BROWN BAG LECTURE
Friday, November 20, 2015
12:00-1:00 pm
138 Horace Mann
Please bring lunch; dessert & beverages will be provided
This event is free and open to the public, so please spread the word!

MOTHER-ADOLESCENT DAUGHTER INTERACTION:
HOW MATERNAL ROLES AFFECT DISCURSIVE OUTCOMES

Dr. Domenica Luvera DelPrete
Adjunct Faculty of TESOL & Applied Linguistics
Teachers College, Columbia University

Dr. DelPrete will present her research on mother-adolescent daughter interaction. Through the lens of discourse analysis, she will discuss a case study that examines the maternal figure in everyday interaction with her adolescent daughter. Specifically, she will look at the various roles that emerge when the mother interacts with her daughter, and other immediate family members, in their home. She will also show the discursive strategies the mother employs when in these roles, as well as how the mother’s roles and discourse strategies affect the interactional outcome with the adolescent daughter.

Findings from her study reveal that when the mother’s talk indexes the role of nurturer, interaction with the adolescent daughter is less contentious. Mother as Nurturer has positive interactional outcomes for the mother-daughter pair, despite the discursive strategies she employs when in this role. When the mother steps out of this role, and becomes the target of blame, partakes in martyrdom, engages in troubles telling or is being critical, the interactional outcome is disharmonious to varying degrees.

Dr. Domenica (Donna) Luvera DelPrete obtained her Ed.M and Ed.D in Applied Linguistics from Teachers College, Columbia University, where she currently teaches Advanced Academic Writing to non-native speakers of English. She also holds an M.A. in Italian Literature from Boston College, and has taught undergraduate Italian language courses at William Paterson University for over a decade. Her research interests are in family interaction, discourse analysis, pragmatics, and the mother-daughter relationship.