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**The Department of British, American and German Studies, Faculty of Letters,
University of Craiova, Romania,**
in partnership with
**Faculty of Education and Arts, Nord University (Norway),
The Romanian Society for English and American Studies (RSEAS) and
The European Society for the Study of English (ESSE),**

is pleased to announce

The 23rd International Conference
LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURAL POLICIES (LLCP)
RULES AND BEYOND
to be held in Craiova, Romania
18-19 October 2024

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS

“Deface the currency.”
(Pythian proverb)

What are rules after all if not common opinions, established conventions, the truth and the moral coin of the masses over generations? And what is the value of rules? Can they be bent or broken? Have bending and breaking them become a common trend in our times?

By scorning the common opinion and making no allowance for traditional social conventions, the Cynic philosophers, through their most notable representative, Diogenes, suggest that any norm or rule, just like a coin or banknote, can be defaced, mutilated or altered to empty it of any value. Thus, by reducing or inverting the value of rules, the cynics promoted a new type of individual freedom, encouraged free thinking, outside the inherited limitations and constraints of rules. However, their boldly challenging of customs and received ideas might not only empower the “know thyself” principle, but also lead to a state of libertarian anarchy.

Nietzsche, a great admirer of the principles of the cynic philosophers, takes the task of breaking rules a step further by describing them as a parasitical, stifling form of moral control, a tool in the hands of the Church. Can rules thus be regarded as a form of moral manipulation? Do they oblivate the individual? Do they depersonalize?

Together we will embark on a mission to try and find answers to these questions and many more by analysing how cultural policies relate to rules as a form of control, and also how social (including moral) rules have found their reflection (and deflection) in literature. Education equally benefits from challenging limitative rules, with teaching methodology becoming fundamentally student-centered, and aiming at an ever more effective learning.

The very concepts designated by the terms *rule*, *principle* and *norm* are fundamental in communication and commonly encountered in linguistics. Despite being sometimes used interchangeably, do these terms refer to the same thing? In *A Dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetics* (2008), David Crystal explains that, while rules are formal statements of

correspondence between linguistic elements or structures, principles are broader in their scope, currently essential in both grammar and pragmatics; for example, in GB theory, we can find only principles that take a fairly different form in various languages. As to norms, the linguist points out that they refer to “a standard practice in speech or writing”, being proper to normative grammar. That leads us to the two opposite approaches, linguistic prescriptivism and linguistic descriptivism. The former seeks to lay down rules (prescriptions) in terms of how language should be used in a correct way, and thus establish a standard language. If with prescriptivism rules do not only command, but also forbid, the descriptive approach goes beyond (standard) rules, focusing more on acceptability than on correctness and being thus non-judgmental and evidence-based, in an attempt to show the way in which language is or was actually used by the members of a speech community.

Last but not least, translation studies also benefit from the approaches related to norms and rules applied to translation as a process and a product, including the establishment of quality standards.

To conclude, this year’s conference welcomes contributions from fields as varied as literature, discourse studies, art, philosophy, cultural and gender studies, theoretical and applied linguistics, translation and comparative studies, history and the humanities in general. The conference strives at achieving a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary quality and we therefore extend a warm invitation to scholars and postgraduate students doing research in a range of disciplines.

Possible topics can include, but are not limited to, the following themes:

Literary and Comparative Studies

- Rebels and Trendsetters
- Convention versus Change
- The Parasitical Aspect of Rules
- Old and New: Tradition and Innovation

Cultural Studies

- Globalization
- The Courage and Madness of Change
- Breaking Free from Rules
- New Times, New Rules

Gender Studies

- Keeping an Open Mind
- The Exception Becomes the Rule
- A Battle against Convention
- To Be or Not to Be Free

Theoretical and Applied Linguistics

- Regularities and Irregularities in Language Structure
- Standard versus Non-Standard in Language Use
- Complying with/ Breaking Rules at Various Language Levels
- Rule-based Traditional Perspectives versus Modern Approaches in Language Analysis

Translation Studies

- Translating Texts: Rules and Beyond
- Investigating Norms in Translation
- Quality Standards in Translation Studies
- New Trends in Translation Studies

Teaching Methodology

- Traditional versus New Approaches in Teaching Methodology
- Guidelines in Implementing Differentiated Instruction

- Pedagogical Content Knowledge and Instructional Strategies
- Assessment Principles and Strategies for Effective Learning

Confirmed keynote speakers:

Anne Lise Wie, Nord University (Norway)

Patrick Murphy, Nord University (Norway)

Submission instructions

Proposals (maximum 200 words) for 20-minute papers, included in the Registration form attached to this call, can be sent to the organisers at llcpconference2024@gmail.com by **15 September 2024**. Notification of acceptance will be sent by **20 September 2024**.

The languages of the conference are English and German.

Conference fees

- face-to-face participants presenting papers: 300 RON / 60 EUR
- online participants presenting papers: 150 RON/ 30 EUR
- attendance without presentation: 150 RON/ 30 EUR

A selection of papers will be published after the conference.

Venue: University of Craiova Main Building, 13 A.I. Cuza Street

Registration form:

1.	Name of presenter	
2.	Academic title	
3.	Affiliation	
4.	E-mail address	
5.	Title of paper	
6.	Section (thematic area)	
7.	Abstract (maximum 200 words)	
8.	5 keywords	
9.	Brief biographical note (100 words)	

Further information

A second circular will be emailed to those who have returned the preliminary registration form. Accommodation details will be available on the conference site (to be announced).

Accepted in-person participants can pay the conference fee upon arrival/on site and online participants are invited to pay the conference fee by wire transfer to the following bank accounts of the University of Craiova (charges incurred by the payer):

For payments in EUR:

Beneficiary: Universitatea din Craiova

Beneficiary Address: STR.A.I. CUZA NR.13 Craiova, ROMANIA

Fiscal Code: 4553380

BANK: BCR

IBAN (EUR): RO79RNCB0134018453880012

Bank Address: Str. Calea Severinului, Nr. 13, CRAIOVA, ROMANIA

SWIFT Code / COD BIC: RNCB RO BU

Payment details: LLCP2024 conference fee and the participant's name

For payments in RON:

Beneficiary: Universitatea din Craiova

Beneficiary Address: STR.A.I. CUZA NR.13 Craiova

Fiscal Code: 4553380

Bank: Trezoreria Craiova

IBAN (RON): RO36TREZ29120F330500XXXX

Payment details: LLCP2024 conference fee and the participant's name

After making the payment, please send the proof of payment to llcpconference2024@gmail.com before **25 September 2024**.

The scientific committee:

Professor Titela Vîlceanu, University of Craiova

Associate Professor Anne-Lise Wie, Nord University

Associate Professor Patrick Murphy, Nord University

Associate Professor Florentina Anghel, University of Craiova

Associate Professor Claudia Pisoschi, University of Craiova

Associate Professor Vlad Preda, University of Craiova

Senior Lecturer Mihaela Budică, University of Craiova

Senior Lecturer Bogdana Crivăț, University of Craiova

Senior Lecturer Georgiana Dilă, University of Craiova

Senior Lecturer Mihaela Gavrilă, University of Craiova

Senior Lecturer Georgiana Reiss, University of Craiova

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Senior Lecturer Bogdana Crivăț, University of Craiova

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