

The Institute for Advanced Study presents a talk by



Robert Chaudenson

Des français vernaculaires aux créoles: l'évolution de l'expression du système duratif

1:00 pm, Thursday, November 12, 2009

Ballantine Hall 004

About the talk: A partir d'une étude, tant de la créolisation, dont l'élément moteur majeur est, non pas le mélange des langues, mais les stratégies d'appropriation du français que du modèle statistique de la variabilité de cette même langue, on étudiera, pour les modalités d'expression de l'aspect duratif, l'évolution qui a conduit des structures périphrastiques verbales des variétés dialectales et populaire du français à l'émergence des systèmes des créoles français.

About the speaker: Robert Chaudenson, currently professor emeritus at the University of Provence (Aix-Marseille I), is the leading specialist of French-based creoles in the world; he also ranks among the leading international scholars in the field of creole studies and language contact. He served as president of the Comité international des études créoles for the thirty years of its existence and as general editor of the journal *Etudes Créoles*.

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In his influential books in the area of creoles studies include *Les créoles français* (1979), *Des îles, des hommes, des langues* (1992), *La créolisation: théorie, applications, implications* (2003), the latter translated into English. Chaudenson has developed what has become the most widely accepted theory about the genesis of French-based creoles, namely, that these languages are the result of the imperfect acquisition of variable varieties of vernacular French in the special social context of insular plantation colonies.

