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She has published extensively on these topics including 80 articles and book chapters and 11 volumes between authored and edited books. She is one of the editors of the book series *Encounters for Multilingual Matters* and of *Discourse, Narrative and Interaction* for Routledge. Her latest publication is the *Cambridge Handbook of Discourse Studies*, coedited with Alexandra Georgakopoulou (2020, Cambridge University Press).

ETHNOGRAPHIC INTERVIEWING AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARTICIPANT AND RESEARCHER

Anna De Fina

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Lecture to be held online

on December 3, 2021 at 13:30 (CET)

Everyone can attend, but you need to register.

Registration link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/ELWpFCwWhy>

ABSTRACT: In this talk I will discuss the insights that discourse analysts have offered on the interview as an interactional event and some of the issues and dilemmas that arise in the course of qualitative interviews between interviewers and interviewees. I will first provide some background on the theoretical methodological motivations for this increased awareness of the role of research contexts in the collection of data, particularly in narrative research. I will focus on the illusion of “researcher neutrality” and on how the idea that the investigator has to disappear both in the data collection and in the data analysis has led to treating discourse that takes place in interviews as a decontextualized collection of opinions or narratives having the interviewee as the sole source and originator. I will explore alternative views, and I will illustrate a range of phenomena such as negotiations over identity between interviewer and interviewees, avoidance (e.g. generic answers to personal questions) and interviewer’s reactions to it, instances of talk that show interviewees trying to figure out what the interviewer wants, or adjusting to a frame proposed by the interviewer.