLLOQUIUM



Patricia Ronan

Dortmund

Are there Signs of Aging in the Language of Donald Trump?

Donald Trump's language, like his presidency, polarizes. In addition to commenting on his use of populist rhetoric, observers repeatedly note simplicity of argument, as well as incoherence and hesitations.

This talk discusses features of President Trump's recent unscripted language in comparison with his earlier language use and in comparison to language use of other politicians.

Corpus data is drawn from transcripts of news interviews, talk show interviews and phone-ins into television programmes between the 1980s and 2010s. Data analyses focuses on pronoun use, lexical richness, sentence complexity and coherence factors in the speech samples.

The study finds that President Trump's language remains simple overall, using a non-complex, co-ordinating style. The lexical density of his speech has not increased with age, and coherence factors have decreased over time.

Dienstag, 12.11.2019 16:15 - 17:45 Uhr Raum WST A.02.04

Institut für Germanistik M. Beißwenger * U. Haß * M. Morek * B. Schröder * E. Ziegler

Fakultät für Geisteswissenschaften

