



## **Isabel Picornell, PhD MCSFS**

I am a Consultant Forensic Linguist providing analysis of linguistic style and meaning in forensic contexts to the corporate, investigative, and intelligence sectors since 2005.

Forensic linguistics covers a broad area, from the analysis of trademarks in legal disputes to analysing suicide notes for authenticity. My area of expertise within this range is the analysis of linguistic style and strategies for authorship and disputed meaning in questioned contexts.

I have provided expert witness reports in forensic linguistic analysis for civil proceedings in the UK and internationally and given expert witness evidence in criminal court in the United Kingdom.

## **Affiliations**

- Visiting Research Fellow - Centre for Text Analysis, Aston Institute for Forensic Linguistics 2017 – present
- Member - International Association for Forensic and Legal Linguistics (IAFLL); past President 2021-2023.
- Member - Germanic Society for Forensic Linguistics (GSFL)
- Member – Chartered Society of Forensic Sciences (CSFS)

## **Qualification**

**2013** PhD Forensic Linguistics, Aston University, UK.  
*Cues to deception in a textual narrative context: lying in written witness statements.*

## **Selected Publications and Conference Papers**

**Under Review** Picornell, I. “We will get you”: linguistic ideology, power and the distortion of meaning in Twitter discourse, *Language and Law/Linguagem e Direito*.

**2026** Picornell, I (2026) The Linguistics of Analysing Deception in Written Texts. *Elements in Forensic Linguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Picornell, I (2026) Ethics and Professional Conduct Oversight in Forensic Linguistics Expert Evidence. In I. M. Nick and Kirsty E.

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- Blewitt (eds) *The Routledge Handbook of Ethics in Forensic Linguistics*. Routledge.
- 2024** Picornell, I. & Wright, D. (issue eds) Special Issue in Forensic and Legal Linguistics, *International Journal of Semiotics of Law*, 37(2).  
Wright, D. & Picornell, I. (2024) Semiotic perspectives on forensic and legal linguistics: unifying approaches in the language of the legal process and language in evidence, *International Journal Semiotics of Law*, 293-304.
- 2022** I. Picornell, R. Perkins & M. Coulthard (eds.) (2022) *Methodologies and Challenges in Forensic Linguistic Casework*. NJ: Wiley-Blackwell.  
Picornell, I. & Coulthard, M. (2022) Detecting Faked Texts. In I. Picornell, R. Perkins & M. Coulthard (eds) *Methodologies and Challenges in Forensic Linguistic Casework*. NJ: Wiley-Blackwell.  
*There can only be one possible meaning: linguistic experts and evidence in court*. Plenary presentation. IAFL 2022 European Regional Conference, Porto, Portugal.
- 2019** *To whom this may concern: audience profiling in forensic (con)texts* 14<sup>th</sup> IAFL Biennial Conference, RMIT, Melbourne, Australia.
- 2017** *Linguistically Profiling the Trump Russian Dossier*  
Germanic Society for Forensic Linguistics. University of Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 2015** Vrij, A., Taylor, P. & Picornell, I. (2015) Verbal Lie Detection, In Oxburgh, G., Myklebust, T., Grant, T. & Milne, B. (eds) *Communication in Forensic Contexts: Integrated Approaches from Psychology and Linguistics*, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell.  
*Cues and the Company They Keep: deception in written witness statements*, IAFL 12<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference in Forensic Linguistics, Guangzhou, China

### Academic/Teaching Positions

- 2021 - Present** Course Director - *Forensic Linguistics Short Course (FLsc)*, University of Dusseldorf, Germany
- July 2023 - July 2016** Course Director – *International Summer School in Forensic Linguistic Analysis*, University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines
- 2018 - 2019** Course Co-Director – *Forensic Linguistics Short Course (FLsc)*, University of Cologne, Germany

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### **Expert Witness Training**

- 2025** Bond Solon Training - Discussion between Experts
- 2024** Bond Solon Masterclasses in Courtroom Skills
- 2023** Bond Solon Masterclass in Report Writing
- 2021** Cardiff University Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificate (Criminal)
- 2021** Cardiff University Bond Solon Expert Witness Certificate (Civil)

### **Editorial Reviewer**

International Journal of Speech, Language and the Law

Linguagem e Direito/Language & Law

International Journal of Semiotics of Law (Special Issue Editor in Forensic Linguistics)

Applied Corpus Linguistics

Psychiatry, Psychology and Law

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