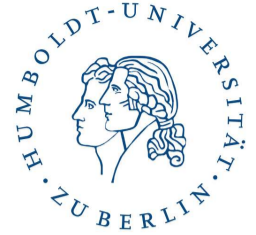




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Original work by Andrea Artoni

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SlavLingColl

Slavic Linguistics Colloquia

Thursday May 7, 2026 – **ONLINE at 17:00!**

On decomposition and recomposition of Russian suffixes

Ora Matushansky (CNRS/Paris 8)

Abstract: Russian feminine formation comes in two varieties: the feminine suffix can be added to the masculine stem (e.g., artist/artistka ‘performer.M/F’) or the masculine and the feminine nouns can bear equipollent marking (e.g., akt^or/aktrisa ‘actor/actress’). Strikingly, the same holds for nouns derived with native Russian suffixes and may involve the same productive feminine suffix (e.g., učitel^o/učitel^{nica} ‘teacher.M/F’ vs. provodnik/provodnica ‘conductor.M/F’).

I will examine the two types of feminine formation in the context of complex affix formation and argue that the affixal complex -nic- should synchronically involve the adjective-forming suffix -in- and the diminutive/feminine suffix -ic- in more than one mode of composition.

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