ALICE VITTRANT is *Maître de Conférence* (Assistant Professor) in the Department of General Linguistics in Aix-Marseille University. Her areas of specialisation are linguistic typology, language contact, linguistic fieldwork, Burmese and Southeast Asian languages. She is the author of several book chapters and articles on Burmese grammar in French and English. She is currently co-editing a book on Southeast Asian languages (with Justin Watkins) for Mouton de Gruyter.

Part 1 : How to do linguistic fieldwork? (talks 1, 2, 3)
The first three lectures provide a survey of some methodological issues involved in doing fieldwork, one of the primary ways in which linguists obtain data.

Lecture 1 : Methodological issues involved in doing linguistic fieldwork
Monday (4 April 2016, 13.00 – 15.00), Room: Margono 304
This first lecture will address issues of language documentation. We will discuss some practical fieldwork concerns, such as the linguist's working relationship with native speaker consultants, the linguist's necessary background knowledge of languages, the relation between theory and data, all issues that shape the linguistic data collected during fieldwork.

Lecture 2 : Field methods for collecting linguistic data
Tuesday (5 April 2016, 08.00 – 10.00), Room: Margono 306
The goal of the second lecture is to learn how to conduct linguistic fieldwork: linguistic field preparation, collecting (elicitation techniques), processing, and analyzing linguistic data for the purposes of language documentation and description.

Lecture 3 : Fieldwork on endangered languages : the mopiu example
Wednesday (6 April 2016, 13.00 – 15.00), Room: Margono 404
This lecture will address the issue of endangered languages, through a case study of research conducted on Mopiu, an endangered language of North Vietnam.

Part 2 : Typology and language comparison (talks 4, 5, 6)

Lecture 4 : About the Mainland Southeast Asian (MSEA) linguistic Area
Monday (11 April 2016, 13.00 – 15.00), Room: Margono 304

Mainland Southeast Asia is defined as a geographic area encompassing Southern China (its east side), and the countries known historically as Indochina (Cambodge, Vietnam, Laos), Thailand and Burma. This area is sometimes extended to peninsular Malaysia. It started being described as a *sprachbund* quite recently (see Matisoff 2001, Enfield 2005). Languages of this linguistic area do have a lot in common even though they are part of 5 different language families (Mon-Khmer, Tai-Kadai, Hmong-Mien, Sino-Tibetan et Austronesian).

I will review first the phonological, structural and lexical features shared by these languages, such as extended vowels, tones, numeral classifiers, serial verb constructions, topic-comment structure, ideophones, psycho-collocations, etc.
Then, I will show how Standard Burmese undoubtedly belongs to this linguistic area: as a tonal and isolating language, highly contextual, with an extended classifier system (Vittrant 2005) and serial verbs constructions (Vittrant 2006, 2015), all features that are not shared by most of the other Tibeto-Burman languages.

Lecture 5 : Verbal grammaticalisation in SEA languages : between typology, genetic inheritance and language contact
Tuesday (12 April 2016, 08.00 – 10.00), Room: Margono 306

Southeast Asian languages, such as Burmese and Vietnamese, have developed a large number of auxiliaries and verbal particles conveying mainly aspectual and modal values, as is usual in languages with serial verbs constructions (SVC).
First, I will illustrate this evolution through a few examples of SVC containing grammaticalized verbs. Then, I will look for the origin of these grammaticalizations, examining their specificity from both a typological and a geographical point of view.

Lecture 6 : Motion and path in Burmese dialects
Wednesday (13 April 2016, 13.00 – 15.00), Room: Margono 404
Burmese (Standard Burmese) and Arakanese dialects use serial verb constructions (SVC). One very common sub-type of SVC is labeled as "directional" to the extent that the verbal phrase contains motion or location verbs in the string of verbs. The aim of this talk is to give an account of SVCs that express motion and path in Burmese dialects. Using data collected with the help of linguistic tools, I will show that Burmese and Arakanese speakers differ in the way they express motion and path.