

ABSTRACTS

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Research Articles

THEORY, HISTORY AND LITERARY CRITICISM

Insularizare barocă: o relectură a poemelor Olgăi Ștefan

Grațiela Benga

Baroque Insulation: Re-reading Olga Ștefan's Poetry

Abstract:

The aim of the present paper is to come to terms with the poetry written by a young Romanian writer, Olga Ștefan, who published her books in the 2000's – a period of astounding outburst of creativity in the field of poetry. It follows a fourfold outline: the recourse to associative poetics and multiple focalizations, the relation between body, concept and writing, the use of baroque techniques, especially geared towards mixing voices and plenteous figures, the insulation not only as a stronghold of recalibrated human beings, but also as a stimulus for polyphonic poetry writing. Undertaken in the light of resistance and metamorphosis, her poems do not celebrate the weirdness of imaginary, but a sparing alternative to the decentred mental horizon.

Keywords: Body, Concept, Dispersion, Metamorphosis, Intensity

A Deleuzian Analysis of Capitalism in Scott Fitzgerald's Novels

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Abstract:

This paper analyzes Scott Fitzgerald's novels in light of Deleuze and Guattari's critique of capitalism. While Deleuze and Guattari's capitalist social machine is a break from Marxism, it decodes the traditions that define subjective desires or concepts like *beauty* and *ethics*. Under capitalism, subjective desire arises as a capitalist desire and reproduces the capitalist power. In his novels, Fitzgerald addresses the idea of the American dream in a similar way. His characters often embody the contradictions of American experience such as success and failure, dream and nightmare, illusion and disillusionment. This paper critically analyzes Deleuze and Guattari's reading of *desire* within Marx's work and the role of the American dream in a capitalist system as a sort of anti-production. It seeks to illustrate how the concept of *love* in Fitzgerald's novels is tied to the idea of money and how their connection delineates, in the same way, the commodification of the desire that Deleuze traces in his reading of Marx. Accordingly, this paper also argues that similar to philosophy, fiction can be employed to provide a better understanding of our represented world.

Keywords: American dream, Capitalism, Deleuze, Desire, Fitzgerald

They too are Casualties: The Toll on the Ecology in Nigerian Civil War Literature

Enajite Eseoghene Ojaruega

Abstract:

Critical scholarship on the literature of the Nigerian Civil War tends to dwell mostly on the human tragedy, often neglecting other nonhuman casualties of war. I identify the use of the environment as a tool of war in the theatre of combat especially during violent confrontations between the fighting troops and will analyse how this is depicted in selected war narratives on the Nigeria–Biafra war. By focusing on the effects of the war on the ecology, my study invites a more holistic examination of the total landscape of war bearing in mind the entanglements and shared vulnerabilities between humans and nonhumans. It also admits to an intersection between war literature and ecocriticism for if there are claims of genocide because of the perceived vulnerability of a group of humans during the war, then there are also evidences of ecocide as a result of the attacks on the defenceless nonhuman entities within the domain of war.

Keywords: Nigerian Civil War literature, Ecology, Environmental ethics, Warfare

Du discours à l'archétype dans l'œuvre de Mircea Eliade

Nicolae Şera

From Discourse to Archetype in Mircea Eliade's Works

Abstract:

The exegesis of Mircea Eliade's work highlights the fact that the author integrated concepts that belong to several sciences into his hermeneutical analysis of religion. Thus, our study analyses both Eliade's view of discourse and the tight connection with the idea of myth, which is a fundamental religious concept for his work. We are focusing on the concept of *myth* as fundamental, archaic story, which establishes the connection between human and transcendental by resorting to *symbol* as a key concept for semiotics. Eliade takes the theories of symbol further into Jungian psychoanalysis, while highlighting its connections with the imaginary and the human subconsciousness, thus getting to a fundamental anthropological concept, that of the *archetype*. The circle *discourse–myth–symbol–archetype* that we aim to analyze is thus closed, as it shows the continuity of “divine manifestation”.

Keywords: Discourse, Myth, Symbol, Archetype, Imaginary

The Sacred and the Profane in Fr. Andrew M. Greeley's *Passover Trilogy*

Mark Anthony G. Moyano

Abstract:

Using the concept of the sacred–profane dichotomy by Emile Durkheim which is found in his *Elementary Forms of Religious Life* (1912), the author attempts to prove the existence of the sacred and the profane elements in Fr. Andrew Greeley's *Passover Trilogy*. After dissecting the novels, the article found out that, as per Durkheim's concept, sacred and profane elements existed. However, the dichotomy of the sacred and the profane was advertently fused. This harmonious fusion of the sacred and the profane is important in shaping the characters' lives (who are representations of real people)

especially in terms of their moral rebirth and sense of renewal, and that the dichotomy of the sacred and the profane would only create chaos and confusion, among others.

Keywords: Andrew M. Greeley, Sociology of literature, Sacred, Profane, *Passover Trilogy*, Sociology of religion

LINGUISTICS, STYLISTICS AND TRANSLATION STUDIES

Strategy Choice in Foreign Language Learning – Some Theoretical Guidelines

Ana Maria Hopârtean

Abstract:

The present paper investigates variables affecting strategic learning of foreign languages. The theoretical approach starts from analyzing strategy classifications and evolves into highlighting the several factors that determine strategy use when learning foreign languages. Further on we investigate individual differences between learners, the learners' personal experiences, situational and social factors, as well as affective factors and strategic competence. Having started from the theoretical premise that strategic learning is the superior approach to foreign language learning, the paper concludes that a successful learning experience is highly dependent on the language instructors' understanding of the multitude of variables at play when it comes to learner strategy choice.

Keywords: Strategic learning, Foreign language learning, Individual differences

Morphosyntactic Features in Late 19th Century African American Vernacular English

Costin-Valentin Oancea

Abstract:

This paper discusses the use of African American Vernacular English as a literary dialect. The analysis is based on a corpus containing data collected from two 19th century American novels: '*The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*' by Mark Twain and '*Uncle Tom's Cabin*' by Harriet Beecher Stowe. The speech of two characters of African American descent is under scrutiny: Jim and Aunt Chloe. The first part of the study provides an overview of the sociohistorical context in which AAVE originated and subsequently developed. The paper also highlights several morphosyntactic features attested in AAVE and the last part aims at identifying such features in the speech of the two African American characters aforementioned.

Keywords: African American Vernacular English, Literary dialect, Variety, Ebonics, Dialectal writing

Despre *al* în domeniul RLS

Anamaria-Bianca Tonț

About *al* in the Domain of RFL

Abstract:

My article presents the problem of *al* (*a*, *ai*, *ale*) in the field of Romanian as a foreign language. The first part of the study is an exposure of the interpretation of possessives, interpretations depending on which the morphological statute of *al* varies: possessive genitive mark, semi-independent possessive or formative pronoun. The consequences of the morphological interpretations of *al* can also be seen in the RFL domain. Therefore, the second part of the present article pursues the acquisition of the semi-independent possessive pronoun *al* by the foreign students depending on the several different interpretations found in the Romanian language textbooks for foreigners.

Keywords: *al* (*a*, *ai*, *ale*), Semi-independent possessive pronoun, Possessive genitive article, Romanian as a foreign language, Level B1

SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL STUDIES

Digital Media and the Rhetoric of Populism

Flavius Ghender

Abstract:

Digital media have a significant impact on political communication. The rapid evolution in technology, in the way the public consumes media products and participates in the construction of digital media discourse, significantly influences communication and political competition. For European populist movements, digital media offers additional opportunities to assert themselves on the political stage. The rise of populist movements is associated both with the socio-political context marked by crises (economic crises, pandemics, war) and with the opportunities offered by technology and digital media mechanisms. The latest developments, datafication and the growing role of algorithms, raise important questions related to the quality of future democracy.

Keywords: Digital media, Datafication, Social networks, Social media, Mediatization of politics, Populism

Comparing Humanistic Approaches in Teacher Education

Nai-Cheng Kuo, Keonna Stanley

Abstract:

Teacher education programs have a long, perpetuated expectation for how to teach (Shulman, 1987). The overwhelming focus in teacher education programs on planning, instruction, and assessment obscures the ultimate goal of education; that is, to help every student become happy and lead a fulfilled life. This paper offers a perspective to cultivate preservice teachers who value humanity and therefore go beyond disciplinary knowledge and pedagogical practices. Humanity creates order in society, not arbitrary rules or authority. Yet, this aspect is often lost in higher education that focuses on

professional skills over the cultivation of students' humanity (Muscatine, 2009). We argue that teacher education needs to attend to humanity and pave the way for peace and happiness for human beings. Teachers' roles are not just to deliver knowledge to students but to plant the seeds of hope and joy through education. To achieve this goal, we explored various humanistic approaches from Freire's (1993) critical pedagogy, Valenzuelz's (1999) subtractive schooling, Ginwright and Cammarota's (2002) social justice approach, Comstock et al.'s (2008) relational-cultural theory, and Ikeda's (2010) human education. This paper seeks to approach humanity as a theoretical and methodological basis for reclaiming the promise of teacher education.

Keywords: Humanity, Humanistic approaches, Teacher education, Preservice teachers, Daisaku Ikeda