Dr Felicity Deamer

Research Fellow, English at Aston University

Birmingham, , GB

Dr Deamer's research explores the linguistic and communicative dynamics of police interviews.

Biography

As a Research Fellow in the Aston Institute for Forensic Linguistics (AIFL), Dr Felicity Deamer explores the linguistic and communicative dynamics of police interviews. She is particularly interested in how the state of mind (and associated deficits) of an interviewee with serious mental illness can affect an investigative interview. Of particular interest are (a) how the SMI might affect the evidential value of the interview, (b) how an interviewer?s knowledge of an SMI diagnosis might affect an investigative interview, and (c) whether detailed recommendations and/or training can be provided for interviewers to take into account the effects of the SMI and thereby optimise the evidential value of the interview. More broadly, Felicity works with other members of AIFL to examine how transcriptions of police interview recordings are made and subsequently used in court as evidence, and how this process might be improved to increase the evidential value of those police interviews. Prior to Felicity's post at Aston, she has held research fellowships on interdisciplinary mental health research projects. She has used a variety of methods, from conversation analysis to eye-tracking, to investigate a variety of phenomena, including patient/therapist interactions and metaphor comprehension in psychosis.

Areas of Expertise

Linguistics, Mental Health, Use of Language

Education

University College London
BA Linguistics

University College London
MRes Speech, Language and Cognition

University College London
PhD Linguistics

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