

Nominal Address in Everyday Talk: Structures, Interactional Use und Reflections

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This study investigates practices of nominal addressing in conversation as an interactional phenomenon. Hitherto, the subject matter has been approached from a number of different perspectives for the most part separating nominal terms of address from their natural habitat – that is, social interaction. Predominantly, nominal address is conceptualized as a static phenomenon that may be bound to wider social contexts from the perspective of Sociolinguistics or Social Psychology but that is consequently kept apart from the sequencing and the communicative activities of concrete situations of social interaction (Van Langendonck 2007; Ervin-Tripp 1967/1986; Brown and Ford 1961; Clyne et al. 2009; Zwicky 1974; Leech 1999; *inter alia*). Even though recent interactionally oriented work on forms and functions of nominal address in social interaction provides converging evidence that the occurrence of specific forms in certain communicative contexts is interactionally motivated (see Günthner in press; Schwitalla 1995; Clayman 2010, 2013; Lerner 2003; Rendle-Short 2010; Schegloff 1968/1972; Jefferson 1973; among others), the subject matter still calls for systematic study (cf. also De Stefani 2016).

The dissertation addresses this gap and aims at the development of an interpretive and context-sensitive approach for a systematic reconstruction of practices of nominal addressing in spoken German. The study is centrally concerned with specific forms and functions of nominal address in everyday social interactions, its contexts of occurrence and the involved reflections of the participants. Structures, interactional use and emic reflections of nominal terms of address are investigated with methods of multimodal Interactional Linguistics and Conversation Analysis, Interactional Sociolinguistics and Linguistic Anthropology on the base of authentic data of German everyday face-to-face interactions.

An interpretive, context-sensitive approach to practices of nominal addressing in everyday social interaction takes their interactional and wider social embedding into account while simultaneously considering their contribution to the construction and reflection of social reality and order in social interaction. Thus, the study contributes to the interpretive investigation of language in its contexts of use and promises to extend our knowledge about the systematic orchestration of communicative resources in real life social practice.

Key words: address terms, social interaction, Interactional Linguistics, multimodal interaction, participation

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