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The Department of British,
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Università degli Studi
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UNIVERSITY OF CRAIOVA

**THE 21st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURAL
POLICIES**

MIRARI, MIRABILIA, MIRROR

**REFLECTIONS OF REALITY IN LITERATURE
AND LINGUISTICS**

**Craiova, Romania
21-23 October 2022**

THE 21st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURAL POLICIES
MIRARI, MIRABILIA, MIRROR

REFLECTIONS OF REALITY IN LITERATURE AND LINGUISTICS

Craiova, Romania
21-23 October 2022

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**The 21th International Conference LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURAL POLICIES:
MIRARI, MIRABILIA, MIRROR
REFLECTIONS OF REALITY IN LITERATURE AND LINGUISTICS
Craiova, 21-23 October 2022**

Friday, 21 October 2022	
8.30-9.00	Registration
9.00-9.30	Welcome and opening remarks Anamaria Preda, Dean of the Faculty of Letters, University of Craiova Florentina Anghel, Vice-dean, Faculty of Letters, University of Craiova Sorin Cazacu, Vice-dean, Faculty of Letters, University of Craiova Antonio Pinna, Università degli Studi di Sassari, Italy Loredana Salis, Università degli Studi di Sassari, Italy Claudia Pisoschi, Head of the Depart. of Anglo-American and German Studies, Fac. of Letters, University of Craiova
9.30-10.30	Plenary session Keynote speaker: Professor Antonio Pinna, Università degli Studi di Sassari, Italy
10.45-11.45	Plenary session Keynote speaker: Professor Loredana Salis, Università degli Studi di Sassari, Italy
11.45-12.00	Coffee break
12.00-14.30	Panel presentations
18.30	Dinner

Saturday, 22 October 2022	
10.00-11.00	Plenary session Keynote speaker: Associate Professor Dragoș Ivana, University of Bucharest
11.00-11.15	Coffee break
11.15-12.45	Panel presentations
12.45	Lunch

FRIDAY, 21 October 2022

9.30-10.30	<p>Plenary session (Eminescu Room) Keynote speaker: Professor Antonio Pinna, Univeristà degli Studi di Sassari, Italy <i>Synthetic Personalization in Travel Journalism: a Phraseological Approach</i></p>			German Studies - Piru Room Chair Andreea GHIȚĂ
10.45-11.45	<p>Plenary session (Eminescu Room) Keynote speaker: Professor Loredana Salis, Univeristà degli Studi di Sassari, Italy <i>What She Loved Best in the World: Desire, Beauty and Nationalist Propaganda in "The Mirror of Truth" by Constance Markiewicz (1909)</i></p>			Linguistic Studies - Romanescu Room Chair Vlad PREDA
11.45-12.00	<p>Coffee break</p>			German Studies - Piru Room Chair Andreea GHIȚĂ
Panel sessions				
12.00-13.30	<p>Literary Studies - Eminescu Room Chair Florentina ANGHEL</p>	<p>Linguistic Studies - Romanescu Room Chair Vlad PREDA</p>	<p>German Studies - Piru Room Chair Andreea GHIȚĂ</p>	
12.00-12.30	<p>Alexandra BACALU A Pocket-Mirror for the Fancies: Shaftesbury on Self-Division, Self-Reflection, and the Freedom of Thought</p>	<p>Claudia Ioana DOROHOLSCI Reflecting on the supervisory relationship: Students' perceptions on bachelor thesis writing</p>	<p>Tania BAUMANN Der „Spiegel“ im Spiegel der Zeit. Metaphern im Text als Indiz für Sprachwandel</p>	
12.30-13.00	<p>Elena BUTOESCU The Enlightenment as Wunderkammer: Mirabilia, Knowledge and the Paradigm of <i>Homo Narrans</i></p>	<p>Ana-Maria HERZAL, Georgiana REISS Cognitive Strategies in Teaching English <i>Neck and Throat Idioms</i></p>	<p>Bogdana CRIVĂȚ <i>Nach Lust und Laune, die Art und Weise, rank und schlank: Lexikalisierte Zwillingsformeln im heutigen Deutsch</i></p>	
13.00-13.30	<p>Florentina ANGHEL Reality and fictional gap-filling in Colum McCann's <i>TransAtlantic</i></p>	<p>Diana OTĂȚ Some Current Reflections on Multimodal Translation</p>	<p>Cosmin DRAGOSTE Anatomie des Wortes in der Lyrik von Rolf Bossert</p>	

<p>13.30-14.00</p>		<p>Vlad PREDĂ, Alina REȘCEANU, Eugen DUMITRAȘCU Students' Perceptions on the Benefits of English as a Medium of Instruction in Higher Education</p>	<p>Ema ȘTEFAN Substantive mit doppelten Pluralformen und verschiedenen Bedeutungen der Pluralformen</p>
<p>14.00-14.30</p>		<p>Iulia Cristina FRÎNCULESCU Essentials of Medical English. Book Design and Specificity</p>	<p>Andreea GHÎȚĂ Postmoderne Selbstbespiegelung und (Re)-Konstruktion der Geschichte im deutschen und rumänischen Wenderoman</p>
<p>18.30</p>	<p>Dinner</p>		

SATURDAY, 22 October 2022

10.00-11.00 Plenary session (Eminescu Room)

Keynote speaker: Associate Professor Dragoş Ivana, University of Bucharest
Representation, Reflection, Realism: Rethinking the Rise of the Novel in England

11.00-11.15 Coffee break

11.15-12.45 Literary Studies
Chair Sorin CAZACU
 Eminescu Room

Literary Studies
Chair Codruța Mirela STĂNIȘOARĂ
 Iorga Room

Theoretical and Applied Linguistics
Chair Claudia Pisoschi
 Piru Room

11.15-11.45 Georgiana DILĂ
 Mirroring reality and discovering truths in *The Lady in the Looking-Glass* by Virginia Woolf

Codruța Mirela STĂNIȘOARĂ
 Cinematic Mirrors of the Self and of the Other in *The Golden House* -Salman Rushdie's Anthropological Approach

Iulia CIUREZU
 Mirrors that remodel thought: Pragmatic reframing at the frontier of Writing

11.45-12.15 Mihaela GAVRILĂ
 Portraits and Reflections of Reality in David Ebershoff's *The Danish Girl*

Valentina STÎNGĂ
 The Picture of Dorian Gray” - A Mirror of the Victorian *Fin de siècle*

Andreea BRATU
 Media discourse – between an objective reflection of reality and emotionalism

12.15-12.45 Sorin CAZACU
 The Posthuman Self in Octavia Butler's *Kindred*

Daniela ROGOBETE
 India in mirror images - Representations of India in 19th century travel writings

Claudia PISOSCHI
 The Contextual Symbolism of Colours and the Mirroring Effect in *Backcountry Devils* by Jennifer Christie

Mădălina CERBAN
 The Representation of Mental Clauses from a Functional Perspective

Lunch

12.45

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

Florentina ANGHEL, University of Craiova (Romania),
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Reality and fictional gap-filling in Colum McCann's *TransAtlantic*

Colum McCann's novel *TransAtlantic*, published in 2013, brought its contribution to the author's already established fame. Born in Dublin, Colum McCann has travelled to the United States, Japan and eventually settled in New York where he taught creative writing in Hunter College. *TransAtlantic* is a proof of his art craft while also being firmly tight to substantially documented real events that intertwine with fictional narratives having women as protagonists and covering a two-century span. The novel catches in its fictional web historical events such as the first transatlantic flight (1919), the visit of the American social reformer and abolitionist Frederick Douglass to Ireland (1845-1846) and the peace process in Ireland at the end of the twentieth century (1998). A letter that crosses the ocean links the events like a gossamer detail charging the characters with emotion and empathy. The paper aims at identifying and presenting the way in which reality is mirrored and interrelates with fictional characters and events in Colum McCann's *TransAtlantic*.

Keywords: *reality, fiction, Irish literature, Irish history, emotion*

Alexandra BACALU, University of Bucharest (Romania),
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A Pocket-Mirror for the Fancies: Shaftesbury on Self-Division, Self-Reflection, and the Freedom of Thought

The main illustration that accompanies *Soliloquy, or Advice to an Author* in the second edition of Lord Shaftesbury's famous *Characteristics* depicts two allegorical versions of the self, each equipped with a pocket-mirror that is being handled in two very different ways. In short, the first allegorical figure is shown looking straight into his mirror and closely inspecting the clear and distinct impressions that surround his head, while the second averts his anguished gaze and is violently overtaken by a vicious group of harpies. This key illustration deliberately acquaints the reader with the main lineaments of Shaftesbury's self-disciplining method of soliloquy, which is compounded of Socratic and Stoic elements and requires self-division and self-dialogue. The chief question that I'd like to answer in my paper has to do with the specific role that this mirror for the mind performs in the self-regulating process that Shaftesbury

envisages. How exactly does self-reflection work in such a way as to rectify and reorder one's thoughts and imaginations? To what extent does this process presuppose self-censure and self-denial - and what does this tell us about Shaftesbury's specific conception of 'discipline'? What can be said of the tension between imaginative freedom and imaginative discipline that this technique presupposes? Such questions are apt to provide new insights into the specifics of Shaftesbury's poetics and aesthetics at the heart of which lies this self-discursive and self-reflective approach to the self.

Keywords: *self-reflection, soliloquy, self-censure, Shaftesbury's aesthetics*

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Der „Spiegel“ im Spiegel der Zeit. Metaphern im Text als Indiz für Sprachwandel

Seit seiner Gründung 1947 ist das wöchentlich erscheinende deutsche Nachrichtenmagazin „Der Spiegel“ ein kritischer Beobachter der bundesdeutschen Politik, Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft und wird zu den einflussreichsten Medien Deutschlands gezählt. Seine sprachlich-stilistischen Eigenheiten veranlassten bereits 1957 Hans Magnus Enzensberger zu einer kritischen Betrachtung der "Sprache des 'Spiegel'". Wenn die Sprache der Presse aus linguistischer Perspektive als „Indiz für die Tendenzen der Gegenwartssprache“ verstanden werden kann (Lüger 1995: 21), gilt dies auch für ein einzelnes Publikationsorgan. Der Beitrag setzt sich zum Ziel, am Beispiel des „Spiegel“ Indizien für Sprach- und Stilwandel der deutschen Pressesprache in diachronischer Perspektive aufzuzeigen. Im Fokus stehen sprachliche Strategien, die bei der Behandlung brisanter Themen zum Einsatz kommen, wobei der Metapher als Ausdruck von Konzeptualisierungsprozessen (Lakoff/Johnson 2003/1980) besondere Aufmerksamkeit gewidmet wird, da sie nicht nur im Dienste der Informationsvermittlung steht, sondern auch bei der Meinungsbeeinflussung eine bedeutende Rolle spielt. Untersuchungsgegenstand des Beitrags ist ein Korpus von Titelgeschichten des „Spiegel“, die in wichtigen Zeitabschnitten der bundesdeutschen Geschichte erschienen sind: die junge Demokratie der 50er Jahre, die 68-er Bewegung und die RAF, die Wiedervereinigung, die erste Bundeskanzlerin, die rechtspopulistische AfD.

Stichwörter: *Pressesprache (language of the media), Sprachwandel (linguistic change), konzeptuelle Metapher (conceptual metaphor), Textanalyse (text analysis)*

Andreea BRATU, University of Craiova (Romania), abratu@yahoo.com

Media discourse – between an objective reflection of reality and emotionalism

Media coverage of dramatic events aims to produce emotional responses in readers (ranging from compassion to concern), responses that are guided by means of linguistic devices and discursive strategies aiming to enhance the impact of the news. This presentation makes an analysis of the ways in which English language newspapers (the online editions of *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Guardian*, the international edition) elicit emotion while reporting on the bushfires that ravaged Australia in 2019. Quotes from experts (local authorities, politicians, police and firefighters' representatives, weather reporters) and local residents are used to create a complex (objective and subjective) image of the situation, and numerous figures of speech give a poetic account of the fires. The analysis will show that, while generally structured so as to create dramatic tension and elicit negative emotions, at times reports on natural disasters aim to arouse the readers' positive responses and reconsideration of their social role and cultural identity.

Keywords: *discourse strategies, rhetorical devices, cultural identity, newspaper reports of natural disasters*

Elena BUTOESCU, University of Craiova, (Romania),
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The Enlightenment as Wunderkammer: Mirabilia, Knowledge and the Paradigm of *Homo Narrans*

The paradox of the Enlightenment as both rational and gullible never ceases to amaze contemporary scholars who highlight the division between the classical world of reason and the rhetoric of modernity. The metaphorical intertwined with the rational and mirabilia (a collection of the wonders of the East) intertwined with John Locke's empirical knowledge in an attempt to mirror 'the crisis of the European mind' reflected the controversial attitudes toward such concepts as 'Truth' and 'Nature.' The crisis of authority mirrored both a crisis in authenticity and one of representation, which affected the European literary stage of that period and resulted in the publication of fraudulent books. Newtonian physics and Psalmanazar's fictitious Formosan language were both part of the Enlightenment. This paper aims to reflect on the Enlightenment as Wunderkammer, a cabinet of curiosities that mapped out a territory of reverberating stories told by *homo narrans* about the mirabilia of the East: looking in the geographical mirror, the European storyteller marvels and wonders at the paradigmatic ambivalence of knowledge which reasonably served to decode the metaphorical meanings of existence.

Keywords: *Enlightenment, Wunderkammer, mirabilia, knowledge, homo narrans*

Sorin CAZACU, University of Craiova (Romania), cazacu@hotmail.com

The Posthuman Self in Octavia Butler's *Kindred*

This study interprets Octavia Butler's novel *Kindred* as a Middle Passage narrative through the lens of posthumanist theory. The focus is on the transformations of the black body and psyche while being constantly transported in the past, present, and future. Even though the intricacies of unmaking of Dana Franklin remain mostly invisible, the effects of the multiple temporalities leave scars on the main character's already multiple consciousness. The novel renders a historical awareness of trauma through its protagonist's experiences and behaviours, but it also epitomizes the fragmented essence of her conditioning.

Keywords: *posthumanist theory, trauma, Middle Passage*

Mădălina CERBAN, University of Craiova (Romania),
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The Representation of Mental Clauses from a Functional Perspective

The aim of this paper is to discuss some problems that can appear in identifying mental clauses from a systemic functional point of view. Most of the mental processes are clear, but there are also some other cases whose representations in discourse cannot be identified so easily. The most common types of these problems that we will discuss in this paper are that some clauses may be considered mental or behavioural; mental clauses can be similar to some verbal ones; certain verbs can serve in relational attributive clauses as well as mental ones; it is not always easy to judge whether a clause is embedded into the Phenomenon role or it is projected as a separate clause by mental process.

Keywords: *functional framework, mental processes, clause representation*

Iulia CIUREZU, University of Craiova (Romania), iuliacrz@yahoo.com

Mirrors that remodel thought: Pragmatic reframing at the frontier of Writing

The paper looks at a text by Seamus Heaney – From the Frontier of Writing – through linguistic lenses, analysing the way in which complex blends and novel cognitive models are created in the mind of the reader. Meaning construal in the arborescent mirrors of poetic discourse is thus discussed from the cognitivist perspective of reader experience and the interplay of multidimensional frames, schemas, and mental spaces. Far from being mere esthetic entertainment, poetry is shown to offer the reader/writer a privileged space for practicing and learning

essential mental skills such as empathy and creativity in the same way in which children practice and learn basic life and language skills and ways of interaction when enacting frames and schemas in the games they play.

Keywords: *cognition, frame, schema, conceptual integration, mental space, metaphorisation*

Bogdana CRIVĂȚ, Universität Craiova (Rumänien),
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Nach Lust und Laune, die Art und Weise, rank und schlank: Lexikalisierte Zwillingsformeln im heutigen Deutsch

Der Wortschatz des Gegenwartsdeutschen kennt eine ganze Reihe festgeprägter koordinativer Verknüpfungen vom Typ *A und B*, in denen Erst- und Zweitausdruck derselben Wortart angehören. Vorliegender Beitrag macht sich zur Aufgabe, solche formelhafte Wortpaare sprachwissenschaftlich zu beleuchten. Dabei werden die genannten Konstruktionstypen zunächst auf ihre Binnenstruktur, auf ihre Semantik sowie auf ihre Produktivität und ihre typischen Gebrauchskontexten hin untersucht. Das Herzstück der Analyse soll jedoch ihrer stilistischen und pragmatischen Funktionen gewidmet werden. Zwillingsformeln stellen teil- oder vollidiomatisierte Phraseme dar, die eindeutig emphatisch und stilistisch markiert sind. Solchen Wortpaaren liegt eine allgemeine sprachliche Strategie der Intensivierung und Expressivitätssteigerung zugrunde. Die Hinzufügung eines weiteren mehr oder weniger sinnverwandten Lexems ist zwar nicht sprachökonomisch, dient aber der emotional gefärbten Verstärkung. Die wesentlichen Quellen der Expressivität solcher Wendungen wie Alliteration (*Haus und Hof*) bzw. Endreim (*Lug und Trug*) und semantischer Doppelungseffekt (*blind und taub durchs Leben gehen*) werden ebenfalls unter die Lupe genommen.

Stichwörter: *Zwillingsformel, formelhafte Wendung, Expressivität, stilistische Markierung*

Georgiana DILĂ, University of Craiova (Romania),
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Mirroring reality and discovering truths in *The Lady in the Looking-Glass* by Virginia Woolf

An unnamed narrator compares leaving a looking-glass hanging in a room to leaving an open checkbox or a letter confessing a crime, revealing that people might gain access to the private thoughts and truths in a person's life leaving them vulnerable and sometimes worthy of compassion. As the story goes on the readers as faced with the reflections of the looking-glass as life's description leads to showing that the protagonist has nothing in her life. The present paper intends to explore the ways in which the world is perceived and what an impact

such a looking-glass might have in someone's life, stripping down the layers offered as part of the societal norms.

Keywords: *truth, reality, looking-glass*

Claudia Ioana DOROHOLSCHI, West University of Timișoara (Romania),
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Reflecting on the supervisory relationship: Students' perceptions on bachelor thesis writing

The bachelor thesis is a high stakes writing genre which poses difficulties for many students, particularly in contexts where students have little experience with academic writing during their undergraduate programs. In such situations, supervisors have an important role in helping students navigate the challenges of thesis writing. However, while doctoral supervision has been researched extensively, there is comparatively much less research on master and bachelor thesis supervision (Scholefield and Cox, 2016).

This paper presents two case studies of Romanian students who reflect on the process of writing their bachelor theses and on the relationship with their supervisors. Data collection was undertaken during the COST Action IS1401 *Strengthening Europeans' capabilities by establishing the European literacy network (ELN)* via semi-structured interviews, and students were also asked to reflect on their experience by using a visualization instrument (journey plots; see Miller & Brimicombe, 2003; Sala-Bubaré & Castelló, 2017). While there were significant differences between the way in which the two participants interacted with their supervisors, both cases show the importance of the supervisors' role, but at the same time suggest that students are empowered when they can develop a sense of ownership of their thesis and of the writing process.

Keywords: *academic writing, Bachelor thesis writing, supervision, journey plot, student autonomy*

Cosmin DRAGOSTE, Universität Craiova (Rumänien), cdragoste@gmail.com

Anatomie des Wortes in der Lyrik von Rolf Bossert

Das Werk des rumäniendeutschen Schriftstellers Rolf Bossert ist ein ständiger Kampf mit, durch und um die Worte. In seiner Lyrik trifft man eine polymorphe Gestaltung des Wortes, der Silben, des Redens. In diesem Studie beschäftigen wir uns mit der Körperlichkeit der Textualität in den Gedichten eines des interessantesten rumäniendeutschen Schriftstellers.

Stichwörter: *Rolf Bossert, rumäniendeutsche Literatur, Wort, Lyrik*

Iulia Cristina FRÎNCULESCU, “Victor Babeș” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Department of Foreign Languages and Romanian Language, Timișoara, cristinafrinculescu@yahoo.com

Essentials of Medical English. Book Design and Specificity

This paper presents the overall structure and specificity of a book designed to teach English for Medical Purposes (EMP). The study passes into review the medical topics covered in the book, ranging from the anatomy, physiology and physical examination of body systems to history taking, basic medical instruments and medication. On the other hand, the article highlights the correlation between teaching materials and real EMP classroom activities. The focus is on how the EMP book can be designed and structured in order to mirror medical realities and at the same time be able to help students develop all language skills in medical English.

Keywords: *English for Medical Purposes (EMP), teaching materials, EMP teaching methodology*

Mihaela GAVRILĂ, University of Craiova (Romania), mihaela_prioteasa20@yahoo.com

Portraits and Reflections of Reality in David Ebershoff's *The Danish Girl*

David Ebershoff's *The Danish Girl*, an unusual fiction about portraiture and portrayal, exposes portraits as an alternative to self-discovery and self redefinition, acting both as mirrors in which identity is reflected and as means of unravelling the journey of the protagonists. The present paper proposes to explore the portraits of Lili/Einar and Greta taking into consideration the concept of the Pygmalion trope of transformation.

Keywords: *portrait, reflection, identity, transformation*

Andreea GHITĂ, University of Craiova (Romania), roxaneghita@gmail.com

Postmoderne Selbstbespiegelung und (Re-)Konstruktion der Geschichte im deutschen und rumänischen Wenderoman

In meinem Beitrag möchte ich mich anhand der Romane „Helden wie wir“ (1995) von Thomas Brussig und „Orbitor. Aripa dreaptă“ (2007) von Mircea Cărtărescu mit dem Thema fiktionale Verarbeitung der Revolution von 1989 auseinandersetzen. Dabei werden sowohl Strategien des postmodernen autodiegetischen Erzählens als auch Funktionen der Metaisierung in der Darstellung von Geschichte in den Mittelpunkt der Analyse gerückt.

Stichwörter: *Wenderoman, Thomas Brussig, Mircea Cărtărescu, Revolution, Metaisierung, Postmoderne*

Ana-Maria HERZAL, Georgiana REISS, University of Craiova (Romania),
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Cognitive Strategies in Teaching English *Neck* and *Throat* Idioms

According to Cognitive Linguistics, in the case of most idioms, there are three cognitive mechanisms (conventional knowledge, metaphor and metonymy) that can act like mirrors, reflecting figurative meaning through literal ones.

In the light of the above, our paper attempts to stress the important role that the aforementioned cognitive strategies play in the process of *neck* and *throat* idiom acquisition. We thus carried out an experimental study which involved the use of two different teaching approaches (traditional and cognitive). By comparing our students' responsiveness to each method and by assessing their results in the final test paper, we managed to point out the advantages of activating cognitive strategies while teaching English *neck* and *throat* idioms.

Keywords: *conventional knowledge, metaphor, metonymy, neck and throat idioms, teaching process*

Diana OȚĂȚ, University of Craiova (Romania), alexandra.otat@edu.ucv.ro

Some Current Reflections on Multimodal Translation

Engaged in the constant upgrading of the communication framework, which tends to be relocated within virtual environments via digitized modes, crowdsourcing and cloud-based platforms, translators need to keep up with both challenges and opportunities. Under the circumstances, the translation of multimodal texts does not only complement the service provision agenda of the translation market, but multimodality itself becomes a resource for translation. In this respect, López Rodríguez et al. (2013) highlight the crucial role played by images in the development of current thematic maps and word banks. Aiming to develop trainees' technological and encyclopedic competence, we design and implement a translation-oriented virtual project to reflect some contemporary views on the input of multimodal corpora in translation training. In line with current trends regarding virtual environments applied to enhance trainees' self-reliance and resourcefulness to meet current demand-driven market requirements, we aim to mirror the contribution of the multimodal approach to translation training.

Keywords: *multimodal corpora, virtual environments, translation training, technological competence, word banks*

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The Contextual Symbolism of Colours and the Mirroring Effect in *Backcountry Devils* by Jennifer Christie

The world of the text imagined by Jennifer Christie in her short story *Backcountry Devils* is dominated by the personality of the main character, a young girl, apparently innocent, and whose desperate courage of running away from home seems to be the extreme solution for her to preserve her innocence. But as the story unfolds, the reader discovers key elements with chromatic dimensions which function as mirrors of the main character's covert psychological facets. The girl's mind proves to be a dark mystery, her world of strange ideas and strong wishes is a distorted image of reality and, exposed to this world's intricate, ambiguous and misleading weblike structure, the reader would hopefully decode the true profile of the character.

The paper intends to represent a pragma-stylistic analysis of the short story's linguistic items and structures making reference to colours, in point of their contextual symbolism, i.e. as reflections of the main characters' traumas, inner restlessness and propensity for violence outcomes.

Keywords: *pragma-stylistic analysis, text world, color, mirroring effect, contextual symbolism*

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Students' Perceptions on the Benefits of English as a Medium of Instruction in Higher Education

In recent years, English as a Medium of Instruction (EMI) is seen as a way to develop internationalization at the institutional level, to promote staff and student mobilities and to improve university ranking, so all important Romanian universities have included these goals in their strategic plans for 2016-2020 and 2020-2024. However, the actions taken in this direction are less visible, and only a small number of EMI-based study programmes have been included in the study offer in the last years. In this context, our paper examines aspects related to EMI in the context of higher education at the University of Craiova (UCV), with a focus on the students' perceptions on EMI's institutional and personal benefits. The aim is two fold. On the one hand, we analyse the

policies and strategies developed and implemented at institutional level with regard to BA and MA English-taught programmes put in place to address the above-mentioned goals. On the other hand, we present the results of a questionnaire-based research carried out at the Faculty of Automation, Computers and Electronics, Department of Computer Science (English-taught programme), aimed at analysing the benefits of EMI according to the students' perceptions. The preliminary results indicate that even the more 'experienced' English-taught programmes of UCV have faced new challenges and limitations, and despite the clear-cut benefits rated by the students, there are still many obstacles to overcome so as to achieve the objectives stipulated in the institutional strategies and policies.

Keywords: *English as a Medium of Instruction (EMI), internationalisation, institutional policies, impact, quality of teaching/learning*

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India in mirror images - Representations of India in 19th century travel writings

Many of the nineteenth century travel writings describing India offered ambiguous cultural, political and human perspectives, most often depending on the writers' capacity or incapacity to step out of the colonial paradigm and of the range of racial prejudices, cultural clichés and biased views which tended to proliferate. This paper focuses on the common points many of these writings display, starting with the general fascination India inspired, and mostly upon the different, sometimes even conflicting, images engendered by the same reality they were trying to depict.

Keywords: *travel writings, India, cultural clichés, colonialism*

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Cinematic Mirrors of the Self and of the *Other* in *The Golden House* - Salman Rushdie's Anthropological Approach

Salman Rushdie's novel *The Golden House* tackles two contemporary essential concepts, identity and a *disturbing ersatz otherness*, in a cinematic view of The Fall of the Golden, immigrants from India to The States who assume new identities trying to establish themselves at the apex of New York society. Apparently they fulfil their American dream but essentially they remain deracinated rich people rejecting their history and culture.

In their case mirrors act as deceivers and also as separators between their selves and the *Others*. In order to reflect the division of the self into the *melting pot* of

multiculturalism, Salman Rushdie uses film techniques, making the readers look through and behind the looking glasses through anthropological lenses.

Keywords: *identity, otherness, multiculturalism, multiple selves, literary anthropology*

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The Picture of Dorian Gray” - A Mirror of the Victorian *Fin de siècle*

This paper represents yet another attempt at decoding and understanding the late Victorian past (the nineteenth-century *fin de siècle*) as it was described by Oscar Wilde in *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. The narrative will revolve, among others, around the image of the mirror, which is employed by the novelist as an instrument that reflects decadence and excess, as well as the social uncertainties and sexual ambiguities (or reinventions) that characterised the period under study.

Keywords: *fin de siècle, decadence, mirror*

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Substantive mit doppelten Pluralformen und verschiedenen Bedeutungen der Pluralformen

In meinem Beitrag habe ich versucht hervorzuheben, dass in der deutschen Sprache es einige Sonderfalle gibt, wenn die Substantive gewisse Schwankungen bei der Pluralbildung aufzeigen, indem sie eine zweite (manchmal sogar eine dritte) verschiedene Pluralform aufweisen. In den meisten Fallen gilt nur eine bestimmte Variante als standardsprachlich, wahrend die anderen als mundartliche, umgangssprachliche oder nur als regionale Varianten gebraucht werden konnen.

Eine Reihe von Substantiven entwickeln auf diese Weise eine doppelte Pluralform oder in manchen Umstanden kommen sogar dreifache Formen vor. Diese Sonderformen sind entweder ohne Bedeutungsunterschied oder sie haben verschiedene Bedeutungen bei den verschiedenen Pluralformen.

Diese Substantive mit doppelten Pluralformen und verschiedenen Bedeutungen der Pluralformen erscheinen in mehreren Redewendungen und ich habe ihre Bedeutung zu erklaren versucht.

Schlusselworter: Allgemeines zum Substantiv, Typen und Besonderheiten der Pluralbildung, Redewendungen