

## **Announcement**

Hodder Arnold joins forces with the Brasshouse Language Centre to publish a new range of interactive language courses.

Brasshouse Language Centre and Hodder Arnold publishers have worked together on the development of a new range of modern language courses, the first two of which publish at the end of June 2003.

The Access Languages series features book, audio and online materials providing a combination of classroom and self-study options to suit adults of all ages.

A full colour course book contains 10 study units covering different topic areas, with learning tips, assessment checklists and points of cultural interest throughout. An audio component offers additional learning opportunities in the classroom. Supplementary web-based material is available on [www.accesslanguages.com](http://www.accesslanguages.com) providing direct access to internet-based activities, further classroom resources and links to related websites.

Access French and Access German launch at the end of June 2003, with Access Spanish and Access Italian coming in June 2004.

For further information, contact Diane Black at Hodder Arnold on 020 7873 6221; or by email: [diane.black@hodder.co.uk](mailto:diane.black@hodder.co.uk)

### **The French Language and Questions of Identity**

Fitwilliam College, Cambridge, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> July 2004

Our choice of linguistic code is one of the most fundamental ways open to us of establishing our sense of belonging to some groups and our distance from others. This holds true whether the codes in question are wholly independent from another (different languages or dialects) or are interrelated (different registers or sociolects). However, the relationship between language and identity is both complex and unpredictable: in some communities language may be the predominant emblem of 'group identity', in others it may be one of several such indicators, while in some it may lack this function completely. This symbolic value of language also leaves the latter open to exploitation both at the level of the state, for political purposes, and at that of the individual, where it can have a bearing on one's assimilation to or divergence from a given speech community.

The purpose of this conference is to explore the multitude of avenues offered by this theme in relation to the French language.

For further information about the conference, please contact either:

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### **New AFLS Committee**

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7 Cahiers 9.2.2003

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