Digital Humanities and Digital Communication:
AI and (new) literacies

Summer School

2023 Edition

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

University of Modena and Reggio Emilia

Modena, 12th-16th June 2023

Table of contents

Introduction

Technological advances continue to transform the way we think, communicate, work and live, imposing more and more demands on our ability to access, read and interpret information. Nowadays the meaning of literacy has stretched far beyond its traditional sense of the ability to read and write text. Over the years, we have had to come to terms with computer literacy, media literacy, visual literacy, multimodal literacy and more recently AI literacy. The various formats and affordances created by the new technologies call upon multiple semiotic modes (verbal, visual, aural, spatial and gestural). In the process, these technologies are having a marked impact on how we receive, perceive and interpret information, and thus on the dissemination of knowledge.

The digital revolution opens up new intellectual horizons. One consequence is that it enriches the variety and capacity of methodologies that can be adopted in research in the humanities, including in fields such as linguistics, history and education. But recent development of tools like ChatGPT and DALL-E2 inevitably give rise to concern about the long-term effects that generative artificial intelligence may have on society and individuals. Will AI undermine human abilities and skills, even making some redundant? Will it lessen the desire to think, write, or draw for ourselves? Alternatively, can AI be an ally, stimulating new forms of human creativity and novel research pathways?

The 2023 Summer School tries to address some of these questions from different disciplinary points of view, while at the same time giving participants an opportunity to explore some of the recent advances in the field of digital humanities in hands-on workshops. This book includes all the abstracts of the participants' projects being presented in dedicated sessions.

Abstracts of presenters and posters

ABBIATI SIMONE (University of Bergamo)

Towards Computational Geocriticism

My project is called 'Towards Computational Geocriticism' and draws from literary theory and computational linguistics to explore how the Basque Country and the English-Irish border have been represented in contemporary literary fiction over the last fifty years. The project aims to address the lack of a solid literary-theoretical framework and a trustworthy ethical commitment within the field of cultural analytics. This is particularly relevant as the two territories selected have been subject to intense political debates, which have resulted in terrorism perpetrated by the IRA/UDA and ETA/GAL.

To achieve its objectives, the project has four main parts.

1. The first involves selecting a corpus to mine digitally, focusing on two corpora from English and Spanish literature, with the former including books from 1968 onwards and the latter comprising literary works published after 1958.
2. The second step is to collect IRA/UDA and ETA/GAL victims' testimonies to abstract cognitive mapping structures related to extra-fictional terroristic experiences, which will be retrieved from the literary texts.
3. The third part involves using Transformers and Language Models to retrieve the cognitive structures relevant to the representation of terrorism-related spaces from the victims' perspective.
4. The fourth and final part entails reflecting on which literary-spatial data to present and how to visualize it onto digital cartography or charts to reflect on the linguistic differences between literary representation and actual testimonies when recollecting terror pain.

The project aims to produce two main results. First, it investigates how a part of the digitally available fiction mirrored ETA/GAL and IRA/UDA terrorism, thus allowing the use of fiction to reflect on recent terrorism and European discrepancies. Second, it reflects on the relationship between close and distant reading by studying how literary-spatial concepts could be transformed via LLM-based algorithms.

If I am selected for this Summer School, I will focus on Large Language Models (LLMs) and explore the ethical concerns associated with their use in investigating

linguistic change in testimonies written in non-American English. Since LLMs have primarily been trained on American English data, I will examine whether Language Model bias leads to a discrepancy, or if LLMs actually help reflect ethically on accounts of terror. My presentation would revolve around the theme of AI enhancing/undermining human abilities and skills in linguistic information retrieval, with the goal of conducting socially relevant analysis.

AL-LAITH ALI MOHAMMED (University of Copenhagen)

MiMe/MeMo – Mining the Meaning and Measuring Modernity: Literary and Social Change in Scandinavia 1870-1900

The project investigates the reflections of societal change in Scandinavian literature during the latter part of the 19th century. By combining human expertise with computational algorithms, historical interpretation, and state-of-the-art computational techniques for literary analysis, the project seeks to provide new insights into how Denmark and Scandinavia transitioned into modernity and the role of literature in that process.

During the latter part of the 19th century, Scandinavian societies underwent significant structural changes across various domains such as demography, infrastructure, morals, and culture. This project explores how Scandinavian literature portrayed these cultural transformations using cutting-edge computational methods for literary analysis and critical interpretation, drawing on theoretical and historical expertise.

In contrast to traditional historiography focused on a limited selection of texts by prominent male authors, our digital corpus comprises approximately 900 Danish and Norwegian novels published between 1870-1900, enriched with extensive metadata on texts and authors. This comprehensive corpus allows for capturing robust literary and sociological trends. It enables us to gain new insights into the modernization processes during this pivotal period in Scandinavia's literary and social history.

Using this corpus, our research addresses key questions such as: How did the emergence of new ways of thinking and writing unfold? Who were the prominent actors driving these changes? To what extent did these new ideas and concepts relate to literature as a whole? By combining humanistic expertise with computational methods, this project aims to shed light on the intricate relationship between literature and societal change in Scandinavia during the late 19th century.

The following is an overview of the ongoing or completed sub-projects within the MeMo project:

1. Sentiment Classification of Historical in Danish and Norwegian Literary Texts (Accepted in NoDaLiDa Conference 2023, Faroe Islands)

2. A Diachronic Analysis of Using Sentiment Words in Scandinavian Literary Texts from 1870-1900 (Accepted at ICHL26 workshop on Computational models of diachronic language change 2023, Heidelberg, Germany)

3. Sentiment Change over Time in Scandinavian Literature: Noise as a Case Study (Completed)

4. Tracking Usage and Change of Sentiment Words in Danish and Norwegian Historical Novels: A Comparative Study Based on Author's Gender, Novel Genres, and Temporal Analysis (in progress)

5. Building BERT Model for Historical Scandinavian Text (in progress)

BADMUS AMINAT EMMA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Nigerian Transnational Literature in English: Tracing the Figure of the Womanista in Third Generation Nigerian Women Writers' Fiction

With the turn of the twenty-first century, there has been a growing presence of sub-Saharan African women writers on the literary scene whose work is being read both in the Global South and in the North. The majority of these novelists are either based in Europe or America or are of Nigerian descent. Their multiple affiliations and the process of confrontation with geographic, climatic, culinary, linguistic, political and economic divergences, to name but the obvious ones, are reflected in their narratives.

Focusing, specifically, on women-authored texts by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Sefi Atta, Helen Oyeyemy, Chinelo Okparanta, Chika Unigwe, Taiye Selasi and Yejide Kilanko, the present research project looks at contemporary debates in transnational literary criticism, womanist studies and postcolonial stylistics in an attempt to understand the often complex and hybrid narratives of the diasporic Nigerian subject.

More specifically, the study will explore how the imaginative literary works produced by members of the third generation of Nigerian novelists bring into view central issues characterizing contemporary transnational migratory experiences confronted by women such as the idealization of the Western countries, the push and pull factors determining the decision to emigrate from Nigeria, the alienating effect of racial discriminations confronted in the host country, cultural dislocation and sense of disillusionment experienced abroad and the topos of return migration.

In addition, the study also seeks to investigate how the written language becomes an important vehicle to express the idea of 'Nigeriannes' and a sense of common cultural and national identity in transnational contexts. Following principally the stylistic approach to literary discourse analysis, the present dissertation will provide an insight into how the convergence of English, Pidgin English and indigenous languages is used by contemporary Nigerian novelists and short story writers to (re)construct and reclaim, on their own terms, a polyphonic and a fluid hybrid identity.

BAGNULO LEONARDO (University of Roma – La Sapienza)

Giovanni Francesco Biondi's Chronicle of the War of the Two Roses: an investigation of the author's appraisal

This project aims to digitize Giovanni Francesco Biondi's historical chronicle, L'Istoria delle Guerre Ciuili d'Inghilterra tra le Due Case di Lancastro and Iorc, published in three volumes between 1637 and 1644, so as to create a digital resource for the investigation of the author's account of the War of the Two Roses, the events leading to it, and the significance of narrating such history in the socio-political context of the mid-1600s. Along with the original Italian text in the Venetian edition, the project also involves the inclusion of the English version of the chronicle, translated by Henry Carey, earl of Monmouth, and published between 1641 and 1646. The translation's text will be gathered from Early English Books Online and will be implemented after an overviewed spelling normalization through the VARD software.

Despite the research already carried out on Giovanni Francesco Biondi, his historical chronicle has dodged much of the scholarly attention, which has instead focused on the author's biography, his three novels, and his political efforts for the creation of a protestant bridgehead in Italy. Some critics have offered downplaying descriptions of the chronicle, whose reception by English and Italian readers needs still to be thoroughly explored. For this reason, the digitization of the text will be paralleled by a historical and philological investigation to further inquire about the context from which the chronicle emerged. Secondly, a linguistic analysis will be conducted to evaluate the author's appraisal of the historical events and characters represented in the chronicle, according to the framework of the Appraisal Theory. This computer-based inquiry aims at acquiring linguistic data from the text through KWIC and concordance tools to evaluate the author's ATTITUDE and his use of GRADUATION, giving particular attention to any textual element concerning his attitudinal JUDGEMENT and APPRECIATION[1].

Given the nature of the text, Appraisal Theory also provides a useful framework for the analysis of the dialogic relationship between the writer and the reader, which will necessarily draw and benefit from the analysis of the Istoria's paratext and from the

---

[1] Martin, J.R., & White, P. R. (2005). *The language of evaluation.* Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

above-mentioned historical investigation. Notwithstanding the numerous potential outcomes of this research, it is safe to affirm that any result will provide new insights on the Istoria's text, context, and author's apparent intentions.

BARBIERI VALERIA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Miscommunication in doctor-patient interaction in oncology: a study on the sources of repair in medical interaction

Repair is one of the phenomena that are most frequent and evenly distributed across contexts and languages in talk in interaction (Schegloff, Sacks, Jefferson, 1974, Schegloff, Sacks, Jefferson 1977). If repair is the organized and methodic resolution of troubles in talk, miscommunication or misunderstanding is one of the possible sources of these troubles, which also include problems of hearing, speaking and, precisely, understanding or interpreting what others said (Schegloff, Sacks, Jefferson, 1977). Thus, miscommunication or misunderstanding, and consequently its possible repair, is quite an ordinary and very frequent phenomenon in every day's interactions, being seen as the result of the relationship between what people literally say and what they mean or would like to convey and imply (Healey et al. 2018). The phenomenon on which this project focuses upon arises when the interpretation of what has been said by a speaker mismatches the one of the hearer/s, resulting in a "perturbation" which can obstruct the normal transmission of the information, halt the progression of the ongoing activities and lead to ambiguity or uncertainty (Jefferson 1972, 2003). The consequences of miscommunication can be of different level of gravity, according to what is the reason of miscommunication, whether and how speakers engage in forms of resolution or repair of these troubles in talk (Schegloff, Sacks, Jefferson, 1974, Schegloff, Sacks, Jefferson, 1977, Jefferson, 1974, Jefferson 2003, Drew et al., 2006), in relation to the context and to the courses of actions in which speakers are involved. For example, while small errors might and indeed do frequently pass unnoticed, in other circumstances distinct types of troubles can initiate more complex "side sequences" (Jefferson 2003).

Conversation Analysis (CA) has provided a detailed analysis of the way in which speakers engage in repair sequences to overcome such troubles, providing evidence for the methodical and recurrent practices in which they engage to deal with troubles in talk in different forms of interaction (Jefferson, 1987; Sacks, Schegloff, & Jefferson, 1974; Schegloff, Sacks & Jefferson 1977, Schegloff, 1987, 1992). However, while repair practices and mechanisms have been explored and extensively documented as implementing an intrinsic "self-righting mechanism for the organization of language in

use in social interaction" (Schegloff, Sacks & Jefferson 1977: 381), their relationship with the different types of sources remains to be explored. In particular, the nature of the "trouble source", whether it is due to the production of an error or to the understanding or interpretation of the recipient, and its influence on the development of the repair sequence has not been yet exhaustively explored.

As far as repair is concerned, which is the general environment that can be engendered by forms of miscommunication, the main analytic categories that have been employed to investigate these cases of interactions are those carried out mainly by Gail Jefferson (Jefferson, 1987, 2003) and Emanuel A. Schegloff, (Schegloff, 1977, 1979, 1987). These studies consider repair as a recurrent and general conversational phenomenon. They describe its main characteristics, in terms of the way in which the interaction develops once a trouble surfaces in talk. So, for instance, it has been observed that repair is commonly preceded by the so-called initiators, words or sounds that announce a repair process (usually through the combination uh- + pause). Another point considered by Jefferson, for instance, is the collaborative and sequential nature of the process: she has shown that every sequence built by the participants in the conversation is thought of as the direct consecutive element of the previous parts of speech. When a speaker commits an error during his speech, and consequently a repair process is required, this can be achieved by an interlocutor, who can offer an alternative element to the erroneous one. These and other mechanism for the solution of a source of trouble in conversation, and specifically in ordinary conversation, have been fully described and accounted for. However, much is still to be known about the features and deployment of repair, and, even more, about the way in which the generic procedures and mechanisms found in ordinary conversation are adapted for use in the different institutional contexts of our life (Kitzinger, 2013); and, specifically, in medical settings. Another thread for future research on repair concerns the way in which the repair actions, used to fix the trouble-sources in interaction, can vary in relation to the type of trouble that initiated this sequence and, more crucial for this research, when the source of repair is miscommunication or misunderstanding (rather than, for instance, problems with hearing or speaking).

The results of my search for previous studies on miscommunication (and related issues) in medical interaction, and with a focus on oncology settings, was quite scant both

in the linguistic (sociolinguistics, ethnography, and CA) and in the cognitive (psycholinguistics) domains. Although, since the early pioneering studies in the theory of speech acts and in ethnomethodology, there is wide evidence that communication intrinsically entails inferential work from participants, ambiguity and uncertainty in the production of talk (Garfinkel, 1991), miscommunication is often defined in terms of "a failure in communication", rather than a phenomenon on its own with its own distinctive features. More crucially in relation to the medical settings, whereas the negative, and sometimes even fatal effects of miscommunication have been estimated in quantitative terms, very few research have focused on the understanding of how miscommunication effectively arises and develops and on which domains it relates to within medical interaction (Healey et al. 2018, Paxton et al. 2021, Pino et al. 2022). Among these few works, it is particularly worth highlighting the recent study conducted by Pino et al. (2022) on Italian data in oncology. The paper explores the history-taking phase of the visit and identifies two main sources for miscommunication: (i) the discrepancy between the doctor's and the patient's understandings about the scope of the questions, and (ii) the design of the doctor's question, which may create ambiguity.

Building on the results of my review, and along the lines indicated, the project aims at adding knowledge to the roots of miscommunication, being aware that knowing the causes of communication breakdowns might have significant consequences also in countering their fatal and infelicitous effects for patients and, more generally, for medical communication on the whole.

BONCIANI SAMUELE (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

The Gogol'-Function in the 20th century Italian peripheral prose

Up to date little attention has been paid to Gogol's relevance for Italian writers, which explains the lack of a study on the importance of Gogol's model for Sicilian twentieth century prose, although there are several proofs revealing it. My project aims to shed light on this relationship by focusing on the cases of Brancati, D'Arrigo and Sciascia. This analysis is going to be articulated into three parts.

The first part consists in seeking the translations of Gogol's works and the articles about him in Italian magazines published between the end of the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century, in order to identify when and how his name spread in Italy.A study of the most important essays about Italian periodicals will be necessary to create a rich corpus of magazines where to look for references to Gogol'.

The purpose of the second part is understand how Brancati, D'Arrigo and Sciascia got in touch with Gogol' by checking their activity in magazines and their relationship with colleagues who could have introduced them to the Russian writer. The third part is going to include an interpretative study, that is to say a thematic and stylistic comparison between Gogol' and the Sicilian writers' works, aimed at textually identifying his influence on them. I'm going to focus on Brancati's tales and on his novels Don Giovanni in Sicilia and Il bell'Antonio and on D'Arrigo's novel Horcynus Orca, while Sciascia's works have still to be selected. The frankness in representing reality through the filter of a comic and grotesque style is a remarkable element in common between Gogol' and the three Sicilian authors and a valuable starting point for my investigation.

The realization of this project is meant to prove the existence of a "Gogol'-function" in Sicilian contemporary novels and tales. My analysis presents the Russian writer as an innovative instrument to reveal some central elements of Sicilian contemporary prose and the historical and social reasons which generated them.

Furthermore, this study could provide the evidence that Gogol' can be considered a forerunner of twentieth century literature. In conclusion, the developement of my project could widen the range of the essays examining the literary relationship between Sicily and late imperial Russia, two peripheral areas which experienced the traumatic contrast between tradition and modernity.

Bibliography

Archives

Archivio Contemporaneo "Alessandro Bonsanti". Gabinetto G. P. Vieusseux, Firenze,
    Fondo "Stefano D'Arrigo"
Fondazione Leonardo Sciascia, Racalmuto (AG), Fondo "Leonardo Sciascia"

Literary bibiography

Vitaliano Brancati, *Racconti, teatro, scritti giornalistici*, a cura di Marco Dondero; con
    un saggio introduttivo di Giulio Ferroni, Milano, Mondadori, 2003
Vitaliano Brancati, *Romanzi e saggi*, a cura di Marco Dondero; con un saggio introduttivo
    di Giulio Ferroni, Milano, Mondadori, 2003.
Stefano D'Arrigo, *Horcynus Orca*, introduzione di Walter Pedullà, Milano, Rizzoli, 2012
Nikolaj Gogol', *Brani scelti dalla corrispondenza con gli amici*, a cura di Fausto
    Malcovati, Firenze, Giunti, 1996
Nikolaj Gogol', *Le anime morte*, traduzione di Agostino Villa, Milano, Mondadori, 1965
Nikolaj Gogol', *L'ispettore generale*, traduzione di Cristina Moroni e Luca Doninelli,
    Milano, Garzanti, 2020
Leonardo Sciascia, *Opere*, a cura di Paolo Squillacioti, Milano, Adelphi, 2019

Critic bibliography

Michail Bachtin, *Estetica e romanzo,* a cura di Clara Strada Janovic, Torino, Einaudi,
    1979
Andrea Battistini, *Il Novecento attraverso le riviste*, in Id., *Sondaggi sul Novecento*, a
    cura di Lorenza Gattamorta, Cesena, Il Ponte Vecchio, 2003
Goffredo Belloni, *Vitaliano Brancati ieri e oggi*, «Mercurio», a. III, febbraio 1946, n.18
Francesco Benvenuti, *Storia della Russia contemporanea (1853- 1996)*, Roma-Bari,
    Laterza, 1999

Henri Bergson, *Il riso: saggio sul significato del comico*, prefazione di Beniamino Placido, Roma-Bari, Laterza, 1982

Marshall Berman, *Pietroburgo: il modernismo del sottosviluppo*, in Id., *Tutto ciò che è solido svanisce nell'aria*, Bologna, Il Mulino, 2014

Renato Bertacchini. *Le riviste del Novecento. Introduzione e guida allo studio dei periodici italiani. Storia ideologia e cultura*, Firenze, Le Monnier, 1979

Daria Biagi, *Orche e altri relitti*, Macerata, Quodlibet, 2017

Daria Biagi, *Su una "libera riduzione" di Stefano D'Arrigo:* il compratore di anime morte, «Critica del testo», a.18, n.1, 2015

Giuseppe Antonio Borgese, *Nel cinquantenario di Nicola Gogol*, «Medusa», a. I, 1902, n.7

Paola Buoncristiano, Rita Giuliani, Michail Vajskopf, *Gogol' e l'Italia*, Roma, Università "La Sapienza", 2002

(a cura di) Andrea Cedola, *"Horcynus Orca" di Stefano D'Arrigo*, ETS, Pisa, 2012

Nemi D'Agostino, *Prime perlustrazioni di Horcynus Orca*, in «Nuovi Argomenti», n. 56 (ottobre-dicembre), 1977

(a cura di) Francesca Gatta, *Il mare di sangue pestato. Studi su Stefano D'Arrigo*, Rubettino, Soveria Mannelli (CZ), 2002

Rita Giuliani, *Gogol' disegnatore: genere e fonti del disegno di copertina delle* Anime morte, in (a cura di) Adalgisa Mingati, Danilo Cavaion, Claudia Criveller, *Uomini, opere e idee tra Occidente europeo e mondo slavo*, Trento, Università degli Studi di Trento, 2011

Giuseppe Langella, *Il secolo delle riviste. Lo statuto letterario dal Baretti a Primato*, Milano, Vita e Pensiero, 1982

Jurij Lotman, *Il problema dello spazio artistico in Gogol'*, in Jurij Lotman, Boris Andreevic Uspenskij, *Tipologia della cultura*, a cura di Remo Faccani e Marziano Marzaduri, Milano, Bompiani, 1995

Giorgio Luti, *Firenze corpo 8 : scrittori, riviste, editori del '900*, Firenze, Vallecchi, 1983

(a cura di) Giorgio Luti, *Critici movimenti e riviste del Novecento letterario italiano*, Firenze, La Nuova Italia Scientifica, 1986

Jurij Mann, *Gogol' e il suo "bisogno d'Italia"*, in (a cura di) Vittorio Strada, *I Russi e l'Italia*, Milano, Banco Ambrosiano Veneto, 1995

Jurij Mann, *La poetica di Gogol'*, a cura di Cinzia De Lotto, Roma, Lithos, 2014

Claudio Marabini, *Lettura di D'Arrigo*, Milano, Milano, 1978

Alberto Moravia *Introduzione* a Vitaliano Brancati, *Paolo il Caldo*, Milano, Bompiani, 1955

Vladimir Nabokov, *Nikolaj Gogol'*, traduzione di Annamaria Pelucchi, Milano, Mondadori, 1972

Vladimir Nabokov, *Nikolaj* Gogol', in Id. *Lezioni di letteratura russa*, Milano, Garzanti, 1987

Jean Nimis, *Stefano D'Arrigo, un (anti)classico del Novecento?*, a cura di Siriana Sgavicchia, Université Toulouse II-Le Mirail, 2013

Massimo Onofri, *La modernità infelice: Saggi nella letteratura siciliana del Novecento*, Roma, Avagliano, 2003

Massimo Onofri, *Storia di Sciascia*, Roma-Bari, Laterza, 2004

(a cura di) Walter Pedullà, *Stefano D'Arrigo*, in «L'Illuminista», Roma, Ponte Sisto, a. 9, 2009, n.25/26

Domenica Perrone, *Brancati e il comico,* in Id. *I sensi e le idee: Brancati, Vittorini, Joppolo*, Sellerio, Palermo, 1985

Isotta Piazza, *"Canonici si diventa". Mediazione editoriale e canonizzazione nel e del Novecento*, Palermo, Palumbo, 2022

Carmine Pinto, *La guerra per il Mezzogiorno: Italiani, borbonici e briganti (1860-1870)*, Roma-Bari, Laterza, 2019

Gian Piero Piretto, *'Rus dove vai?, Nikolaj V. Gogol', Anime Morte, 1842* in Franco Moretti, Pier Vincenzo Mengaldo, Ernesto Franco(a cura di), *Il romanzo*, vol. V. *Lezioni*, Torino, Einaudi, 2003

Lucy Riall, *La Sicilia e l'unificazione italiana. Politica liberale e potere locale (1815-1866)*, Torino, Einaudi, 2004

Angelo Maria Ripellino, *Gogoliana*, in Id. *L'arte della fuga*, Napoli, Guida, 1987

Luigi Russo, *Vitaliano Brancati*, in Id. *I narratori,* Milano, Principato, 1950

Andrej Sinjavskij, *Nell'ombra di Gogol'*, a cura di Sergio Rapetti, Milano, Garzanti, 1980

Claudia Scandura, *Letteratura russa in Italia: un secolo di traduzioni*, Roma, Bulzoni, 2002

Siriana Sgavicchia, *Il folle volo. Lettura di «Horcynus Orca»*, Roma, Ponte Sisto, 2005

Francesco Spera, *Vitaliano Brancati*, Milano, Mursia, 1981

Vanna Stacchini Gazzola, *La narrativa di Vitaliano Brancati,* Firenze, Olschki, 1970

Natale Tedesco, *La scala a chiocciola. Scrittura novecentesca in Sicilia*, Palermo, Sellerio, 1991

Giuseppe Traina, *Leonardo Sciascia*, Milano, Mondadori, 1999

Enzo Traverso, *Totalitarismo: storia di un dibattito*, Verona, Ombre Corte, 2015

Sarah Zappulla Muscarà (a cura di), *Narratori siciliani del secondo dopoguerra*, Catania, Giuseppe Maimone, 1990

Sarah Zappulla Muscarà (a cura di), *Vitaliano Brancati*, Catania, Giuseppe Maimone, 198

BORGONOVO CHIARA (Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Milano)

Image, Technology, Digital in Contemporary Italian Art

This research project takes an interdisciplinary approach grounded in modern art and image theories to explore the material aspects of digital media in relation to artworks that incorporate technological elements and therefore pose complex problems for their conservation and exhibition. In the field of artistic creativity, the exploration of the expressive potential of new media has historically been a ground for bold experimentation. From the earliest examples of video art to the rise of software-based digital art, the integration of analog and/or digital components into artistic practice has given rise to some of the most emblematic expressions of 20th- and 21st-century art. However, despite the widely acknowledged cultural relevance of such artworks, their acquisition, archiving, mobilization, and (re)installation continue to be felt as highly challenging practices by museums and cultural institutions, which are still largely unprepared to manage them properly. Moreover, the concern with respect to the vulnerability of works characterized by a complex mediality to phenomena of rapid obsolescence has represented one of the burning issues of the debate on contemporary art conservation, archiving and curatorship for a few decades now. A debate, which at the international level has resulted in the implementation of valuable initiatives and best practices, but which has yet produced occasional results in the Italian context. Therefore, this research intends to identify new methodological approaches and collaborative strategies applied internationally for the conservation and exhibition of media and new media art. In this sense, special attention will be dedicated to the analysis of the challenges and opportunities offered by the application of new technological advancements, such as artificial intelligence in artistic and archival practices. Second, an attempt will be made to map the Italian institutional landscape and to analyze the conservation, archival and curatorial practices applied or applicable in individual contexts. Ultimately, the goal of this research is to offer new insights for the advancement of knowledge in the field of digital art and media art conservation, archiving and curatorship in Italy, to adequately preserve and promote the national artistic and cultural heritage.

BUSI RIZZI GIORGIO (Ghent University)

The Networked Author. Rethinking contemporary authorship through comics after the digital turn

This paper aims to investigate networked authorship in contemporary comics, examining how the concept is understood and focusing on comics' shared creation and participatory practices after the digital turn.

Networked authorship refers to structures ingrained in our everyday practices. Comics are in this sense an ideal test case for rethinking and problematizing the concept of authorship through media, as they display diverse symbolic structures and production practices shared by narrative and figurative media. My foundational claim is that, to better understand this landscape, comics studies need to reconsider and reframe the role of the author in light of the dynamics of digital culture; and authorship theory must fully take comics into account when discussing artistic and narrative production after the digital turn.

Therefore, I propose a project that envisions a systematic exploration of authorship in comics grounded in literary theory, media sociology, and actor-network theory. Through the latter - which posits that everything works in a system where everything is connected - I will reconstruct the material practices and symbolic structures shaped by a constellation of human and nonhuman actors.

Although the investigation will discuss several prototypical comics, it will also examine more peculiar examples, stemming from post-digital comics (that, all kinds of comics that bear the inscription of digital technologies and practices): comics apps, comics memes, comics made with AIs, and so on. The categorization I built distinguishes in this sense between (a) collective authorship, resulting from renewed types of i) *collaborative* or ii) *participatory* processes of creation; and new kinds of (b) distributed authorship, divided into I) *algorithmic* creation and II) *rhizomatic* creation, more radically pluralizing the processes of ideation and circulation of texts.

Thanks to their hybrid nature, comics offer many diverse examples of networked authorship, building on a multitude of authorial practices that have further proliferated with the digital turn and that are still unexplored. This project aims at bridging this gap and open to new scholarship in the field.

CIGLIANO CHIARA (University of Napoli – Federico II)

Excuse my English': learners' attitudes towards English with an accent

Today, English is the most spoken language on the planet, with 1.4 billion speakers against Mandarin Chinese's 1.1 billion. However, if we only considered native speakers of English, the language would be far lower in the rankings: indeed, two thirds of its speakers are non-native (Ethnologue, 2023). English is thus the most learned language in the world, and it has expanded greatly outside its homeland(s). While people tend to view one language associated to one country, with few exceptions, English has transcended its original borders, creating new 'Englishes': Kachru (1990) classifies the diffusion of English and English varieties according to the Concentric Circle Model, in which the inner circle represents countries where English is a native language (L1), such as the United States of America or the United Kingdom; the outer circle represents countries where (varieties of) English are learned as a second language (L2 or ESL); and the expanding circle represents countries where English is learned as a foreign language (EFL). Beyond these classifications, in the past decades English has taken on the role of global lingua franca, the language of international communications, business and exchange; some scholars argue that it could be considered a 'true' lingua franca, since the number of non-native speakers surpassing that of native speakers could mean that it does not really 'belong' to any country anymore (Crystal, 2003).

Even though it is indeed used most often in international and multilingual contexts, and frequently in conversations involving no native speakers at all, it seems that many EFL speakers still recognise 'inner circle' countries (Kachru, 1990) as the rightful 'owners' of English. And while the emergence of English varieties outside of the inner circle has been recognised and widely studied in academia, to the point that we can speak of World Englishes (or Global Englishes), in the public eye there is still only one (or at best two or three, considering the UK, USA and Australia) English.

This poses a peculiar issue when it comes to accent. When learning a second language, "it is common that the intonation and the phonological structure of the first language exert an impact on the pronunciation in the second language. A native-like accent might be seen as desirable but is very difficult, almost impossible, to reach even after many years of language learning" (Vincze & MacIntyre, 2017:62). A non-native

accent is used by native and non-native speakers alike as a cue to detect non-native speakers; they consequently infer that the accent is a sign of poor language competence or lack of fluency, regardless of one's actual skills (Gluszek & Dovidio, 2010) and of the fact that it is extremely infrequent that even the most skilled learners will adopt a flawless native accent (Vincze & MacIntyre, 2017).

Accents can elicit particular language attitudes in listeners. All speakers of a given language are accustomed to casting judgements on the basis of others' usage of the language, more or less consciously: everyone has expectations about how language should be used – on the level of lexicon, grammar or pronunciation. These opinions formed on a linguistic basis are known as language attitudes, defined as "the cultural (or subcultural) system of ideas about social and linguistic relationships, together with their loading of moral and political interest" (Irvine, 1989: 255). Current research has focused greatly on the attitudes of native speakers towards non-native speakers (), highlighting how in the past few decades – and especially lately, in a post-Brexit world – English has become a strong symbol of national identity for the former. For instance, British native speakers seem to have become less tolerant towards foreign languages, and multilingualism is seen as a 'transitory' phenomenon (Conteh & Brock, 2011) towards the ultimate goal of substituting one's native language with English; the failure or refusal to do so is taken as a betrayal (Abercrombie, 2017).

The need to speak English according to the natives' standards, and thus with a standard accent, seems to be recognised and shared by learners of English as a second or foreign language as well. Since the beginning of the millennium, scholars have studied the phenomenon of native-speakerism: the term, coined by Holliday (2003, 2005, 2006) in the field of English Language Teaching (ELT), refers the concept that those who are perceived as 'native speakers' (NS) of English are considered to be the 'ideal' and 'best' teachers of the language, to the detriment of those perceived as 'non-native speakers' (NNS).

Recent research suggests that the phenomenon of native speakerism seems to involve not only teachers, but also students and, more in general, all those who learn English: multiple studies of the language attitudes held by (NNS) students concerning English spoken with their own L1 accent revealed a preference towards native English accents accorded on the basis of prestige and social acceptability (), and also a general

confusion between correct pronunciation (on a phonological level) and native-like accent as a requirement for speaking 'good' English (). This phenomenon raises multiple questions and concerns on different levels, firstly regarding the construction of students' identity as non-native speakers: in Kirkpatrick and Xu's (2002) research, only 25% of the students interviewed wanted to maintain their self-identity as Chinese native speakers (i.e. not masking their native accent) while speaking English, while the overwhelming majority desired or strived to do so. Secondly, it has been observed that negative attitudes towards one's foreign accent can exacerbate feelings of language anxiety: Vincze and MacIntyre (2017) found evidence that accent stigmatization increases anxiety about speaking in a foreign language. This can increase a learner's inhibitions, thus hindering both progress and communication – arguably, the main reason for learning a foreign language. Their findings become all the more interesting if we consider the hypothesis that accent stigmatization could not come necessarily from interactions with native speakers, but also from those with non-native speakers who have internalised native speakerism.

Research questions and methods

Research has mostly focused on the attitudes held by natives in general and by listeners in particular. In this research project, I propose to turn our attention to the language attitudes of non-native speakers themselves towards their own variety of foreign-accented English. It would be interesting to carry out such research on Italian students for a number of reasons: there is a gap in the literature concerning the attitudes of Italian students, and Italians in general, on this topic; many studies () have also interviewed students from different countries on this topic, and investigating a similar demographic could allow comparability with them.

In the light of what has been described in the previous section, some possible research questions emerge:

1. What are the language attitudes of Italian students towards English spoken with an Italian accent? Which could be expanded upon as follows:

1.1. What are the factors influencing their attitudes (i.e. gender, starting age for learning English, current level of fluency, exposure to different varieties of English)?

1.2. Are they aware of the difference between (phonologically correct) pronunciation and (native) accent?

1.3. Do these attitudes change at different education levels, i.e. middle school, high school and university level?

1.4. Do they experience language anxiety either as a result of their own, their peers or their teachers' attitudes?

And consequently:

2. What are the language attitudes of Italian teachers towards English spoken with an Italian accent?

The study of teachers' attitudes and beliefs concerning spoken English and English accents could be central to understand their students' behaviours, as teachers would have a primary role in shaping their views of native and non-native accents. Ramifications of this questions could be:

2.1. What are the factors influencing their attitudes (i.e. gender, starting age for learning English, current level of fluency, exposure to different varieties of English)?

2.2. Are they aware of the difference between (phonologically correct) pronunciation and (native) accent? Do they teach it to their students?

2.2.1. Are teachers working at different education levels, i.e. middle school, high school and university, equally aware of the distinction (phonologically correct) pronunciation and (native) accent?

2.3. Are they influenced by the provided school material in their teaching about accent and pronunciation? What kinds of accents are represented in the textbooks they use?

The latter could be expanded into an entirely independent question, which could take into account both school materials (e.g. textbooks) and other digital supports for learning foreign languages:

3. What are the varieties of English represented in learning materials available to students and teachers?

3.1. What are the varieties of English represented in textbooks?

3.2. What are the varieties of English represented in media consumed by students and teachers?

3.3. What are the varieties of English represented in digital learning materials and supports such as apps or online courses?

The research would be conducted in three phases, corresponding to the different levels of education (middle school, high school and university); all three would follow the same structure:

1. Design and distribution of a questionnaire among middle school/high school/university students to ascertain their language attitudes towards Italian-accented English.

2. Design and distribution of a questionnaire among middle school/high school/university teachers to ascertain their language attitudes towards Italian-accented English.

3. Interview of a sample of middle school/high school/university students to expand upon the results provided by the questionnaire.

4. Interview of a sample of middle school/high school/university teachers to expand upon the results provided by the questionnaire.

Both the questionnaires and the interviews would be designed starting from the model employed in the researches conducted by Rajablou and Shirvan (2017), Sifakis and Sougari (2005), and Yu (2010).

Additionally, the interviews would contain questions concerning the effect of any digital materials (e.g. learning materials such as apps but also mainstream media such as TV shows) on the respondents' attitudes towards foreign-accented English. The last step of the present research would be to investigate how foreign-accented English, and in particular Italian-accented English is represented in the aforementioned digital materials.

As we live in an increasingly multilingual world where English is the most studied language, I believe that this study could shed light on the important issue of how native speakerism influences or hinders students' willingness and motivation to learn another language. As it tries to understand and explain this phenomenon, this research could be a step towards fighting language anxiety as a primary obstacle towards learning other languages and multilingualism.

DANNA EDVIGE (University Niccolò Cusano)

Education and cooperation: two ways to resolve the ethical problem of digital transformation

This research project deals with the problem of digital governance in Italy in order to protect human abilities and skills. Starting from the digital concepts expressed by Luciano Floridi in the Philosophy and Ethics of Information, it will look for the main solutions to the problems that ICT have caused: such as privacy, fakenews, online pedophilia, terrorism on the web, identity, education and yellow journalism. It will go on to observe realities in which forms of cooperation and education have made digital their winning weapon and that can teach at the state level what processes to carry out. For what concerns the digital transformation and the problem of entrepreneurial activity in Italy will analyze the processes of bureaucracy that always slows down the Italian economy.

The digital governance model must therefore address these three aspects: reducing bureaucracy, in order to adopt technologies in regulatory processes and to stimulate business activity; definition of new educational models that see in the imagination the basis to grow alternative solutions to operate in a digital future, new forms of cooperation with a view to re- establishing the concept of union at the basis of an increasingly complex and technology-dependent society. The sociological methodology used includes the participant observation with interviews and survey in order to investigate the current situation.

DE MARIA MARZIA (University of Calabria)

Landscapes of Calabria I - Monasteries and convents

The research project Landscapes of Calabria I. Monasteries and convents has as its objective the creation of an open access digital atlas of the foundations of Calabrian monasteries and convents, built from the 6th to the mid-16th century, of which architectural traces remain.

Calabrian heritage, throughout history, has been affected by numerous catastrophic events, that destroyed a lot of architectural heritage. This, combined with the lack of systematic studies and the difficulty of reaching the sites, has this has led to its degradetion.

From a strictly scientific point of view, this project aims to analyze all those buildings that await a correct historical and formal contextualization. It also proposes to review part of the historiography, the iconographic sources and, finally, to propose new archaeological investigation and restoration campaigns.

The project complies with the new Italian national and regional programmes. In fact, for the new POR (Regional Operational Program) 2021-2027, the European Regional Development Fund, with the European Social Fund Plus, proposed massive development policies based on digital connectivity for Tourism and Culture. At the same time, l'Istituto Centrale per la Digitalizzazione del patrimonio culturale wrote the PND - Piano Nazionale di Digitalizzazione - with objective to support and to organize the process of digital transformation for 2022-2026.

In conclusion, the Atlas could be a flexible and well-structured tool, able to provide the first steps for research for a specilized user, but also to satisfy the curiosity of a common user. Moreover the results of this research could provide the base for development of new storytelling projects, increasingly in demand today.

DI FRANCESCO VALENTINA (University of Ferrara)

Digital Humanities for Tourism Communication in touristic promotional materials

My proposal for the 2023 Summer School of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia in "Digital Humanities and Digital Communication: AI and (new) literacies" focuses on one aspect of the research project in which I currently work with a PRIN grant at the University of Ferrara. The project is entitled "DIETALY: Destination Italy in English Translation and Language over the Years – A diachronic overview of the tourism communication in English produced by Italian institutions since 1919". In partnership with the University of Venice Ca' Foscari and the University of Salento, which cover different periods and regions of analysis respectively, the research unit of Ferrara focuses on the transition from mass tourism (1960s-1970s) to a more recent slow-sustainable tourism (1980s-1990s) in the Adriatic Coast of Emilia-Romagna. Since the preliminary phase of the project involves the retrieval of the touristic promotional material from the 1960s to the 1990s, online and archive research are conducted. Leaving aside ENIT (Agenzia Nazionale del Turismo – National Agency for Tourism) whose archive may hold material from all parts of Italy, in the first stage of the survey we are focusing on the Italian state archives and the A.P.T (Azienda di Promozione Turistica – Local company for the promotion of tourism), which are locally distributed in each Region. Our first attempts are revealing the complexity of finding ephemeral texts such as touristic leaflets, brochures, advertising campaigns originally written or translated into English. As a matter of fact, this kind of "grey literature" is prominently not digitalised and very difficult to retrieve. Even the archives of tourism departments at local level (i.e., assessorati al turismo), among the big volume of their official documents, do not seem to have stored promotional texts up. Therefore, the research project problematises the process in which "volatile written texts" of the past need to be analysed and communicated digitally. In other words, how can the tools of the Digital Humanities assist the analysis of the tourism discourse in a diachronic perspective? How can we produce a systematic overview of a touristic promotional material belonging to the pre-digitalised era and which was perhaps considered for "temporary use" by tourists and institutions? How can we create tourism archives useful for an historical overview of the destination?

FALCONE MARIASOPHIA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Epistemology of Climate Change Online: A Corpus-Driven Study of Phraseology of GenZ Environmental Associations

In recent years, the fight against climate change has gained momentum, leading to a rise in environmental protests around the world. Since the early Friday school strikes by Greta Thunberg in 2018, these protests have seen significant participation from the youth, mainly from members of Generation Z, resulting in a rise of environmental youth organizations all over the world (Hattenstone, 2021; Wahlström et al., 2019). The popularity of environmental themes within this generation, their high level of environmental awareness (Seemiller & Grace, 2018), and their unique use of digital tools (Parker & Igielnik, 2020), have favoured a substantial surge of digital activism and the subsequent presence of these associations on social media, particularly on Instagram. Given these conditions, this research aims to shed light on the social epistemology GenZ environmental associations, meaning how their knowledge about climate issues is conceptualized, reproduced, and transmitted on Instagram through a corpus-driven study of their phraseology (Groom, 2009). Following a closed-class keywords only methodology for discourse analysis (Groom, 2010), the investigation will begin by analyzing the grammatical keywords of two ad hoc corpora: the GCIC of social media texts and the GCWC of web texts, from three GenZ environmental associations sampled beforehand. For both corpora, the recurring phraseology will be investigated by identifying semantic sequences (Hunston, 2008), highlighting possible peculiarities in climate change epistemology and genre-specific ones between the two digital mediums. As this generation has organized and educated itself on environmental issues mostly through the internet, and with a strong centrality of social media in their communication strategy (Seemiller & Grace, 2018; Wahlström et al., 2019; Tyson et al., 2021), the study aims to contribute to the understanding of how the language used by GenZ environmental associations reflects their epistemology of the issue.

References

Groom, N. (2009). Phraseology and epistemology in academic book reviews: A corpus-driven analysis of two humanities disciplines. In K. Hayland & G. Diani (Eds), Academic evaluation (pp. 122-139). Palgrave Macmillan.

Groom, N. (2010). Closed-class keywords and corpus-driven discourse analysis. In M. Bondi & M. Scott (Eds.), Keyness in Texts (pp. 33-53). John Benjamins.

Hattenstone, S. (2021, September 25). Greta Thunberg: I really see the value of friendship. Apart from the climate, almost nothing else matters. The Guardian. Retrieved March 10, 2022, from https://www.theguardian.com/

Hunston, S. (2008). Starting with the small words: Patterns, lexis and semantic sequences. International journal of corpus linguistics, 13(3), 271-295.

Parker, K. & Igielnik, R. (2020). On the Cusp of Adulthood and Facing an Uncertain Future: What We Know About Gen Z So Far. Pew Research Center.

Seemiller, C., & Grace, M. (2018). Generation Z: A century in the making. Routledge.

Tyson, A., Kennedy, B., & Funk, C. (2021). Gen Z, Millennials Stand Out for Climate Change Activism, Social Media Engagement. Retrieved from https://www.pewresearch.org

Wahlström, M., Sommer, M., Kocyba, P., De Vydt, M., De Moor, J., Davies, S., ...& Buzogany, A. (2019). Protest for a future: Composition, mobilization and motives of the participants in Fridays For Future climate protests on 15 March, 2019 in 13 European cities.

FEROOZ FARIA (University of Bologna/University of Luxembourg)

Polymorphic Knowledge Graph for Heterogeneous Legal Medieval Manuscript Resources

Cultural heritage involves a wide range of data that needs to be communicated to a large audience, whereas linked open data refers to the data published on the web using standards and principles to create hyperlinks between data from various sources. This research aims to deal with the rich heterogeneous collection of medieval manuscript material in a flexible and adaptable manner, which enabled it to be viewed and analyzed from a variety of perspectives, including historical context, physical characteristics, textual information, and artistic feature

A large amount of legal, cultural, and historical metadata can be accessed in the catalogue of digitized medieval text (Progetto Irnerio). The medieval manuscript model ontology (memo) used in Progetto Irnerio does not include entirety of the information in the catalogue. As a result, a thorough examination of the directory of digitized medieval texts (Progetto Irnerio) is required to identify modeling flaws and relationships among various elements. In addition, the Mosaico project's purpose is to organize the various descriptions of medieval codex images and metadata. It has two repositories; one is an xml repository with manuscript texts, and the other is an image repository with manuscript images.

So the major goal of this research is to analyze and categorize the information obtained from a thorough investigation of two platforms and convert the data into XML format using Akoma Ntoso. Additionally, it is required to model efficiently the heterogeneous metadata information into the new ontology to create a unified and consistent representation of the domain knowledge by reusing an existing medieval manuscript ontology (memo).

Moreover, the key initiative is to create a polymorphic knowledge graph that integrate data from heterogeneous sources (such as mosaico and irnerio) to help scholars to access and analyze information about medieval manuscripts in a unified and comprehensive manner. This polymorphic knowledge graph has the potential to facilitate the discovery and exploration of relationships and patterns within heterogeneous data, such as connections between manuscripts, by providing a rich set of semantic

relationships and properties. It is new direction of representation on the semantic web for the medieval manuscripts data. In order to save time and effort for researchers, it is necessary to create a new web system that offers medieval manuscripts content on a single platform with fascinating insights.

GALIZIA GIULIA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Femal-active: role models throughout time

This PhD project aims to study the socio-ethical and literary components of female representation in transmedia children's literature. It is not new that the use of fairy tales or similar stories does not derive only from books or picture books for children. Up until about ten years ago children were told fairy tales from literary volumes and from traditional animation on the big and small screens. Today children's education is also delivered by what some pedagogy scholars call the "informal" educational agency (Frabboni, Pinto Minerva, 2003). Children are nowadays digital natives, which means that they are immersed in a world full of captivating colors and contents as well as topics that are not always "educational". Although, in these cases, it is desirable to hope for continuous support from parents and/or caregivers, the media, the contents, and everything that derives from them are constantly increasing and, consequently, it is natural to wonder, from all this not always educational chaos, what is relevant and what is not on an educational and ethical point of view for such a delicate and important developmental age.

The research questions are multiple and being able to answer them all at once is not an easy task. However, they are all dependent on each other. In particular, the project asks the following questions: what kind of female representation is delivered in these products? Can we talk about role models (models to follow)? How much do female characters fall into stereotypes? Can we now speak of prototypes of characters in the contemporary world? Is there a trend that the protagonists of transmedia children's literature follow? What kind of representation and "variety" is there in products used by children?

It is crucial to study and research both well-known materials and new sources from different disciplines to have a detailed and non-trivial overview. Sources of this PhD are being approached mainly on a theoretical point of view (although there has already been the possibility of studying some empirical approaches through contents described in academic articles or sector research). This research is placed inside human sciences, with a particular focus on literature, new media, and contemporary socio-ethical issues. Although storytelling is at the center of the project, it is essential to base the research also

on contents and studies in social and ethical fields, which intertwine also with pedagogical and psychological topics.

References

Frabboni F., Pinto Minerva F. (2003), *Introduzione alla pedagogia generale*, Editori Laterza, Bari.

GIALLOMBARDO MARTA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Ten years of representing Foreign Fighters in news discourse: from 2011 to 2021.

This research is aimed at investigating the way in which foreign fighters (FF) have been represented in news discourse, in English-speaking countries, during the decade between 2011 and 2021. FF are usually defined as people who voluntarily participate in a conflict that does not involve their home countries. Throughout human history, the FF phenomenon has always been rather common, even though, nowadays, it is mostly linked to asymmetric conflicts, i.e., those conflicts where at least one part is not a state. Besides, since it is believed that they might represent a real terrorist threat once they go back to their home countries, FF are a very important issue the international community is facing today. As stated by Baker-Beall (2016: 123), in fact, "the 'returning foreign fighter' is unique in the sense that they traverse the distinction between the internal and external dimension of terrorist threat […] and it helps to strengthen the notion that the 'open' or 'globalized' society of the EU is 'vulnerable' to acts of terrorism". The decision to focus on media discourse lies in the fact that, as media speak to billions of people, their representation of foreign fighters may be crucial in order to shape the public opinion's perception of the matter. There is a variety of studies in which applied linguistics is used as a method to analyse the media representation of terrorism and terrorists. What emerges is that mass media tend to stress on fear discourse and on the description of the 'other' as evil, in contraposition to the good 'us' (Van Dijk, 1998). However, this study does not focus on terrorism in a broader sense, but it rather examines the media discursive representation of what is believed to be a particular social actor in terrorism itself. In fact, FF media representation can have an impact also on the perception the public has of related important issues, such as security and immigration. This research, in particular, will investigate ten years of representing foreign fighters in news discourse, starting from 2011, when the Syrian conflict began. Analysed combining Corpus Linguistics and Critical Discourse Analysis approaches, the corpus will be composed of articles coming from six different newspapers - two for each English-speaking country considered (namely, the U.K., the U.S.A., and Australia).

GRASSO NOEMI ELEONORA MARIA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

The online dimension of theatrical communication: an analysis of websites

Nowadays, theatres are involved in an intense communicative process (Nellhaus, 2014) that goes beyond performances and strives to reach an ever-growing audience. Websites are among the main channels through which theatres reach such an objective, , and these evolve with the constantly changing online communicative environment, that leads organisations (Breeze, 2013) of any kind to keep up with the progress.

This work aims at analysing the main features of theatrical online communication, focusing on how multimodality (Bateman, 2008, 2017; Wildfeuer 2019), hypertextuality, and interactivity (Adami, 2015) are employed in theatre websites. The starting point is the creation of a database, analysed as a corpus (Baker, 2006), comprising twenty websites of theatres, specialised in ballet, opera and symphony, and drama, located among UK and Ireland, Canada, Australia, and the US.

The project addresses preliminary research questions of the strategies through which theatres reach the goal of performing online communication, the degree to which multimodality is involved in such communication, and the genres that can be found on their websites. The project also aims to identify and classify the functional role of the different modes featured in the database; to measure interactivity by establishing suitable criteria for the design of the database; and to address whether there is a link between the level of multimodality/interactivity and the values traditionally associated with the home countries of theatres or not.

The definition and the development of approaches and methodological tools will be shaped and designed specifically for the purposes of the verbal, pragmatic, genre (Bhatia, 2014), and multimodal (Kress & Van Leeuwen, 2001, 2006, 2021) analyses that will be carried out in the project. Another benchmark of this work will be the study of the core sections of theatre websites, as it will shed light on the different discourses and values that interest these cultural and business organisations. Furthermore, emphasis will be put on both the offline and online audience, being the main addressees of theatres' communicative processes. The applied approach will be a synchronic one, and the data will be discussed under both a quantitative and qualitative perspective.

The expected results include the identification of patterns in the overall asset of theatre websites, a recurring presence of genres, and a three-faceted presentation of theatres as cultural institutions, symbolic spaces, and communities.

References

Adami, Elisabetta. *'Aesthetics and identity in digital texts beyond writing: A social semiotic multimodal framework'*, in A. Archer and E. Breuer (eds.) *Multimodality in Writing. The state of the art in theory, methodology and pedagogy*, Leiden: Brill, 43-62, 2015.

Adami, Elisabetta. *"Styling The Self Online: Semiotic Technologization In Weblog Publishing". Social Semiotics* 28, no. 5 (2018): 601-622. doi:10.1080/10350330.2018.1504713.

Adami, Elisabetta. *"What'S In A Click? A Social Semiotic Framework For The Multimodal Analysis Of Website Interactivity". Visual Communication* 14, no. 2 (2015): 133-153. doi:10.1177/1470357214565583.

Baker, Paul. *Using Corpora In Discourse Analysi*s. London: Continuum, 2006.

Bateman, John A. *Multimodality And Genre. A Foundation For The Systematic Analysis Of Multimodal Documents*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008.

Bhatia, Vijay Kumar. *Analysing Genre*. London: Routlege, 2014.

Breeze, Ruth. *Corporate Discourse*. London: Bloomsbury Academic, An imprint of Bloomsbury Publishing Plc., 2013.

Kress, Gunther, and Theo Van Leeuwen. *Multimodal Discourse. The Modes And Media Of contemporary Communication*. London/New York: Hodder Arnold Publication/Oxford University Press Inc., 2001.

Kress, Gunther, and Theo Van Leeuwen. *Reading Images. The Grammar of Visual Design*. Abingdon: Routledge, 2006.

Nellhaus, Tobin. *Theatre, Communication, Critical Realism*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014.

Ravelli, L., 2007. *Museum Texts. Communication Frameworks*. Hoboken: Taylor & Francis.

Sindoni, Maria Grazia, Janina Wildfeuer, Kay L. O'Halloran, Fabio Rossi, and Maria Grazia Sindoni. *"The Phantoms of the Opera. Toward a Multidimensional Interpretative Framework of Analysis."* Essay. In *Mapping Multimodal Performance Studies*, 61–84. London: Routledge Taylor & Francis Group, 2019.

ILLIANO FRANCESCA (University of Parma)

Analysing a corpus of non-standard English subtitles for d/Deaf and hard of hearing (SDH) audiences: a preliminary study towards accessibility

The PhD project focuses on the diamesic transposition of non-standard British English in subtitles for d/Deaf and hard-of-hearing people (SDH) in audiovisual British products distributed in the UK. In more detail, this empirically oriented study tries to explore the degree of linguistic coherence of subtitles to the spoken, colloquial English performed in AV products. The main goal is to discuss the necessity of linguistic and stylistic improvements towards a full-accessible service and a subsequent reduction of discriminatory implications towards d/Deaf and HoH audiences, as well as an overall enhancement of experience for the sake of suspension of disbelief.

Despite research into SDH constitutes an interesting point of scientific analysis within translation studies (Zárate 2021), as it investigates the functionality of acoustic components' written transposition, main interests mostly consider technical and condensation features (Burnham et al. 2008; Agulló & Matamala 2019). Nevertheless, geographical and stylistic variations are studied in British Sign Language (Schembri 2008) and show some influences from the verbal linguistic background. Therefore, a similar work can concern SDH quality when it comes to experience the watching of a sociolinguistically connoted AV product.

Methodology is conducted by means of corpus-driven research: an opportunistic, monitor corpus of real SDH in British English will be created and analysed with the aim of assessing linguistic accessibility. AntConc, LancsBox, and Sketch Engine corpus tools will be employed in a comparative approach to investigate the gathered data. A specific system of tags and dependency parsing will be then developed to simplify investigation of spoken English elements considered as sociolinguistic variants in Labovian sense according to salient dimensions (diatopic, diaphasic, diastratic). The features will include colloquialisms, slang, accent/dialect features, and syntactic structures usually depicted as non-standard English.

The corpus thus composed will constitute the starting point for a wider SDH databank that includes all possible marked words and expressions to diachronically monitor subtitling changing in qualitative terms. Seeing as how this issue lacks academic

investigation, it would represent a first effort in the research on SDH and variationist/interactional sociolinguistics, as well as in the development of new systems of tags and analytical methods in DH setting.

IORI ILARIA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Metaphor and Sinophobia in news discourse: A corpus-assisted discourse study

Recent studies in the field of discourse analysis have uncovered the presence of hateful messages directed at Chinese people during the COVID-19 pandemic (e.g., DeCook & Yoon, 2021; Sun, 2021), and have revealed the presence of belligerent (Qi et al., 2021) and dehumanizing (Lee, 2021) metaphors in Sino-phobic discourses. Despite their occurrence, little attention was paid to how metaphor and Sinophobia can relate in news discourse. Thus, this corpus-assisted discourse study (Partington 2004) aims at investigating the specific role that metaphors play in the production of COVID-19-related Sino-phobic discourses in American, Australian, and Italian broadsheets during the first six months of 2020. The investigation combines methodologies of corpus linguistics and critical discourse analysis to provide more insights into how Sino-phobic discourses can be metaphorically constructed.

More specifically, a purpose-built corpus of news reports and editorials on China published in the first six months of 2020 in comparable American, Australian and Italian broadsheets was created to conduct the analysis. The corpus was analysed with WMatrix 5 (Rayson, 2008) and #Lancsbox (Brezina et al., 2020) to uncover metaphorically used words, which were recognised following an adapted version of the Metaphor Identification Procedure (MIP) (Pragglejaz Group, 2007). Then, the functions these metaphors performed in discourse were carefully examined. Preliminary results suggest that animal and violence metaphors were extensively used to frame China in the corpora. In both cases, metaphors seemed to be used to create and reinforce a strong dichotomy between Western countries and China and to discursively create two contrasting groups, a victimised in-group that was subjected to the attacks and threats of the out-group.

References

Brezina, V., Weill-Tessier, P., & McEnery, T. (2020). *#Lancsbox v.5.x.* http://corpora.lancs.ac.uk/lancsbox.

DeCook, J. R., & Yoon, M. H. (2021). Kung Flu and Roof Koreans: Asian/Americans as the Hated Other and Proxies of Hating in the White Imaginary. *Journal of Hate Studies*, *17*(1), 119. https://doi.org/10.33972/jhs.199

Lee, C. (2021). #HateIsAVirus: Talking about COVID-19 'Hate'. In Rodney H. Jones (Ed.), *Viral Discourse*. Cambridge University Press.

Pragglejaz Group. (2007). MIP: A Method for Identifying Metaphorically Used Words in Discourse. *Metaphor and Symbol*, *22*(1), 1–39. https://doi.org/10.1080/10926480709336752

Qi, J., Joye, S., & Van Leuven, S. (2021). Framing China's mask diplomacy in Europe during the early covid-19 pandemic: Seeking and contesting legitimacy through foreign medical aid amidst soft power promotion. *Chinese Journal of Communication*, *ahead-of-print*(ahead-of-print), 1–22. https://doi.org/10.1080/17544750.2021.2017309

Rayson, P. (2008). From key words to key semantic domains. *International Journal of Corpus Linguistics*, *13*(4), 519–549. https://doi.org/10.1075/ijcl.13.4.06ray

Sun, W. (2021). The virus of fear and anxiety: China, COVID-19, and the Australian media. *Global Media and China*, *6*(1), 24–39. https://doi.org/10.1177/2059436421988977

LOMBARDI ANNA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Public representations of Italian partisan women: a comparison between the situation in the 1940s and today. A case study conducted through the press and social media.

Public representations of Italian partisan women: a comparison between the situation in the 1940s and today. A case study conducted through the press and social media.

My research concerns the public representation of partisan women. This study is conducted through the 1940s press and some social media (Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter). The goal of this analysis is to get a clear view of public opinion about the role of partisan women, to understand if new generations still use the same Narratives today as people did in the 1940s (like mother, helper, etc) (Somers, 1994). The basis of my research are the studies of Anna Bravo and Anna Rossi Doria, but I also pay particular attention to the main bibliography on women's Resistance. Subsequently, the linguistic analysis of the collected corpora allows me to analyze in detail what people say about it, and especially how they say it. In fact, the composition and structure of a sentence tell us a lot about the author and his personal point of view (Stubbs, 2001). This linguistic analysis of corpora will be carried out with some software (AntConc, WordSmith, TMX, etc.). These instruments can provide me a rigorous assessment on the accuracy of witnesses in reporting past experiences. Thanks to linguistic analysis applied to historical research, I can widen and narrow the field of vision, thus bringing quantitative and qualitative analysis into dialogue. In conclusion, this research can show perceptions and subjective data often considered marginal by official historiography. It is important especially in the age of the World Wide Web: a continuously updated network in which each user can write a personal observation.

MAGRI MARTINA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Self-narratives and interactions produced by adolescent migrants through collaborative audiovisual practice.

Focusing on diasporic adolescents living in Italy and France, the research investigates how the exposure to migration-related images - shaped by narratives vehiculated through media - influence self-narratives. The project examines how images shape imagination and knowledge, questions the use of audiovisual products as a tool for sociological analysis and as a driver of forms of interaction, and explores the relationships between the visible, the legible and the intelligible in the making of identity and memory. The fieldwork of this practice-led research is constituted by audiovisual workshops with migrant adolescents, organized through the creation of a network composed by secondary schools and cultural institutions. Each participant is supported in the production of a short audiovisual creation. The fieldwork is analyzed through the confrontation of sociological theories on narratives and innovative approaches from visual and postcolonial studies. The project argues for the need to reflect on visual narratives about migrations and to promote the transmission of a more inclusive visual literacy, deconstructing the dominant epistemological authority and allowing the right to migration narratives also to migrant adolescents. The research leads to the production of a digital output: an open platform functioning both as a toolbox and an archive, giving access to the research results, to the workshop recordings and to the audiovisual creations made by participants.

MARCHETTI CECILIA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

The Este gardens. Archaeobotanical and scientia plantarum studies in Boiardo's "Inamoramento de Orlando" and Ariosto's "Orlando Furioso"

Gardens have always been associated with the idea of Paradise, symbolizing human's attempt to imitate divinity. The Casa d'Este has a profound connection with nature and gardens, which can be observed in numerous manuscripts and printed materials stored in the Estense Library, and the substantial effort made by the Estense to create green spaces.

This project aims to investigate the role of preserved works in the Estense Library in shaping the ideal garden and its digitization. By studying rare and unique botanical materials from the Estense Library, the project seeks to gain insight into the Estense imagination of the garden, its impact on botany and science, and the botanical universe that inspired it. In particular, the project will examine the literary and botanical value of the garden as an urban ecosystem and literary archetype.

The works of Estense poets such as Ariosto, Boiardo, and Tasso are analyzed for their representation of nature, contributing to a comprehensive understanding of the relationship between literature and gardens.

In summary, this project aims to provide a novel contribution to the study of the Casa d'Este, focusing on the botanical and literary value of the garden as an urban ecosystem and literary archetype. By analyzing rare and unique materials related to botany in the Estense Library and the works of Estense poets, the project seeks to better comprehend the development of the Estense imaginary of the garden and its impact on botany, science, and literature. Finally, the project encourage the preservation of the Estense gardens and stimulate reflection on contemporary environmental policies.

MARCHIONNI LEONARDO (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Communicating regional cultural heritage: archives and documents related to historic-scientific culture

The main purpose of my research is to find new ways to enhance and improve the communication and dissemination of regional cultural heritage of Emilia Romagna available in institutes for the conservation in the public administration. The pilot case starts from archives and documents preserved in the Archivio di Stato di Modena related to history of science and history of medicine of early modern period. The focus of my research is a selection and analysis of a group of sixteenth century physicians present at the court of Ferrara and their letters to colleagues, relatives and noble families. The research project comprehends a digitization, metadatation and publication of selected documents on digital library "Lodovico" to expand further the possibility of research and diffusion of archival cultural heritage linked to it. The project includes the realization of a medical glossary for early modern period, through words extracted from historical letters, to become a useful tool for future research of specific terminology of medicine in history. In conclusion the study emphasizes on the dissemination of historical data through dynamics, mechanisms and functioning of digital communication inside the sites of public administration (social networks and institutional tools in particular) with practical experience on the field.

MARINIS MICHALIS (Ohio University)

It is well known that newspaper headlines can constitute a special genre with their own style and their own linguistic structure (i.e., Aitchison, 2006; Dor, 2003). For example, function words such as articles are often omitted in American English headlines, and temporal reference is achieved through special means. Despite the existing literature on English-language newspaper headlines, there is almost no research for other languages (i.e., Greek). In the same vein, while the characteristics of headlines have been sufficiently studied (for English) at a synchronic level, research on the diachronic axis is lacking.

With the present contribution, we investigate the textual characteristics, including spelling, of the headlines of Greek newspapers at a synchronic and diachronic level. Specifically, we explore the following issues:

- What conventions (structural, formal, orthographic, etc.) govern headlines in (Greek) newspapers?
- Are these conventions sufficient to justify the characterization of headlines as a distinct textual genre?
- How, if at all, have these conventions changed from decade to decade in the 20th and 21st centuries?

To answer these questions, we studied front-page headlines. We annotate them for their linguistic and morphological characteristics. The particular characteristics governing the headlines per decade are studied comparatively between the decades. The recently digitized electronic historical archive of four Greek newspapers, http://premiumarchives.alteregomedia.org/Login.aspx, was used as the primary source of our research, as shown in Table 1, below.

Greek Newspaper	Period covered
Ελεύθερον Βήμα	1922-1944
Το Βήμα	1945-present
Αθηναϊκά Νέα	1931-1945
Τα Νέα	1945-present

Table 1: The newspapers studied, and the periods covered by each.

AI, digital tools, and the experience that will be gained in the SUMMER SCHOOL "*Digital Humanities and Digital Communication: AI and (new) literacies*" can have a significant impact on the development and form of my project, especially during the following phases:

1. Extracting data relevant to my study
2. Annotating data
3. Statistical analysis
4. Identifying synchronic linguistic patterns
5. Tracking diachronic changes in the identified patterns

MIRIZZI ANTONIO (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

The puzzling medium: notes on the cognitive experience of the comics reader

With the digital turn came the illusion of the genesis of completely new textual models that would offer unique cognitive challenges to the human brain. Remaining in the field of narratology, I intend instead to shift the emphasis to the continuity between old and new media - indeed between new and brand new media - in offering increasingly participatory and puzzling narrative experiences (Aarseth 1997; Fidler 1997). In particular, the focus will be on comics literacy. Comics are an entirely peculiar type of visual narratives that can provide decisive keys to better understand the less conventional reading strategies to which digital interfaces have accustomed us, but also the effects of the pictorial turn (Pinotti & Somaini 2009) that has accompanied the digital turn. Comics studies can also help to gain insight into the latest examples of hypertexts (Nelson 1965; 1987) and cybertexts (Aarseth 1997) which, in addition to the demand for active participation of the user, rely on a dialectic between sequential and systemic patterns of meaning-making that recalls the idiosyncratic syntax of comic panels called "arthrology" (Groensteen 1999). I will concentrate on the way in which memorial and cognitive performances of comic readers differ from those of traditional media users and especially on the former's greater reliance on inferential thinking. In fact, I'm going to present the tentative results of a series of behavioral tests designed to bring out differences in the reception of the same story in different media. Even at an early stage of research, these results highlight rather particular attitudes in readers' approach to the comics medium, even when they are not properly "literate" to it.

MYSHKO ALENA (University of Venezia – Ca' Foscari)

AI as a tool for sustainable and circular agriculture and agri-food sector: insights from the institutional approach

AI as a tool for sustainable and circular agriculture and agri-food sector: insights from the institutional approach

The global challenges, such as climate change and food insecurity among others, require the revision and re-composition of economies and supply chains at large, as well as search for new ways to adapt each industry's process, and agriculture is no exception. One of the ways to address the consequences of this dramatic impact is deployment of smart and digital technologies, artificial intelligence (AI) in particular, in the agricultural and agri-food sectors. Smart technologies such as AI, on the one hand, could help firms increase their productivity and their competitiveness in general; on the other hand, they allow for sustaining profit-making with the improvement of workers' conditions, the reduction of emissions and environmental impacts on fields and production plants, reducing the overall footprint of the industry. According to the European Commission, the implementation of digital technologies in agriculture, such as AI, machine learning, and IoT, will enable increased economic and environmental performance and environmental sustainability, as well as competitiveness of the EU digital supply industry, improved working conditions and increased transparency.

While the policy initiatives largely contribute to expansion of sustainability in industries through digitalisation, there are various factors influencing the local technological implications. Our research focuses on the role of institutional actors and factors in the integration of AI within the agricultural sector. In particular, it identifies and maps the variety of economic and socio-cultural factors, which enable or, on the contrary, limit the technological application. The research utilises the institutional approach, which is rooted in economic sociology and institutional economics. It allows not only to analyse the inputs of specific smart technologies in agricultural sustainability but also the institutional context of those applications. The methodology is based on, firstly, systematic literature review and document analysis regarding the adoption of AI in agriculture. Second stage is analysis of several case studies or benchmarking cases (in Italy). In the sphere of policy making, this research can advise the development of digital

strategies for agribusiness regarding the existing resources, needs and predicted outcomes.

NANNETTI FRANCESCA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Linguistic data as input for Human Resource Management studies

Work datafication, understood in this context as the qualitatively and quantitatively unprecedented presence of data about people and their work, is the phenomenon that can connect Corpus Linguistics, Computational Linguistics and work studies. How can the enormous availability of textual data in digital format be utilised in such a way that work-relevant information emerges?

This project focuses in particular on the linguistic data in job postings and in CVs (Curricula Vitae), which have now become a widely available type of document for researchers interested in analysing the information they contain. Specifically, the most interesting job postings' section is the one that outlines the profile of the ideal candidate by indicating his or her so-called 'soft skills', an umbrella term for personal attributes that enable someone to interact effectively.

Through the LinkedIn platform, it is possible to have access to a considerably large number of CVs and job advertisements published by companies in digital format, which, if downloaded and collected, can represent a linguistic data set perfectly compatible with the construction of corpora. Such corpora can be observed in a systematic manner using the tools of Corpus Linguistics (e.g. through Sketch Engine, a corpus manager and text analysis software), but can also be considered as useful datasets for research conducted using Natural Language Processing techniques.

The aim of the research will be to compare the ideal personality outlined by the work organisations of a specific field and, at the same time, the most representative relational characteristics of the workers of that specific field, with the purpose of identifying similarities, possible skill gaps and relevant social biases. To support the identification of soft skills in the documents, it will be possible to rely on the main classifications of skills, competences, and occupations (ESCO, EMSI...).

The use of linguistic data as input makes it possible to conduct a multidisciplinary study, also through the means of Computational Linguistics, seen today as an area of Artificial Intelligence. The results of this research project can represent relevant information for the Human Resource Management, allowing a data-driven assessment of connections and divergences between supply and demand.

NGO TJOMB ELIETTE (University of Yaoundé)

Developing a Ewondo-French-Ewondo Machine Translation system

This project entitled developping a Ewondo-French-Ewondo Machine Translation system deals with the morphosyntactic analysis of Ewondo, an African Bantu language, using documentary computer processes in order to build up a machine translation pair that includes French (Ngue Um et al., 2022). Ewondo is made of an agglutinative inflectional morphology and a flexible syntax which constitute major Its diversity at the lexical, morphological and syntactic levels is highlighted by the dispersion of the data in the corpus (Essono : 2000 ; 2012). In such case, word stems are realised in many different surface forms, which exacerbates the sparsity problem. The word-based theory, an issue of importance as aligned corpora are an expensive resource and also sensitive to data sparsity. This approach enables the word representation as a collection of morphological entities. It uses this information to aid in MT for morphologically rich languages (Minkov et al., 2007). Our goal is threefold: first, to allow generalisation over morphology for alleviating the data sparsity problem in morphology generation. Second, to model syntactic coherence in the form of morphological agreement in the target language for the purpose of improving the morphological generation. Thirth, build up an Ewondo-French machine translation system. The theory is implemented using the Helsinki Finite-State Transducer toolkit (HFST where lexc formalism is used to specify the morphotactic rules, which define the valid orderings of morphemes in a word. (Lindén, et al.,2009). Morphophonological alternations and orthographic rules are shown throught the TWOL formalism introduced by Koskennieni (1983). The lexicon is extracted from machine-readable dictionaries developped within the framework of this project. The research is organised into eight chapters. The first recalled the Research Theory and Méthodology, the second roll out a review of the literature on Ewondo, the thrid describes an overview and State of the Arts of Machine Translation, the foufth focus on Lexical Transfer, the fifth presents the Structural Transfer, the semantic transfers are addressed in chapter six while the seventh evaluates the machine translation system and the eighth deals with discussion.

NOTARI FABIOLA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Intrageneric and interdisciplinary variation in abstracts: exploring novice versus professional writing in the global context of EAP

Intrageneric and interdisciplinary variation in abstracts: exploring novice versus professional writing in the global context of EAP Acting as a point-of-entry for determining the value of the research, abstracts have been defined as "essential gatekeeping and screening elements in academic and professional communication" (Bondi 2014: 244), having "both a more modest and more urgent purpose: to persuade readers that the article is worth reading" (Hyland 2004: 64). Although the research article abstract (RA abstract) has been extensively discussed, research in the domain of thesis abstract (TA) is still in its early stage. By examining the rhetorical moves and metadiscourse markers in TA and international RA abstracts across three disciplines – Law (L), Economics (E) and Applied Linguistics (AL) – this study aims to investigate intrageneric and interdisciplinary variation in fulfilling the rhetorical goals typically associated with this "part-genre" (Swales and Feak 2009). The extent to which students appropriate the practices of their own discipline is investigated through a novel approach that finegrains the analysis by querying ad hoc created subcorpora containing TA samples randomly selected from (i) English L2 Italian / (ii) English L2 European / (iii) English L1 university repositories. Findings indicate that, although specialised phrase-frames and rhetorical moves tend to occur fairly extensively across each disciplinary spectrum, the different social roles that these authors establish in academia play a crucial role in determining variation between RA and TA abstracts, particularly in the field of Law (L). In suggesting generic subtleties, this research lends credence to the notion that the "integrity" of genres can coexist with their "versatility" and "propensity for innovation" (Bhatia 1997: 634) when the communicative goal of a given rhetorical situation is depicted as a privilege criterion for the investigation (Swales 1990). In calling for a reconsideration of the commonly held belief that instructional materials for thesis writing must be based solely on the practice of RA authors, the results of this analysis will be used to create a web-based platform providing students with annotated and to-be-annotated TA and RA abstracts searchable for rhetorical moves and metadiscourse

markers. The rationale for this approach is to empower students by making them feel like they are part of a real "community of practice" (Lave and Wenger 1991, Wenger 1998) in which they can also play a role, thus acknowledging the increasing importance of thesis writing in the global context of EAP.

Bibliography

Bhatia, V. K. (1997). Genre analysis today. Revue belge de philologie et d'histoire, 75(3), 629-652.

Bondi, M. (2014) 'Changing voices: Authorial voice in abstracts.' In: Bondi, M. and Lorés Sanz, R. (eds) Abstracts in Academic Discourse: Variation and Change. Bern: Peter Lang. 243-270.

Hyland, K. (2004). Disciplinary discourses, Michigan classics ed.: Social interactions in academic writing. University of Michigan Press.

Lave, J., & Wenger, E. (1991). Situated learning: Legitimate peripheral participation. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

Swales, J.M. (1990). Genre analysis. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Swales, J. M., & Feak, C. B. (2009). Academic writing for graduate students. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Wenger, E. (1998). Communities of practice: Learning, meaning, and identity. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press

PALLADINO MARCELLA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Women's and men's voices in right-wing populist speeches: Germany and Italy in comparison

The title of my Doctoral project is "Women's and men's voices in right-wing populist speeches: Germany and Italy in comparison". This study is an investigation of voices of male and female representatives of German and Italian right-wing populism. The aim is to find out whether there is a connection between gender, political (and cultural) beliefs and some phonetic and prosodic characteristics in the considered speeches.

The first research question is whether male and female representatives of right-wing populism speak differently. The second related research question is then whether there are differences between Italy and Germany, as far as the considered features are concerned. Moreover, it will be deepened how these differences are connected to the previous results observed in a politolinguistic study.

The core part the project is the empirical investigation conducted with BAS Web Tools, namely OCTRA, WebMAUS and Emu Web App. The total number of collected speeches is 44, the time frame they refer to is 2015-2022 and the parties the selected speakers belong to are Alternative für Deutschland, Lega and Fratelli d'Italia. The speeches are divided into four synchronic corpora: Italian male representatives, Italian female representatives, German male representatives and German female representatives. The necessity to divide the speeches into four corpora comes from the willingness to use EmuR to extract data for statistics and plots. Through the above-mentioned tools and EmuR, the following features will be analyzed: pitch range, speak rate, pauses (duration, frequency) and intonation patterns.

Currently, there does not seem to be studies in this field, considering both prosodic and politoliguistic features of right-wing populist speeches. If the right-wing populism is delved into in politolinguistics (Niehr & Reissen-Kosch 2018), the signal is excluded. Similarly, if the signal is the focus of the research on political representatives (Burgemeister & Sendlmeier 2020), no politolinguistic analysis is carried out. However, signal and politolinguistic aspects can be interrelated in the analysis of the language of politics. For this reason, this study has the aim to be a first step to link both perspectives

and, hopefully, a starting point for further research on populism not only comparing countries in Europe, but worldwide.

Works cited

Burgemeister, M., Sendlmeier, W. F. (2020): *Politische Sprechwirkungsforschung - ein Vergleich zwischen Alice Weidel, Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer und Andrea Nahles.* In: Sprechen - *Zeitschrift für Sprechwissenschaft Sprechpädagogik Sprechtherapie Sprechkunst*, n. 69.

Niehr, T., Reissen-Kosch, J. (2018): *Volkes Stimme? Zur Sprache des Rechtspopulismus.* Berlin.

PERRONE EMMA (University of Roma – LUMSA)

Lexicography of the Montessori pedagogical lemmary
Digital Humanities for historical-pedagogical research

The project is based on examining the work of Maria Montessori's through a lexographic survey that detects the historical-cultural, social and didactic implications of the work of the Chiaravalle's scholar in the framework of twentieth-century pedagogy.

The lexical analysis of Maria Montessori's works will be conducted thanks to the assistance of Digital Humanities (DH) and, more precisely, of the Atlante Montessori (AM), a digital, open access archive (www.atlantemontessori.org), promoted by the LUMSA University research Unit of the PRIN entitled "Maria Montessori from the past to the present" in collaboration with Opera Nazionale Montessori and the ITC team Shazarch.

We are facing, particularly in the last decade, a strong increase in publications regarding Maria Montessori on a scientific level as well as didactive materials regarding the historical-pedagogical, biographical and methodological aspects but, at the same time, there is a lack of in-depth research on Montessori terminology and its evolution over time. It appears necessary to undergo a study that allows a synchronic and diachronic reading of her work, moving from a philological-critical investigation of her main writings. It is, therefore, the encounter between the writings of Maria Montessori and the use of computational tools from which we want to start from, arriving at an in-depth analysis of the Montessori pedagogical lemmary.

By using the Text Analysis (TA), which is analysing the text using the computer as mediator, the aim is to identify, for each digitised publication made available on the AM, the occurrences of the headwords used by Montessori and the possible correlations. This is a true terminological-philological analysis done through the DH, that will allow one to identify the most frequent headwords used and of the permanence or mutations of their meaning during the course of time. The headwords of interest will be identified for each publication through the occurrences and the frequencies, keeping into account the transition of selection and rejection of empty words. Moreover, a chronological stratification will be carried out, which will allow a diachronic comparison of the evolution of meanings. After having individualized the headwords to treat it, it will be

possible to conduct a qualitative analysis concerning the study of the most influential words and any mutation or disappearance during the years and works.

PIRRONE MARIA (University of Palermo)

Digital archive for popular tradition

Dear Committee,

I am Maria Pirrone, a Ph.D. student in the 38th cycle in humanistic studies, linguistic curriculum, at the University of Palermo. I would like to present my research because I am interested in the topics at the conference.

My doctoral project includes the creation of a digital archive of popular traditions within the Sicilian linguistic atlas (ALS).

The focus is to answer a question already advanced by G. Berruto "Does popular Italian still exist?".

From Unity until the 1960s, the educated population was diastratically identified with the socially wealthy and therefore the only one to have access to education. The rest of the population, over 60%, had the dialect as the primary language of communication. However, the need for communication during the Great War, urban or extra-urban emigration on the one hand, and the advent of radio and television from the 1950s on the other, determined knowledge of Italian even outside the school walls. The latter, however, was characterized by some typical features of speech that are also seen in the writing. This was the origin of De Mauro's concept of unitary popular Italian. Although since the 1990s education has welcomed a larger number of the population, there are still some linguistic phenomena typical of the class semi-literate.

Therefore, the main aim of the research will be to cluster the Sicilian linguistic documents and their respective varieties.

In the current phase, I am proceeding to a collection of data obtained from sheets that require specific labels (author of the text, age, genre, textual type, variety, exception cc.) and, later, organized within an Excel. This is functional for the creation of a database that contains disparate documents such as letters, memories, photos, postcards, and recipes.

Specifically, I will deal with the edition of a memorial written by a lady originally from Sambuca di Sicilia. A quantitative analysis will be followed by a qualitative analysis of the texts that will allow us to discern linguistic differences even within popular Italian according to gender and situational context. Through a vast collection and interoperability

of data, it will be easier to grasp the frequency of some linguistic parameters still replicated today, thus responding to the aforementioned question.

RUGGIERI LUCIA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Battista Guarini's letters: a digital archive

My project focuses on the correspondence of Battista Guarini (1538-1612), seeking update the census of letters, make an index of all the letters survived, set up a digital archive and compose an edition of those that testifies Guarini's relationships with the intellectuals of his time.

The project combines the methods of philological, archival, and literary studies with the new opportunities offered by digital humanities. As a contribution to the Summer School, I would like to focus on the digital part of my research: the Digital Archive of Battista Guarini's letters. The Archive is developed in cooperation with DHmore (Centro Interdipartimentale di ricerca sulle Digital Humanities) and it will be available open access on Lodovico – digital library from this year's summer. The digital project aims at offering a full digitalization of the letters, accompanied by medata and documentary edition of the texts; moreover, it concentrates on the organization and provision of digital exhibitions to make the manuscripts accessible to a non-scholarly audience. In this first stage, 214 letters, kept at the State Archive of Modena (ASMo, Archivi per materie, Letterati, b. 29), will be available in the Archive. The long-term project is to acquire all the manuscripts of Guarini's letters. This last part is certainly not feasible during the three years of the PhD.

Each digital object in the Archive is accompanied by the metadata usually associated with the description of letters: consignor, consignee, date, and place. In addition, a descriptive codicological section of the manuscript (material, format) is provided. Moreover, the archive also presents a list of anthroponyms and place names. Finally, in an attempt to avoid the "Kunstkammer" effect, each letter contains a note section, which connects the single document with the production context, the other works of Guarini (especially his printed book of letters), the events and debates of the time. This way, the need for interpretation of the texts is preserved and not impaired by the philological aim of the project.

SHELINA EUGENYA (University of Torino & Fondazione 1563 per l'Arte e la Cultura)

Medieval Charters' Lexicon and Power Concepts of Medieval Dominants

My study lies at the intersection of three disciplines: history, linguistics, and computer science. The representation(s) of relations of power in the corpora of written texts of the 12th-13th century is the object of my work.

In recent decades, it has become possible for historians to approach medieval written texts by means of new methods of distant reading, among which is textometry. This possibility is due both to the emergence of numerous computer programmes enabling the linguistic analysis of texts and to the appearance online of numerous massive databases of medieval texts which can be converted into corpora. Among the advantages of the method of the distant reading is that it allows us observing what happens at the non-conscious level (the principle of non-consciousness imposes the construction of the system of objective relations in which individuals are inserted and which are expressed more adequately in the morphology of groups than in the opinions of the subjects). I carry out an analysis of several corpora, the main one is the CEMA corpus of Western European charters of the 5th-15th centuries. The analysis is performed with the help of NoSketch Engine, TXM, and the AnalyseSHS(R) tool.

My work explores the lexicon of medieval charters through textometric experiments; the results of three experiments will be presented in Modena. First, I deal with the model of the semantic field. A factor analysis enables me to make observations about the structure of the semantic field of power in the 12th-13th century charters. Second, considering that the writing of a document by medieval dominants was always an act of power, a simple operation of ordering the vocabulary according to the frequencies of the words in the corpora gives observations that allow hypotheses concerning manifestations of medieval power. Third, an examination of the prepositional collocations of key words denoting power enables me to raise a question of the orientational metaphors that were structuring for the representations of medieval power. In conclusion, I will try to specify to which extent my data correlates with the existing models of hierarchical relations that structured medieval society.

SOCCIARELLI MATTEO (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Combining corpus linguistics and language annotation: affordances for the study of argumentational discourse in L2 academic writing

This presentation seeks to introduce a theoretical and practical framework for the investigation of argumentative discourse in MA theses written by non-native speakers of English at Unimore. As part of my PhD project, the framework proposes a combination of digital linguistic annotation and corpus analysis to gain pedagogically relevant insight on the analysis of argumentation in L2 thesis writing, and in the hopes of stimulating the remarkably scarce scholarly interest around it.

Thesis writing at the postgraduate level is seen by many MA university students as the pinnacle of their academic path and the summation of their learning. In the Italian context, theses have a limited readership and display specific persuasive communicative functions, in that they must prove that the candidate has acquired sufficient knowledge on a specific topic and can engage with it critically through a well-crafted written product. Investigating MA theses from the perspective of argumentation is thus necessary and relevant, yet the intersections of argumentation and SLW (Second Language Writing) have not been thoroughly explored (Hirvela, 2017).

My project aims at investigating argumentation strategies at the lexico-grammatical level. The rhetorical, discursive, and genre-specific (Swales, 2011) elements inherent in the crafting of an academic argument, though, discourage an approach solely relying on Corpus Linguistics (Gillings et al., 2023). For this reason, I propose a methodology combining CL and digital linguistic annotation. Linguistic annotation is an analytical process aimed at uncovering socio-pragmatic phenomena through the visualization and description of implicit layers of language. In its digital iterations, annotation has also aided computational studies on tool training and automated annotation (Klie et al., 2018). Annotation offers the possibility to create taxonomies that can be best applied to a SLW context, to analyze learners' productions without necessarily imposing standards and criteria of expert L1 writers.

The framework proposes a top down, data driven process to uncover linguistic realizations of argumentative discourse in the literature review sections of a group of selected theses from Linguistics, Economics, and Engineering. The texts will be

annotated and analyzed in INCEpTION (Klie et al., 2018) to pinpoint argumentational episodes through a taxonomy based on Toulmin's model (Toulmin, 2003). A close reading of the episodes will reveal salient features of argumentative discourse, which will in turn inform a corpus study. The degree courses have been chosen to provide insight on a wide array of disciplines (hard sciences, social sciences, humanities), in accordance to Andrews' claim that argumentation in higher education presents features at the general and the discipline-specific level (Andrews, 2010).

References

Andrews, R. (2010). Argumentation in higher education: Improving practice through theory and research. Routledge.

Gillings, M., Mautner, G., & Baker, P. (2023). Corpus-Assisted Discourse Studies (1st ed.). Cambridge University Press. https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009168144

Hirvela, A. (2017). Argumentation & second language writing: Are we missing the boat? Journal of Second Language Writing, 36, 69–74. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jslw.2017.05.002

Klie, J.-C., Bugert, M., Boullosa, B., Eckart de Castilho, R., & Gurevych, I. (2018). The INCEpTION Platform: Machine-Assisted and Knowledge-Oriented Interactive Annotation. Proceedings of the 27th International Conference on Computational Linguistics: System Demonstrations, 5–9. https://aclanthology.org/C18-2002

Swales, J. (2011). Genre analysis: English in academic and research settings (1. publ., 14. print). Cambridge Univ. Pr.

Toulmin, S. (2003). The uses of argument (Updated ed). Cambridge University Press.

STORACE CHIARA (University of Genova)

Civics in middle school: CLIL and Computational Thinking in the Center-West of Genoa

As English and computational devices have become ingrained in modern society, a comprehension of these is now a critical component in understanding and operating in our world. There is a growing body of literature that recognizes the importance of computational thinking (CT) as well as second language teaching methodologies, including CLIL. This acronym stands for Content and Language Integrated Learning and comprehends four main concepts: Content, Communication, Cognition and Culture. Therefore, both CLIL methodology and Computational thinking share the cognitive aspect. However, it is still not very clear whether the use of learning methods related to computational thinking combined with those related to foreign languages may improve students' cognitive experience, helping them, for instance, producing more linguistic output. The aim of this research is to explore the relationship between the dimensions of CT and the cognitive aspects of learning a language with the CLIL methodology. This investigation takes the form of a pilot study conducted in genoese middle schools. There will be a group of control, with merely the CLIL method, and an experimental one, where CLIL will be combined with CT activities. A combination of quantitative and qualitative approaches will be used in the data analysis. Moreover, in addition to the participant observation conducted during all the activities in the classrooms, pre and post tests and a series of interviews will be administered. Regarding the topic of the activities, the main subject will be Civics, a cross-cutting theme that includes and encourage also the digital citizenship, while the CLIL language will be English, considering the A2 CEFR level of Italian middle school students. At the end of the day, there are several areas where this study could make an original contribution such as the integration of Computational Thinking in education and, in particular, how CT can be developed in students in disciplines other than Computer Science. Connecting different subjects (English and Civics) and different skills (language and thinking ones) allows not only an interchange of knowledge but also the discovery of different perspectives on the same topic. Having several points of view at one's disposal means having more means to solve a problem and

helping the learner's learning in general since, as Gianni Rodari argues in his Grammar of Fantasy: "The mind is one. Its creativity must be cultivated in all its directions".

URRU CHIARA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Gender-neutral language in the European institutional communication: a comparative study from a translation perspective.

At international level, several institutions – such as the United Nations, the World Health Organisation, the European Parliament and the European Commission – have adopted guidelines for non-sexist use of language, often translated and available in different languages. Based on previous research conducted last year during a period as a researcher fellow, the main purpose of this project is to identify and analyse gender stereotypes and linguistic sexism in the specific context of multilingual translation in the European institutions.

To achieve this purpose, a corpus of parallel documents – in French, English, Italian, Spanish and German versions – will be built, to explore how translators work with gender-language choices in the different languages. Human translation in the EU and machine translation have something particular in common: the process of translation from the "input" language to the "output" language always passes through English. During this process, different kind of information could be kept or lost: gender is one of those. For this reason, the research will analyze and compare choices from human translators with those ones of machine translation programmes. The aim of the project is to collect a dataset from human translators to build a new database that could improve gender-biased choices in machine translation. The dissertation will be organized in 6 sections. Section 1 gives the background of the study and the research questions, drawing an overall project structure. Section 2 introduces the state of art on previous studies on translation theory, gender studies and the interaction between these two fields. In Section 3 the corpus of data is illustrated and the methods used to collect data are described. Section 4 gives a description of the results.

Finally, section 5 and section 6 discuss and present the conclusions.

URSO ELENA (University of Salento)

The global reconsideration of the Acta Alexandrinorum: towards a scholarly digital archive

The aim of my research project is to carry out a comprehensive study of the papyri falling under the category of the Acta Alexandrinorum, an important set of Greek historical texts concerning the relations between Alexandrian Greeks, Alexandrian Jews, and the Roman imperial authority, dating from the 1st to the 3rd century AD.

This study needs updating to obtain a global comparison of the papyri, by the creation of a scholarly digital edition, which would allow the fragmentary information now available to be overcome, reflecting the peculiarities and the mutual links of these texts. The digital environment itself could be a means of verifiability of choices, scientific reliability, dynamic network, accessibility, collaborative intent, visualisation of the deep interaction existing between material support, text, and context. As far as the Acta Alexandrinorum are concerned, a virtual archive is necessary because of their difficult classification and their dispersion in various places and collections throughout the world. The creation of a network of metadata, data, texts, and images would be aimed at a deeper understanding of the political, institutional, and cultural history of Alexandria, together with a focus on the circulation and the purposes of these texts. From a methodological point of view, it will be necessary to choose the coding language of the scholarly digital edition, as well as the most appropriate interface and its characteristics. The annotated text will make it possible to convey various types of information converted into XML-TEI code by means of tags.

My investigation started from the survey of the papyrological witnesses (about 80) and is currently focusing on the traditional analysis of each papyrus. The scholarly digital archive would include:

1. The digital reproduction of the papyri, by virtual reconstructions and graphic software improving readability.

2. The metadata sheet, containing the main information useful for the identification of the fragments (collection, content, dating, provenance etc.).

3. The front matter, with a complete description of the papyri (material, linguistic, palaeographic aspects).

4. The Greek text, visually reproduced faithfully to the papyrus layout, with critical apparatus integrated among the lines of the text.

5. The Italian translation (and/or into modern language) and the papyrological, linguistic and historical commentary.

VERCELLI ELENA MARGHERITA (University of Genova)

The Socio-discursive construction of 'real' and 'fake' refugees: a tool-based analysis of the representations of Ukrainian and Syrian exiles

This research aims to observe the differences in socio-discursive constructions of 2022's Ukrainian refugees and 2015's Middle East refugees[2] within the Italian and French media discourse[3]. Though Migration Discourse has been considerably investigated, the comparison between representations of refugee groups has received scant attention[4] and has not yet been tackled from an Italian-French contrastive perspective. Novel corpora of online articles[4] and tweets will be explored through digital tools[5], focusing on lexico-semantic[6] and syntactic structures that might frame migrants so as to dehumanise or victimise them[7]. A qualitative analysis will generalise the lexico-discursive profiles[8] describing the refugees and examine how these profiles influence their framing. It is expected to identify socio-cultural specificities, discursive practices that lead to pragmatic-rhetorical differences and their replicability in other contexts.

---

[2] UNHCR (2015)

[3] Angermuller, J., Wodak, R., & Maingueneau, D. (2014). The discourse studies reader. The Discourse Studies Reader, 1-426.
Paveau, M. A., & Rosier, L. (2005, July). Éléments pour une histoire de l'analyse du discours. Théories en conflit et ciment phraséologique. In *communication au colloque franco-allemand:«L'analyse du discours en France et en Allemagne», Université de Paris* (Vol. 12).

[4] Gallant, K. F. (2022). The "good" refugee is welcome: On the role of racism, sexism, and victimhood when fleeing
from war, DiscourseNet Collaborative Working Paper Series, no. 8/3.

[5] Sketch Engine, NLTK.

[6] Moirand, S., & Reboul-Touré, S. (2015). Nommer les événements à l'épreuve des mots et de la construction du
discours. Langue française, (188), 105-120.

[7] Esses, V. M., Medianu, S., & Lawson, A. S. (2013). Uncertainty, threat, and the role of the media in promoting the dehumanization of immigrants and refugees. Journal of social issues, 69(3), 518-536.
Van Dijk, T. A. (2000). New(s) racism: A discourse analytical approach. In S. Cottle, Ethnic minorities and the media (pp. 33-49). Buckingham: Open University Press.
Van Dijk, T. A. (2018). Discourse and migration. *Qualitative research in European migration studies*, 227-245.

[8] Veniard, M. (2013). *La nomination des événements dans la presse. Essai de sémantique discursive*. Presses universitaires de Franche-Comté.

VIGO GIULIA (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Educational paths in the Science Museum of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia. An approach to co-design

Recent decades have seen a significant change in the roles of Science Museums. They are no longer conceived as mere repositories for objects for transmitting scientific knowledge and are becoming spaces for social exchange able to promote active citizenship, responsibility and engagement with science and technology issues. Starting from the analysis of the transformation of Science Museums as well as dialogic and participatory models of communication, this project wants to re-imagine the spaces, the practices and the educational paths of the new exhibition of the University Museums of Zoology and Paleontology, which will be located in the complex of Sant'Agostino in Modena. The aim of this project is to provide examples/models and guidelines for creating the new exhibition based on the collaboration between schools and the University of Modena in planning and carrying out educational paths inspired by constructivism methodologies. In order to engage the teachers of primary schools in the design phase of the exhibition and plan customized educational proposals that consider their needs, a questionnaire and an interview protocol have been developed as a basis for the semi-structured interview that will be held during a focus group with the group of museum experts (cultural mediators, pedagogies, zoologists, paleontologists) and science teachers of primary schools involved in NEMO project (Educational Multicenter "Sergio Neri" of Modena). The aim of qualitative analysis of the results of the questionnaires is to identify the most critical topics and scientific concepts, the most effective educational approaches and tools used by teachers, and the role that the new science museum can play to contribute to science education. This contribution wants to propose an innovative and complex model of science education able to support the mission and communication strategies of the new museum based on collaboration with the territorial communities. The strategy of co-design wants to make the new science museum a place which will be able to embrace change and transformation in the environment and the society, and be a powerful resource center in primary education in providing the opportunity to solve problems, to interact

with technological innovations and scientific ideas in ways which will prompt visitors interacting with them to ask themselves questions and reinforce their own knowledge.

YOUNGQUIST HUNTER PAUL (University of Verona)

Pragmatic annotation and large language models: An exploration in prompt engineering ChatGPT to extract presuppositions from political interview questions

The manual annotation of linguistic structures in corpus data can be a powerful way to discover quantifiable patterns, test current theories, and query specific structures more efficiently (Gries and Berez 2017; Hovy and Lavid 2010; Wallis 2007). However, annotation inevitably requires more time and resources, which is even more glaring in the context of complex and subjective pragmatic annotations (Garassino 2022). In a recent paper, Gilardi et at. found that the accuracy and intercoder agreement of ChatGPT in a text classification task for Twitter content moderation outperformed that of crowd-workers, showing the potential of using language models to perform linguistic annotation tasks (2023).

Following these recent advancements, my project proposes to adopt pre-existing generative large language models (LLMs) to extract presuppositions from questions in political interviews as the first stage in an annotation task. These initial annotations will then be manual checked, corrected, and adapted to create a dataset of interview questions with their corresponding presuppositions. The end goal is to demonstrate how AI and new technologies in NLP can be utilized to support manual annotation to save time and resources, while also improving inter-annotator agreement and objectivity in complex pragmatic annotation tasks. Additionally, insights on the connection between interviewer strategies and implicit pragmatic content can be examined using the resulting data set.

Work Cited

Garassino, Davide, et al. "Is Implicit Communication Quantifiable? A Corpus-Based Analysis of British and Italian Political Tweets." *Journal of Pragmatics*, vol. 194, June 2022, pp. 9–22. *DOI.org (Crossref)*, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pragma.2022.03.024.

Gilardi, Fabrizio, et al. *ChatGPT Outperforms Crowd-Workers for Text-Annotation Tasks*. arXiv:2303.15056, arXiv, 27 Mar. 2023. *arXiv.org*, http://arxiv.org/abs/2303.15056.

Gries, Stefan Th., and Andrea L. Berez. "Linguistic Annotation in/for Corpus Linguistics." *The Handbook of Linguistic Annotation*, edited by Nancy Ide and James Pustejovsky, Springer Netherlands, 2017, pp. 379–409. *DOI.org (Crossref)*, https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-024-0881-2_15.

Hovy, Eduard, and Julia Lavid. "Towards a 'Science' of Corpus Annotation: A New Methodological Challenge for Corpus Linguistics." *International Journal of Translation*, vol. 22, no. 1, 2010, pp. 13–36.

Wallis, Sean. "Annotation, Retrieval and Experimentation." *Annotating Variation and Change*, edited by A. Meurman-Solin and A. A. Nurmi, Varieng, UoH, 2007, p. 21.

ZAUPA FEDERICO (University of Modena and Reggio Emilia)

Using corpora to analyse discursive representations of LGBTQIA+ people and communities: a cross-cultural study from the British and Italian broadsheet press and news releases from LGBTQIA+ organisations

Research on language, gender and sexuality has largely benefitted from both corpus linguistics and critical discourse analysis. Studies on media representations of LGBTQIA+ people and communities, especially within the British press, have used corpus-based and driven techniques (Tognini-Bonelli 2001) to explore discourses on same-sex marriages and relationships (Turner et al. 2018; Paterson & Coffey-Glover 2018), transgender people (Baker 2014b; Baker & Levon 2015; Zottola 2018, 2021), LGBTQIA+ asylum seekers (Wilkinson 2020), as well as the construction of homosexuality (Baker 2006, 2015), and bisexuality (Wilkinson 2019).

Drawing on this background, this research analyses a multilingual corpus of texts from the British and Italian broadsheet, and news releases from websites of LGBTQIA+ Organisations. Through an ad-hoc framework that considers the tools of diachronic corpus-based and assisted discourse studies (see e.g., Baker 2006; Baker et al. 2008; Partington 2010; Partington et al. 2013), as well as critical discourse analysis (see e.g., Fairclough 1992, 2010; Van Dijk 1998, 2013; Wodak 2001; Van Leeuwen 2008, 2013) and feminist approaches to it (Lazar 2014), this paper attempts at answering the following research questions:

1. Which LGBTQIA+ identities and related issues are represented or erased in the news?
2. How are LGBTQIA+ people and communities as social actors discursively represented and framed? 3. Is it possible to draw cross- cultural and longitudinal comparisons, and identify changing trends in time and across sources under scrutiny?

Quantitative results show a general tendency of the news to focus more on homosexuality and transsexuality, at the expenses of other identities and intersectional issues, in opposition with approaches of LGBTQIA+ Organisations in news releases. Qualitative findings across news and news releases suggest, however, that LGBTQIA+ people and communities are generally framed as lacking agency. Nevertheless, it emerges that in news published in more recent times LGBTQIA+ people, communities, and

activists, in particular transgender ones, are also framed as threateners for freedom of speech of those questioning their rights.

References

Baker, P., & Levon, E. (2015). Picking the right cherries? A comparison of corpus-based and qualitative analyses of news articles about masculinity. Discourse & Communication, 9(2), 221-236.

Baker, P. (2014a). Using corpora to analyze gender. A&C Black.

Baker, P. (2014b). Bad wigs and screaming mimis: Using corpus-assisted techniques to carry out critical discourse analysis of the representation of trans people in the British press. Contemporary critical discourse studies, 211-235.

Baker, P., Gabrielatos, C., Khosravinik, M., Krzyżanowski, M., McEnery, T., & Wodak, R. (2008). A useful methodological synergy? Combining critical discourse analysis and corpus linguistics to examine discourses of refugees and asylum seekers in the UK press. Discourse & society, 19(3), 273-306.

Baker, P. (2006). Using corpora in discourse analysis. A&C Black. Baker, P. (2005). Public discourses of gay men. Abingdon: Routledge

Fairclough, N. (1995). Critical discourse analysis: The critical study of language. London: Longman. Fairclough, N. (1992). Discourse and text: Linguistic and intertextual analysis within discourse analysis. Discourse & Society, 3(2), 193- 217.

Lazar, M. M. (2014). Feminist critical discourse analysis. *The handbook of language, gender, and sexuality*, 180-199.

Partington, A., Duguid, A., & Taylor, C. (2013). *Patterns and meanings in discourse: Theory and practice in corpus-assisted discourse studies (CADS)* (Vol. 55). John Benjamins Publishing.

Partington, A. (2010). Modern diachronic corpus-assisted discourse studies (MD-CADS) on UK newspapers: An overview of the project. *Corpora*, *5*(2), 83-108.

Paterson, L. L., & Coffey-Glover, L. (2018). Discourses of marriage in same-sex marriage debates in the UK press 2011–2014. Journal of Language and Sexuality, 7(2), 175-204.

Tognini-Bonelli, E. (2001). Corpus linguistics at work. *Corpus Linguistics at Work*, 1-236.

Turner, G., Mills, S., Van der Bom, I., Coffey-Glover, L., Paterson, L. L., & Jones, L. (2018). Opposition as victimhood in newspaper debates about same-sex marriage. Discourse & Society, 29(2), 180-197.

Van Dijk, T. A. (2015). Critical Discourse Analysis. *The Handbook of discourse analysis*, 466-485.

Van Dijk, T. A. (2013). Ideology and discourse. *The Oxford handbook of political ideologies*, 175-196. Van Dijk, T. A. (1998). Ideology: A multidisciplinary approach. *Ideology*, 1-384.

Van Leeuwen, T. (2013). The representation of social actors. In *Texts and practices* (pp. 41-79). Routledge.

Van Leeuwen, T. (2008). *Discourse and practice: New tools for critical discourse analysis*. Oxford university press.

Wilkinson, M. (2020). Discourse analysis of LGBT identities. In: Friginal, E., & Hardy, J. A. (Eds.), The Routledge Handbook of Corpus Approaches to Discourse Analysis, (pp. 936-964), Routledge.

Wilkinson, M. (2019). 'Bisexual oysters': A diachronic corpus-based critical discourse analysis of bisexual representation in The Times between 1957 and 2017. Discourse & Communication, 13(2), 249-267.

Wodak, R. (2001). The discourse-historical approach. *Methods of critical discourse analysis*, *1*, 63-94. Zottola, A. (2021). Transgender identities in the press: A corpus-based discourse analysis. Bloomsbury Publishing.

Zottola, A. (2018). Transgender identity labels in the British press: A corpus-based discourse analysis.