

ABSTRACTS

Volume XI, No. 1 (21)/2020

Research Articles

THEORY, HISTORY AND LITERARY CRITICISM

When the East Meets the West: Literary Interference and Cultural Transfer

Al Safi Hind Rafea Abalrasul

Abstract:

Our contribution focuses on literary interference and cultural transfer the processes and contributions of dialogue in the field of literature between the Arab-Muslim world and Europe and, more recently, from the Middle Ages, between the Arab World and the West. We show how these cultural universes have mutually fertilized over the centuries. We start by defining the theoretical framework in which the main questions raised by these exchanges are registered and what they teach us about the links between the cultures that produced the works concerned, and continue with the importance of literary borrowings seen as cultural exchange currencies. As an outstanding example we have chosen *Kalila wa-Dimna* and the *Arabian Nights* to demonstrate the circulation of classical literary sources in the Arabic language, and bring arguments in favor of the benefic encounter of Western literatures with the Arab world.

Keywords: Arab, cultural exchange, Divine Comedy, literary interferences, *Kalila wa-Dimna*, *One Thousand and One Nights*, translation

An Oriental Version of Otherness: English-Speaking Writers of the Arab Diaspora

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Abstract:

Our purpose has been to draw on the representation of otherness by selected writers of the Arab American diaspora, with a stress on two representative authors of this community: Gibran Khalil Gibran and Edward Said. Viewed from a postcolonial perspective, most of the writers considered for our analysis have written as a response to the artificial East/West dichotomy, almost defying their assumed hyphenated identity. If the African slave Omar Ibn Said first wrote in Arabic, Edward Said preferred to write his books in English, Gibran Khalil Gibran wrote both in English and Arabic, while the Egyptian writer Ahdaf Soueif – educated in England and Egypt, writes in English and Arabic. In the cultural and geographical space of the United States, the *Arab American* immigrant experience mirrors that of other ethnic groups, and it is demonstrated in their literatures.

Keywords: Arab American, Edward Said, exile, Khalil Gibran, Orientalism, otherness, postcolonial, split identity

Language, Society and Gender

Idowu James Adekunle

Abstract:

Gender Studies is a common academic scholarship in contemporary global society. Its field of study has generated a lot of controversies about its peculiarities and subjects of discourse, especially in the European world and African society. The peculiarities and discourses are sometimes assumed to be subjected to different conceptual opinionated ideologies. These affirmations make it distances itself from the biological roles of sexuality. Previous studies have largely examined it from gender roles to the neglect of its deeper gender bias of women in society. This paper, therefore, discussed the gender bias and inequality that women encounter in their various societies and how they champion their course through the revolution of self-consciousness and power relational competitiveness. It also investigates linguistic devices deployed by the selected playwright to assert the gender inequality and liberation of womanhood from the patriarchal society. This is with a view to determining the role of literary writers as social critics and revolutionary vanguards. The selected playwright for the study is Ahmed Yerima. The selected text for the study is Ahmed Yerima's *The Sisters*. Schechner's Performance, Freudian and Jungian psychoanalytic theories were used to analyse the sociological realities of the selected literary text. The data were subjected to literary analyses.

Keywords: Gender, Language, Society, Self-consciousness, Liberation

Mahatma Gandhi and Conflict Resolution in "*Master Harold*" ... and the boys

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Samira Sasani

Abstract:

Apartheid South Africa is a perfect example of inequality and racial discrimination in the 20th century. Athol Fugard's "*Master Harold*" ... and the boys clearly depicts the colonialist ideology that existed during apartheid era. The aim of this study is to deal with Gandhi's ideas about conflict resolution. Mahatma Gandhi sees non-violence as a solution. Athol Fugard's "*Master Harold*" ... and the boys is anti-colonialist, and this play also shows that those who have internalized their superiority and inferiority are more vulnerable to colonialist psychology. Fugard has suggested way of decolonialization is Satyagraha, which is a kind of non-violent resistance proposed by Mahatma Gandhi. Fugard's suggested kind of resistance, as shown in the play, cannot be achieved through coercion. It is achieved by means of conversion.

Keywords: Apartheid South Africa, Athol Fugard, Mahatma Gandhi, Satyagraha, "*Master Harold*" ... and the boys, conversion

Comunicare orală și scrisă.
Exerciții aplicative pentru Anul pregătitor de limba română
pentru cetățeni străini

Adina-Irina Forna

Oral and Written Communication. Applied Exercises for the Preparatory Year of Romanian Language for Foreign Citizens

Abstract:

This paper aims to illustrate examples of exercises that are used during the practical course of Romanian as a foreign language. The course is entitled Oral and Written Communication I and is taught during the first semester of the preparatory year of Romanian language for foreign citizens at the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca. The exercises address topics pertaining to the first concepts assimilated in any foreign language (family, personal space/home, the university context, daily activities in personal, social or special situations – at the doctor's, travel, etc.), both orally and in writing. For more clarity and accuracy, the paper relies on examples taken from the personal experience of teaching a group of 25 foreign students.

Keywords: Romanian for foreigners, oral communication, written communication, applied exercises, examples

Mood Choices and Functions
in Background Information of Arts-Based Research Article
Abstracts

Kazeem K. Olaniyan

Abstract:

Motivated by the scanty of works on background information of abstracts, this article analyses the discourse functions of mood choices in background information of arts-based research article abstracts. Background information segments of three hundred abstracts of arts-based research articles obtained from the internet and purposively selected were analysed using insights from the systemic functional linguistic tool of mood. Given the generic compliant function – based categorisation adopted, five kinds of indicative mood structures namely; mission indicative mood, premises setting, assumption indicative mood; justification and classification mood are found to characterise the data but premises setting mood choices which function to: (i) give historical background to the study; (ii) define concept(s) that are central to the study at hand; (iii) anchor or state the research objective(s) and (iv) build up arguments against existing (previous) studies with a view to establishing the justification for the current research are observed to be predominant in the data.

This study concludes therefore that an understanding of mood choices and their generic compliant functions has potency of finding lasting solution to the problems being encountered by budding academics in writing their Background Information (BI). It equally serves as useful material for academic discourse pedagogy.

Keywords: Mood Structure, Generic-Compliant Function, Background Information, Research Article Abstracts, Arts-Based Journals

Indirect vs. Direct Communication: Steps in Becoming Culturally Intelligent

Claudia E. Stoian

Abstract:

The paper brings into discussion the importance culture plays in communication, and highlights the necessity of training students in cross-cultural communication. Focusing on an important dichotomy in communication styles, i.e. indirectness vs. directness, it proposes possible activities to do in language and/or translation and interpreting classes. Their purpose is to be culturally intelligent, particularly by drawing their attention to cultural differences in communication, and helping them to acquire knowledge to anticipate differences, practice mindfulness and develop cross-cultural skills.

Keywords: cross-cultural communication, indirect communication, direct communication, cultural intelligence, training

SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL STUDIES

Das öffentliche Schulwesen in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland und in Ungarn – ein Vergleich

Krisztina Kovács
Andrea Óhidy

The Public School System in the Federal Republic of Germany and in Hungary – a Comparative Study

Abstract:

The following article discusses the similarities and differences between the German and Hungarian education systems and teacher training programmes. The similarities are predominant and are the results of the worldwide technological, economic, political and scientific developments of the 20th century, as well as of the Europeanization of education within the European Union in the sign of “lifelong learning for all”. Some similarities regarding the structure of the education system (e.g. the dual system of vocational education and training) are owed to the development of the Hungarian education system according to the German model. The differences are mostly to be found in the areas of management, administration and control of the education system and are results of national traditions and historical developments in Germany and Hungary.

Keywords: Education system, Germany, Hungary, comparison

Biblical Models for the Practice of Forgiveness in Public Life

Daniel G. Oprean

Abstract:

The aim of this article is that to remind the fact that forgiveness is not a practice that should be held captive for the religious life of a person or human community. Rather, it should be a practice of the public life of a society. Yet, there are biblical models for such a practice of forgiveness, both in the Old Testament and the New Testament. Therefore, for the biblical model embodied by the prophet Jeremiah, the article will continue with the biblical model embodied by John the Baptist. The two are prominent figures in the Bible, one in the Old Testament and one in the New Testament. The third model is that embodied by Jesus Christ, the central person in the New Testament. From the exploration of the three models, the paper will continue with the coordinates of Church's participation in Christ's model. It will end with the way the practice of forgiveness is reflected in Romanian society and politics after 1989.

Keywords: forgiveness, practice, public life, biblical model, participation

Public Theology: Historical Milestones

Teofil Stanciu

Abstract:

Public theology is a relatively new theological field, but its themes and concerns are as old as the interaction between the Christian community and society. Different ages prompted different emphasis and approaches. This by far is not a way of pretending that public theology always existed in some form. This article is a biographical and historical investigation in tune with the defining features and interests of public theology and public theologians. The selection of the figures discussed here – without accounting for a complete history – aims to reflect the theoretical, practical, contextual and ecumenical aspects of public theology.

Keywords: Christian history, common good, public life, social action, social ethics, public theology