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LIST OF MASTER'S DEGREE FINAL PROJECT

ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-2021

Student: Blázquez Fernández, Sara
Title (original): *The Drama of the Troubles: The Representation of Female Characters' Experiences in the Plays of Christina Reid and Anne Devlin*
Supervisors: María Gaviña Costero / Ingrid García Wistädt
Lines of research: Literary and gender Studies
Abstract (original language): During the Troubles in Northern Ireland, violence was consolidated as a weapon of terror not only between civilians and paramilitaries in the public space but also, and more specifically, by men against women in both the public and private spheres. While Northern Irish society had been long considered one of the most patriarchal of Western societies, the arrival of the sectarian conflict functioned as a constraining force that prevented women's public and political participation, relegating them to the boundaries of the house while the Second Wave of Feminism was taking place in Europe. Despite the efforts of this patriarchal society, many women started political careers, participated in paramilitary organisations, found their way in the artistic scene, and took paths different from the social expectations with which they had been brought up. Women playwrights like Anne Devlin and Christina Reid succeeded in depicting in their plays the multifaceted image of the Northern Irish woman as a means of breaking with the stereotypical image of women as mother, daughter, sister, or wife. Therefore, the main aim of this paper is to analyse the experiences of the female characters in Reid and Devlin's plays in order to show the factors that influence their aspirations and decisions, as well as their break with tradition.
Keywords: female characters; social constrictions; sectarian violence; gender inequality; Catholic/Protestant community

Facultat de Filologia, Traducció i Comunicació
Màster Universitari en Investigació en Llengües i Literatures

Student: Capilla Villanueva, Ana

Title (original): *La visión des étrangers dans* Le Roman de Jehan de Paris

Supervisor: Evelio Miñano Martínez

Lines of research: French Medieval Literature

Abstract (original language):

Le présent travail aborde l'analyse de *Le roman de Jehan de Paris*, une œuvre en prose écrite vers la fin du XVe siècle par un auteur anonyme. Plusieurs auteurs ont débattu sur l'identité de son auteur, ainsi que la possibilité que l'histoire racontée ne soit pas complètement fictive, mais inspirée du mariage réel entre le roi Charles VIII et Anne de Bretagne, qui eut lieu environ à la même date d'élaboration du roman. L'analyse qui occupe le présent travail aborde une dimension interne du roman : les personnages et les relations entre eux. On analysera la construction de chaque personnage à travers les comparaisons entre les uns et les autres, avec l'objectif final de discerner quelle est la vision des étrangers que l'auteur de *Le roman de Jehan de Paris* reflète dans son œuvre, et quel pourrait être l'objectif de cette vision.

Keywords: français, anglais, espagnols, semblances, contrastes

Student: Carmen Cerdán, Rodrigo

Title: *«Überleben und herrschen soll der* homo politicus *lernen – und nicht sterben».*
Constancy and prudence in the dramas of Gryphius, Lohenstein y Weise

Supervisors: Ingrid García Wistädt

Lines of research: German Literature

Abstract:

   The aim of this Master-Thesus is to analyse the German baroque dramas *Catharina
von Georgien* (1647/50) by Andreas Gryphius, *Sophonisbe* (1669/80) by Daniel Casper
von Lohenstein and *Masaniello* (1682) by Christian Weise through the prism of two
fundamental concepts during the seventeenth century: the *constantia* of Justus Lipsius
in the first drama and the *prudentia* of Baltasar Gracián and Saavedra Fajardo in the
second and third. These notions are not necessarily mutually exclusive, but distinct
responses to specific socio-historical problems that took place in one of the most
conflictive centuries. Brief introductions to these concepts are given to clarify their
meaning in the context in which they were developed, followed by an interpretation of
the chosen texts. The research concludes that philosophical and political conceptions
are articulated in these dramas, so that models of constancy in the face of adversity and
preparation for death are offered in the first drama – in which it is God who governs
and his providence marks historical destiny – and of regency and prudence in the face
of political and historical crises – in which man's actions are the driving force of
history – in the dramas of Lohenstein and Weise.

Keywords: Baroque; Trauerspiel; Märtyrerdrama; constancy; prudence

Student: Cheng, Zixuan

Title: *The emotional metaphor in Cognitive Linguistics across different languages and cultures*

Supervisor: María Amparo Montaner Montava

Lines of research: Contrastive Linguistics

Abstract:

Metaphor is a linguistic phenomenon closely related to human thought and cognition, as people always naturally use metaphor in their daily life. Metaphor is an important form of human thought and is, in essence, a cognitive activity in which experience in one domain is used to illustrate or understand experience in another domain.

Emotion is an innate human mental activity and is closely related to cognition, while human emotion and cognition interact and influence each other, and the study of human emotion constitutes one of the fundamental parts of the exploration of cognition. Because emotions are vague and abstract, they are often metaphorized in order to be expressed and understood more precisely and directly.

This paper compares the background and current state of research on metaphor, as well as defines and classifies emotion and metaphor. On this basis, the essay is an attempt to compare and analyse some important expressions of emotional metaphors in three languages, English, Spanish and Chinese, to subsequently explain and comment on them from a cognitive perspective. Also with the help of examples of emotional metaphors in literature, this paper enables us to better understand the applications of emotional metaphors. In addition, the relationship between culture, language and metaphor is reflected in the cultural aspect, pointing out the similarities and differences of diverse cultures in the cognitive aspect. The study has theoretical significance and practical value for cognitive linguistics, foreign language teaching and intercultural communication.

Keywords: emotional metaphors, language, culture, cognition

Student: Drobný, Marek

Title: *Marginality and otherness in the short narrative of Leopoldo María Panero*

Supervisor: Domingo Pujante González

Lines of research: Literary Studies. Cultural Studies

Abstract:

The focus of this study is the analysis of manifestations of the marginalization in short stories written by Leopoldo María Panero. As primary sources of investigation served Panero's short stories, as well as his poetry, articles, interviews he gave during his life, several biographies written about his life and studies made about his work. This study also presents an approximation to author's biography and analysis of several translations of tales of mystery and macabre he made during his life. The analysis of the manifestations of the marginalization in Panero's short stories is based on the assumption that the actual concept of marginality is intrinsically associated with the construction of otherness. Hence, the analysis of the short stories focuses in the texts on the manifestations of otherness that contribute to the marginalization of the characters. The study gives a prominent place to manifestations of "madness", which represents one of the common elements shared by the protagonists of the stories and at the same time contributes to the marginalization of the characters. The study focuses on the role played by the categories of time and space within the narration and their contribution to the construction of the marginality.

Keywords: Leopoldo María Panero, Marginality, Madness, Otherness, Gaze of the Other.

Student: Fernández Lull, Adrià
Title: *A scenic perspective of the dialogue between the patriarch and the emperor in the* Vita Nicephori
Supervisor: Ángel Narro Sánchez
Lines of research: Greek Philology
Abstract: In the Life of Nicephorus by Ignatius the Deacon we find a curious passage in the form of a dialogue between the patriarch and the emperor himself. The conversation deals with the great issue of these times: the holy images and their cult. Nicephorus is here a successful iconodule defender, while Leo V, the emperor, represents iconoclasm. This dialogue is inspired by an amount of sources, all worthy of note, but among them stand out the Christian apologetic dialogues and Plato's dialectic corpus should be stressed. Nevertheless, what resources did Ignatius draw from these genres? Why did a former iconoclast use these literary tools when exposing the life of an iconodule saint?
Keywords: Saint Nicephorus, Ingatius the Deacon, Plato, dialogue, iconoclasm.

Student: Guan, Qing

Title: *Comparison between* Celestina *and* History of the West Wing

Supervisor: Rafael Roca Ricart

Lines of research: Comparative Literature

Abstract:

La *Celestina* is a theatrical work written in the 15th century by Fernando de Rojas that represents one of the most important Spanish plays of that time. *History of the West Wing,* by Wang Shi Fu, is one of the most famous works in Chinese dramaturgy and has been very popular since its birth in the 14th century. Both occupy a relevant position in the history of literature inside and outside the country. Although they belong to two different cultures and have few relationships historically, they present many similarities, and at the same time there are differences between them.

This work offers a comparative analysis of *La Celestina* and *History of the West Wing* from aspects such as the love relationships between the heroes, the intermediary figures of love and the characteristic literary spaces of love, with the aim of showing the similarities and the most notable differences between them, as well as the authors' intentions when writing their works.

Keywords: comparative literature, thematology, love, sensual love, intermediaries of love.

Student: Li, Jiajun

Title: *The translation of football terms and the skills of interpreting of football under different situations between Spanish and China*

Supervisor: Hang Ferrer Mora

Lines of research: translation and contrastive linguistics

Abstract:

Nowadays more and more Spanish or Latin American coaches and football experts are coming to work in China. Therefore, more translators are needed to help them do this job efficiently. However, one of the problems is that translation in the football field is highly specialised.

According to my work experience, many translators have a lot of problems in translating Chinese-Spanish football terms and in different situations in football work. For example, the translation of technical terms is problematic; also, Spanish idioms cannot be understood and transformed into Chinese. The research on this topic aims, firstly, to find equivalents for Spanish terms in Chinese. Secondly, with the help of the knowledge of the terms, to be able to deeply understand what the coaches say and to convey the information accurately and quickly.

As a Chinese professional club translator, I hope I can contribute to the development of Chinese football in terms of language and translation through my contribution.

Keywords: terminology, translation, interpreting, Spanish-Chinese, football

Student: Llorca Isnardo, Blanca

Title: *Anticlericalism in medieval Catalan literature: a rupturist phenomenon or critical?*

Supervisor: Josep E. Rubio Albarracín

Lines of research: Medieval Catalan Literature

Abstract:

   Study of the manifestations of anti-clericalism in medieval Catalan literature from a textual corpus elaborated with literary texts of two aspects: theological texts and popular texts. Ethnological treatment of the texts chosen with the point of study located in the anticlerical aspects. Analysis of the relationship of medieval *fabliaux* with Catalan *contes plaents*, deepening their structural and thematic similarity. Observation and explanation from the literature of the sociological evangelization of customs carried out by the Catholic Church throughout the late medieval period and of the behavior problems suffered by the clergy of the time. Verification through the texts of the loss of prestige suffered by the secular clergy due to the immoral behaviors they practiced: the game of dice, lustful acts, violence or simony. From the detailed study of the texts, conclusions are drawn about the type of anticlericalism practiced and what was its purpose and influence in the society of the time.

Keywords: anticlericalism, *fabliaux*, amorality, clergy*, contes plaents*.

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Student: López Fernández, Daniel
Title: *Biopolitical practices at* Die Blechtrommel
Supervisor: Isabel Gutiérrez Koester
Lines of research: German Philology

Abstract:

Biopolitics has become one of the fundamental fields of study to understand our political modernity, as well as a valuable tool for literary analysis. However, in the current bibliography on *Die Blechtrommel* we do not find any study that adopts a biopolitical perspective as a hermeneutical approach to the work, at least exhaustively. As we will demonstrate, an analysis of Günter Grass's work through the framework of biopolitics is possible. The novel reflects, among other things, the eugenic thought adopted by National Socialism, its euthanasic practices, its racist ideology or the exclusionary ideals of its body politics and culture, all of them objects of study that can be covered from a biopolitical perspective. Likewise, the novel elaborates in its pages a counterculture opposed to Nazi rationality through the use of elements of popular culture, especially popular and literary fairy-tales and their aesthetics of the grotesque. Thus, *Die Blechtrommel* represents not only the biopolitical practices and mechanisms exercised by the Third Reich and its continuity under the German Federal Republic, but also the possibilities of finding a threshold of resistance to biopower.

Keywords: biopolitics, *Die Blechtrommel*, eugenics, euthanasia, nazism.

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Student: Ortizà Palomares, Teresa
Title: *Migration literature written in Spanish / Catalan by women of Arab origin (21st century): the sound of an unfinished female migration*
Supervisors: Antonio Constán Nava / Ingrid García Wistädt
Lines of research: Arabic literature in non-Arabic language

Abstract:

The study shows the comparative analysis among different migrant authors with an Arabic origin who write in Spanish or Catalan. For this purpose, have been selected three authors born in Arab countries who ended up settling in Spain for personal reasons, and their works have been chosen because of personal criteria. While it is worth noting the contextualization that is before the study itself, in which we talk about contemporary Arabic literature and focus on some of the links that these novels share as are the literature of migration, Women and Islam, three of the themes that are fundamental pillars of this work. In addi2on to these, we will consider other issues such as marriage, the identity or differences that we can appreciate between the roles established for the woman depending on the age range in which she is. For a better understanding of each of them, a conceptual map and a schema of each story have been developed. Finally, we will close the investigation with the section on conclusions, where we will present both the final results and personal impressions.

Keywords: migration Literature, women, identity, culture, Najat el Hachmi, Laila Karrouch, Nour Esam Zeydan

Student: Palomino Juárez, Alba

Title: *The Spanish Health Crisis: A Discursive Analysis of News Values Assisted by a Corpus in English-Speaking Media*

Supervisor: Miguel Fuster Márquez

Lines of research: Discourse Analysis

Abstract:

SARS-COV-2, commonly known as COVID-19 or coronavirus, has been an issue that was at the forefront of social, economic, political and media interest. The widespread infection, and mortality, caused by the disease have given rise to uncertainty and beliefs of disappointment among the world's population, which has had no choice but to compare health care management between leading countries. It has been this complexity and the lack of knowledge about the virus that has resulted in research into the epidemic in various disciplines. It is one of these fields of study in which media discourse in its different contexts has been extensively researched.

However, there is a dearth of literature on the newsworthiness of news discourse from other countries such as Spain. Building on this niche, this thesis aims to examine closely how Spanish health management during the first stage of the pandemic is constructed in the news texts or broadcast news of two leading English-language newspapers and news channels, among which are The Times, The New York Times, BBC or CNN. Specifically, the aim is to determine which news values are used to construct the discourse on COVID-19 in Spain in these four British and American media outlets in order to ascertain how relevant the health management has been in an internationally renowned media.

Keywords: *Critical Discourse Analysis, Discursive News Values Analysis, Corpus Assisted Discourse Analysis, coronavirus, Spain, English News Media*

Student: Ren, Ruitong

Title: *Descriptive analysis of the translation of culturemas in travel catalogs (Chinese-Spanish)*

Supervisors: Diana González Pastor / Ferran Robles Sabater

Lines of research: Contrastive studies in languages and literatures

Abstract

Tourism texts are a multi-functional form of communication that combines different disciplines and discourse modalities and present distinctive aspects such as richness of grammar and rhetoric aspects, as well as specific vocabulary. These texts usually represent the first contact of many travellers visiting foreign countries and cultures that have very different values and customs. Guidebooks, blogs, travel notebooks, or hotel or gastronomy-related websites promoting tourist destinations frequently create are a partial representation in the reader's mind, perpetuating cultural stereotypes.

This paper analyses the translation of the cultural words from a series of travel agency catalogues that advertise the main destinations in China for Spanish tourists in order to highlight the most common difficulties in translation of this type of texts. It also offers a series of recommendations for the translation of tourism texts in the Chinese-Spanish language pair.

Keywords: cultural words, contrastive text analysis, translation strategies, tourism, Chinese-Spanish

Student: Sun, Xiaona

Title: *Problems of teaching Spanish to Chinese students: teaching systems and didactic manuals*

Supervisor: María Rosa Álvarez Sellers

Lines of research: Teaching of foreign languages

Abstract:

The teaching and learning of second languages or foreign languages is framed in the field of Applied Linguistics, so it is practical and multidisciplinary and requires specific analyses according to different linguistic and sociocultural contexts. This thesis tries to focus on this process happened in Chinese students, and its aim is to solve the problems that occurred during this process and propose some efficient strategies to improve it. First, we learned the interlinguistic distance between Chinese and Spanish by contrastive analysis. Then, from the perspective of pragmatics, we applied this method in the comparison of Spanish textbooks. Finally, we carried out an error analysis on a dictation test in order to verify the predictions of potential errors in the analysis. The result shows that Chinese students face both interlinguistic and extralinguistic problems, due to the fact that the teaching and learning of Spanish in China is limited on the education and oriented to exams that highly value input and relatively neglect output that is susceptible to improve communication competence. This imbalance will undoubtedly lead to the negative transfer of the mother tongue, which makes the students limited in an interlanguage instead of the target language.

Keywords: The teaching and learning of second languages or foreign languages, Chinese students, communication competence, contrastive analysis, error analysis

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Student: Valles Peco, Lara

Title: *The comic in the dissemination of cultural hybridization processes:* Le piano oriental *(2015) by Zeina Abirached*

Supervisor: Adela Cortijo Talavera

Lines of research: Cultural Studies

Abstract:

   In this work, we will tackle the importance of the comic as an artistic expression medium and appropriate outreach tool in cultural hybridization processes. For that, we will take as a sample the graphic novel *Le piano oriental* (2015) by the Lebanese strip cartoonist Zeina Abirached. This graphic novel, that shows autobiographical echoes, tells the intertwined stories of Zeina (Abirached) and Abdallah, and speaks of hybridization. Hybridization in multiple dimensions, from the purely formal aspects of the comic to the story`s plot, passing through linguistic and sociological issues. *Le piano oriental* shows contrast and miscegenation in each page.

   The human being is a migrant from their origins. Migrations, however, are still cause of sometimes conflictive shocks. In this sense, we will emphasize the importance of art, and especially comic, as a culture integrator element, and we will analyse how this medium exploits its narrative potential, and how the cultural hybridizations and multiculturality fit in the works of strip cartoonists from different countries. The comic by arabian authors like Abirached has experienced a significant growth during the last decades, and so the sociological thematic. In *Le piano oriental*, we find reflected these growths.

Keywords: Comic, cultural hybridization, multiculturality, bilingualism, music

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Student: Xia, Mengyu

Title: *Contrastive study of sexism in Chinese and Spanish sayings since a cultural perspective*

Supervisor: María Amparo Montaner Montava

Lines of research: Contrastive Linguistics, General Linguistics

Abstract:

   Studies on language and gender have been an important topic for linguists, who are divided into two main groups according to their approach: those who focus on the differences in discourse between men and women, as they find that men and women speak differently, and those who believe that people speak differently about women and men and that language is sexist towards women. Sexism is reflected in all aspects of life, especially in language.

   Language is a mirror of society and culture, reflecting social traditions and values. The proverb, as the essence of language, carries a deep cultural meaning. Spanish and Chinese sayings have a long history and demonstrate the life experiences of people throughout history. Therefore, exploring sexism through proverbs is representative and persuasive.

   This paper focuses on the phenomenon of sexism in Chinese and Spanish sayings. The comparative method is used to explain and analyse the cultural manifestations of sexism in Chinese and Spanish sayings from three main aspects: physical appearance, family status and social status. In addition, we analyse the causes of sexism from three different perspectives: social, cultural and psychological factors. Finally, the sayings can be applied in cross-cultural foreign language teaching and some strategies are proposed for teaching Chinese sayings about women to Spanish students in culture classes.

   The aim is to reveal the discrimination of women in the language through the comparison of the sayings, with the purpose of making people pay more attention to gender equality and eliminate the phenomenon of sexism in language, and also contribute to a communication environment that features equality and respect.

Keywords: language and culture, proverb, sexism, Chinese, Spanish

Facultat de Filologia, Traducció i Comunicació
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Student: Zhang, Xiao
Title: *Analysis of the meaning of basic colors in Spanish and Chinese for teaching*
Supervisor: María Amparo Montaner Montava
Lines of research: Contrastive Linguistics, General Linguistics

Abstract:

Cultural phenomena can be reflected in one language, and different languages are embedded in different national cultures. Vocabulary is the most basic unit for transmitting information. People define the phenomena of life and express specific meanings through words. Because people have different perspectives, in different language systems, the meaning of vocabulary has its own properties. Vocabulary plays a very important role in the presentation of national characteristics, and its application is an important manifestation of the unique way of thinking, cognitive style and expression of a nation. Colour is closely related to people's lives and is inseparable from social culture. The result of cultural diversity is that the meaning of colour is different in the cultures of Spain and China. Colour vocabulary is not only an essential component of language, but also an important way of displaying culture, combining more complex and diverse cultural connotations. Whether it is the meaning of colour itself or the richer connotation of the colour vocabulary, it is the important embodiment of national culture, and it is the decorative pearl of Spanish and Chinese cultures. This article compares the cultural connotations of the five colours "black", "white", "red", "yellow" "green" and "blue" in the Spanish and Chinese vocabularies using the methods of materials analysis and comparative analysis. From the aspects of traditional culture, social psychology and religions, this work explores the similarities of the basic knowledge of the two nationalities and the cultural differences of colour and colour vocabulary in traditional culture and religion. Understanding the cultural specificities and common elements of the Spanish and Chinese colour vocabularies can provide some reference for intercultural communication and promote mutual understanding and communication.

Keywords: colour vocabulary; cultural connotation; Spanish; Chinese; intercultural communication.

Student: Zhong, Kefan

Title (original): *Monsters and Stereotypes about the East in Medieval Travel Literature*

Supervisor: Josep E. Rubio Albarracín

Lines of research: Medieval Literature

Abstract (original language):

When medieval European travellers came to Asia, what they saw through their eyes was very different from what they see in modern times. The history of exchanges between the West and the East is long and varied, and the history of exchanges between the countries on the Silk Road dates back even to the tenth century BC.

Between the 5th and 15th centuries, travellers between the two continents were mostly merchants and missionaries who looked at this mysterious Eastern world through Western eyes and left many travel records. By the late Middle Ages, this secular genre had become popular, resulting in semi-fictional works such as the Travels of Marco Polo and completely fictional works such as the Travels of Sir John Mandeville. These works were so popular that they determined the image of the Eastern world in the minds of Westerners for a long time after.

It is noteworthy that the authors who wrote these works were people who brought with them a European cultural background. Each traveller used his or her background knowledge to interpret and rationalise the culture of a foreign land. Misinterpretation is a major reason why the monster phenomenon has arisen.

However, monsters have been present in European cultural traditions since the beginning. The changing perceptions and definitions of monsters are also a reflection of the process of resistance to the unknown to acceptance, and ultimately the process of rediscovery and acceptance of mankind.

Keywords: travel literature, travelling in medieval, monster, stereotypes, Orient and Occident.