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MARGINS, MARGINALIZATION AND THE DISCOURSE OF MARGINALITY

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## MONOLOGUE AS A DISCOURSE OF MARGINALITY IN CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN DRAMA

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### **Abstract**

Monologue has been used as a form of substitute communication throughout the history of drama for variety of purposes. Yet the form and shape of monologue has been changed since the World War II, and has become a voice of marginality. As substitution of stage language, monologue can also be read as the attempt to explain the unexplainable and speak the unspeakable. Contemporary American dramatists such as Edward Albee, David Mamet, Sam Shepard, August Wilson employ monologue as a discourse of marginality in their dramas. They create monologists to reflect marginality of identity, certain groups and/or community in their prominent plays. Toby's 'Cat Story' in *A Delicate Balance*, 'Jerry and the Dog' in *The Zoo Story*, Stu's 'Fish and Fisherman' in *Chicago*, Troy's 'Wrestling with Death' in *Fences* are all typical monologues that reflect voices of marginality. This paper attempts to analyze the function of monologue as a discourse of marginality in the selected dramas of the playwrights under discussion.

**Key words:** *monologue, marginality, American drama, story-telling.*

## REMIX CULTURE: EXPLORING TRANSFORMATIVE ENTANGLEMENTS

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### **Abstract**

"Remix" refers to a set of creative practices that appropriate characters, images, and/or music of existing texts, then recut, reframe, and recombine with unrelated texts to create entirely new products. These products originate almost exclusively from within the margins of artistic communities, historically in a technological underground and in dramatic tension with entertainment conglomerates that have sought to control them. While there exists a substantive body of literature on aspects of ownership and challenges to traditional owner/user conventions, in particular "fair use" as defined by U.S. Copyright law, the focus of the presentation will be on the cultural milieu that 'gives voice' to this creative process. Presenting evidence that remix is an historical and universal element of culture itself, with roots in the

oral tradition, I propose that remix is integral to cultural evolution. Referencing Habermas' (1991) concerns about the development of a mass culture that "merely consumes" without contributing to the whole and Manovich (2007, 2011) on what constitutes new media, I will explore the phenomenon of these increasingly open collaborations. While I will offer several examples, my principal text will be *HitRecord*, a collaborative recording project that has moved out of the shadows.

**Keywords:** *remix culture, convergence culture, web 2.0, media studies, cultural studies*

## **"IT WAS BLACKSMITH'S GUILT, BUT THE GYPSY WAS HANGED": OTHERNESS IN PROVERBS**

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### **Abstract**

One of the key concepts with which postcolonialism operates is the Other. But the Other has been under the scrutiny of another study field that is imagology. Imagology is based on the concept of *imago*, a Freudian term used in psychoanalytical studies. A brief and exact definition of "imago" would stipulate that it has to do with the way in which a subject apprehends the other and which is determined by the intersubjective relations with the family members. Imago is the starting point of this field of research which deals with the way the other is represented in a literary work or in the ideology of a nation, "in the mental structures prevailing in a cultural community at a given historical moment." (Gavriliu, 2002: 5) The present paper aims at pinpointing the ways in which the Gypsies are perceived and represented in Romania (and not only), discussing the basic assumptions that have transformed this ethnic group into the *demonic other*.

**Key words:** *other, proverb, imago, Gypsy, ethnic group*

# THE MARGINALIZATION OF ESP COURSES IN THE CURRICULA OF ROMANIAN NON-PHILOLOGICAL

## 1.FACULTIES

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### **Abstract**

Given the gaps in school curricula or the insufficient application of knowledge, students have a deficit of information when they come to university studies. Through specific stages of preparation, teachers help students overcome their fears until they reach a certain level of confidence which allows them to use English as a proper vehicle facilitating the transfer of knowledge from different fields of activity. Although this seems to be a problem, the real issue is that ESP has come to be so marginalised in the curricula of the non-philological faculties in Romania that students only study it during their first two years of studies.

Studying a second language takes time and dedication and the need for learning it comes from certain reasons. Whether for personal development, social reasons or for a future job, students cannot progress if English is given only the status of an optional course to be studied once a week or fortnightly. A second language should prepare students for the language and skills they will be exposed while the role of ESP is to teach English as an essential means to a clearly identifiable goal. Most ESP programmes are concerned with teaching English to students whose primary interest lies in some branch of science, applied science, administration, business, commerce, engineering or technology. The present paper tries to answer some of the following questions:

1. Is it necessary to know a foreign language in order to graduate in a certain field?
2. Is ESP losing ground to ‘generic’ English a plus for the students or a way of marginalising ESP?
3. Are the students’ needs met or marginalised?

**Key words:** ESP, ESL, EGAP, specificity, language varieties

## MARGINALITY AS A SIGN OF DEFIANCE

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### **Abstract**

If we refer to the social and cultural background of *Vanity Fair*, whenever we try to establish the characters’ place and their freedom in a world full of social constraints, we cannot ignore the position of the woman in a patriarchal society or the woman’s dissimulation as a means of survival in such a world. If we take into consideration Hegel’s notions from his *Phenomenology of Spirit* we speak about a two-layered novel where all relations are based on the binary opposition between *Knechtschaft* (servitude) and *Herrschaft* (mastery) and all characters move between the margin and the centre according to the relations

and roles they develop. The whole conflict between man and woman can be reduced to the issue of recognition. All throughout the novel we see the woman's (the servant's) need for recognition, the woman constantly moves between margin and centre. The paper aims at analysing how the 19<sup>th</sup> century fiction develops in an industrial culture where money is the element that governs everybody's life. Thus we will talk about the marketing of things, as well as of human beings, and about the setting up of institutions, such as marriage, which enforces all kind of transactions.

**Key words:** master- servant, margin-center, hunter- hunted

## **CHILDREN AND THE DISCOURSE OF MARGINALITY IN 19TH-CENTURY ENGLISH NOVELS**

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### **Abstract**

One of the two major and rival conceptions of childhood in the 19th century originated in the Puritan and evangelical doctrines, whereas the origins of the other one could be traced back to the Romantic sensibilities. These two major views upon childhood often tended to overlap and interpenetrate each other. Our paper aims at outlining the two main conceptions of childhood in the 19th century and at identifying the way in which these two conceptions manifested themselves in the literary discourse – which is a discourse of marginality – of 19th-century English writers such as Charles Dickens, the Brontë sisters or Thomas Hardy. The paper will also highlight the fact that the status of the child-character improved much faster than the status of real children.

**Key words:** *childhood, identity, marginalization, discourse of marginality, status*

## **FORMATION OF LINGVOCULTURAL COMPETENCE AS A WAY OF AVOIDING CULTURAL MARGINALITY OF A TRANSLATOR DURING HIS PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY**

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### **Abstract**

In sociology there is such a concept as cultural marginality. It was introduced by sociologist Robert Park who defines it as the betweenness of a human position between two cultures or subcultures concerning the processes of cross-cultural contacts and assimilation. We consider it reasonable to regard cultural marginality of a translator/interpreter who gets into a new cultural environment at the beginning of his professional activity. Being unaware of the foreign language culture subtleties s/he does not lose the connection with his native culture and therefore transforms and modifies its values instead of learning

new cultural norms. Interaction with people of studied culture becomes ineffective. To avoid cultural marginality of the translator/interpreter he or she should be trained under such educational conditions that help students get to know cultural peculiarities of studied language countries and thereby possess the lingvocultural competence. To be professional, translators as well as interpreters should be experts in the cultures of the language they work with and be able to transmit all the facets of culturally marked elements as accurately as possible. Lingvocultural competence is the basic component of cross-cultural competence and its formation during the professional training is the main aim of the competitive translator or interpreter education.

**Key words:** *cultural marginality, lingvocultural competence, translator, interpreter, professional training.*

## THE IMPACT OF MARGINALIZATION IN JOSEPH CONRAD'S TALES AND NOVELS

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### **Abstract**

Dealing with the intrusion and interference of European imperialism in the Pacific, in the East India, in South America and in Africa, many of Joseph Conrad's tales and novels gradually reveal the physical, psychological, social, economic, cultural or moral effects of colonialism upon both the natives and the colonizers. This paper will analyse the variety of narrative techniques used by Conrad to highlight the problematics of marginalization. For example, the poetic and allegorical discourse in *The Nigger of the Narcissus* (1887) allows Conrad to record individual and collective instances of racial discrimination whereas the parodical and satirical voice in *An Outpost of Progress* (1899) undermines the colonizers' false pretenses to bring progress and civilization to distant territories.

In addition, this paper is meant to show that darkness as a recurrent motif in Conrad's work is in fact the result of marginalization visible in short stories such as *The Lagoon* (1898), novellas such as *Heart of Darkness* (1899), *Youth* (1902), *The End of the Tether* (1902) or *Typhoon* (1903) as well as in novels such as the Malaysian trilogy, *Lord Jim* (1900), *Chance* (1913) or *Victory* (1915).

**Key words:** *colonialism, marginalization, narrative techniques, recurrent motifs.*

## ON THE MARGIN OF MEANING – AMERICAN CONCEPTUAL POETRY

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## Abstract

One of the most experimental trends in American poetry at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century is represented by the Conceptual poetry movement which, while continuing the avant-garde principles of the last century, discovers new paths towards an interesting, but highly controversial poeticity. The present paper is an analysis of the Conceptual poets' struggle against expression, for the sake of a type of poetry that is deliberately anti-aesthetic and depersonalized. These Conceptual textual games that favour form above all else are primarily meant to meet the challenges of the digital era and its disturbing semantic anxieties.

## Key words:

### ABOUT, ON, OF 'MARGINALITY' IN DAVID LODGE'S SMALL WORLD, OR IN THE 'CENTRE' OF AN ACADEMIC ROMANCE

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## Abstract

The paper deals with the concept of 'marginality' as a historical and cultural phenomenon, focusing on its representations at a metafictional level in David Lodge's *Small World: An Academic Romance* (1984). The three prepositions in the title of the paper (*about, on, of*) are meant to display the diachronic and synchronic *intellectual journey* of s/he who wants "to find out what's going on in the great world of ideas. Who's in, who's out, and all that." (SW, p.15). The inclusion or exclusion of certain literary trends or phenomena from the characters' thinking because they correspond more or less to the mainstream critical theories and preoccupations, the human and spatial dimensions of marginality, the "creative power of marginality for overcoming itself" (Young Lee 1995:4), the decoding of acts of reading /writing in terms of 'sharing otherness' and interpreting differences constitute some other aspects tackled with when referring to the academically reinvented *global world*.

**Key words:** *margins and centre, cultural change(s), transgressing borders, identity.*

### ON THE MARGIN OF BLACKNESS

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## Abstract

This paper aims at exploring the performance of the condition of marginality by investigating the African-American case. Based on a dyachrony of the condition of black marginality as represented in African-American literature, the paper purports that the equation of nation, culture, language and

literature is nowadays an obsolete truth of the Sun-revolves-around-the-Earth type and further argues that, as the present-day mobility of perspective renders any centre relative, the correlative notions of centre and margin prove to be empirically circumstantial and self-effacing into infinity, questioning the very ratiocination of a centric cosmos. The paper then suggests that, in the multiplicity of relative centres, any category of identification, such as race or ethnicity for example, “is coexistent with an extraordinary diversity of subject positions” (Hall 1994:395), constituting just one choice among the other simultaneous many, and goes on to investigate whether this relativism brings about the end of the essential black subject.

**Key words:** *African-American, blackness, margin, centre, semiological paradigm.*

## THE SLUMS IN CARAGIALE'S WORK. ELEMENTS OF MARGINALIZATION

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### **Abstract**

Caragiale's slums can be found in all environments and in all social categories because it is not confined to the suburbs, but to a psychological category. Aspects of social, cultural, educational environment and also feminism are emphasized especially with the comic and found throughout the whole literary and publishing work of Caragiale, either comedies, moments and sketches or press articles. Among those who have mentioned about the faces of marginalization created by Caragiale are Florin Manolescu, Garabet Ibrăileanu or Titu Maiorescu.

**Key words:** *slum, feminism, comedies, comic, moments and sketches*

## SELVES/TEXTS IN THE MARGINS IN JOHN FOWLES'S *THE FRENCH LIEUTENANT'S WOMAN*

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### **Abstract**

Orbiting around the dichotomy centre - periphery, marginality necessarily involves the deviation from or the violation / transgression of dominant codes / norms.

Our aim is that of examining issues of marginality – be it social, religious, sexual, cultural, textual, etc. – in *The French Lieutenant's Woman* by John Fowles, by first identifying the privileged codes / norms at work in the above-mentioned text and then analysing the way in which these codes are both used and abused.



**Key words:** margin(s) - centre(s), marginality, marginalization, code, violation

## **FROM MARGINALITY TO CELEBRITY IN ENLIGHTENMENT ENGLISH CULTURE: THE CASE OF PETER THE WILD BOY**

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### **Abstract**

Reports on feral children discovered in several parts of Europe attracted high levels of public attention during the eighteenth century. In England, the case of Peter the Wild Boy became famous and was hotly debated. The feral child was found naked while roaming the forests of Hanover in 1725 and was then taken to the court of George I. His discovery led to the production of numerous pamphlets, poems, sermons, paintings and even wax figures representing the boy. Except for literary productions, the fascination with the monstrous other also caused intense scientific debates on the topic of human nature, the human mind, or the boundaries between the human and the animal species. In fact, these “humanimals” or marginal species (Farland and Hediger 2009) blurred contemporary knowledge of human nature.

Firstly, this paper discusses the historical and cultural context related to the discovery of such feral children in Enlightenment England. Secondly, we focus on the public impact of its intense journalistic representations which revealed the ways in which the outcast or marginalized feral child became a Georgian celebrity, the talk of the town, a royal pet and an inhabitant of Kensington Palace. Thirdly, the article looks at the hot scientific and philosophical debates prompted by the discovery of Peter the Wild Boy. Interpretations of his nature varied from seeing the child as an embodiment of the noble savage figure to a mentally disabled abandoned child. Fourthly, we will focus on some representations of the feral child in the arts and other forms of cultural production of the period. Finally, we will investigate Daniel Defoe’s satirical views on the topic as presented in his pamphlet *Mere Nature Delineated: or, a Body without a Soul* (1726).

**Key-words:** *feral child, human mind, noble savage, the outcast, education, nature, civilization*

## **ARCHITECTURE OF THE DOMESTIC REALM IN INDIA: GENDER AND SPATIAL MARGINALIZATION**

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### **Abstract**

I view architecture primarily as a product of culture. Physical space is not innate but is the setting of life and of its various rituals and activities. Patterns of behavior within spaces are culturally learned and

accepted as a way of life. At various levels, from the city to the neighborhood and from institutions to the dwelling, the relationship between men and women is expressed in the built form. If carefully observed, one finds invisible and subtle forms of spatial discrimination in society towards women, in both public and private spheres. Women's exclusion from and confinement to certain spaces are kind of control mechanisms and can be viewed as modes of marginalization. This paper will look at the socio-cultural relationship of gender and architecture within the domestic realm in general in India, where often internalized rules govern the use of space and codes regulate behavior between genders. It will trace this connection in various settings, from the traditional house form to the contemporary apartment and then, finally, it will focus on the changing role of women and house form in the state of Gujarat as a detailed case study.

**Key words:** *women, domestic space, marginalization, shifting boundaries.*

## **THE “PERIPHERY COMPLEX”: TRANSLATION APPROACHES IN ROMANIA**

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### *Abstract*

Translation is an essential concern for the “minor” countries, like Romania. Because of its minor status, Romania has to interact with major countries and cultures and constantly faces the practical need for translation in order to be understood abroad and to digest major cultural texts at home.

**Key -words:** *cultural barriers, dominant language, less translated language, periphery complex, text production.*

## **‘COOL REASON’: ON HUMAN ALIENATION IN (POST) MODERN ACADEMIC DISCOURSE**

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### **Abstract**

English academic discourse, which emerged in the 17th century as a reflection of rationalism, has gradually taken over as dominant paradigm, becoming enmeshed with the power structures of modernity. Such discourse is essentially referential and relies heavily on nominalisation, which has expanded

historically within science to create higher orders of abstraction, increasingly removed from everyday experience. Thus academic discourse creates a worldview that consists entirely of things, while limiting the opportunities for expressing attitude, as it creates an impression of neutrality and emotional detachment. Systemic functional linguistics, in which grammar is a theory of experience, and in particular its foremost proponent and creator, M.A.K. Halliday (1993: 21), has warned that this kind of language has taken over and become 'anti-democratic' while clearly outlining two literacies – the everyday and the academic. Grammar, Halliday writes, releases semiotic energy and in so doing limits the meanings that can be created – and in that sense, it is not neutral. At present, it's the pseudo-scientific discourse of technocracy which mystifies while striving to organize reality.

The paper sets out to trace the origins and the outcome of this shift towards thinginess in academic discourse, as well as its overall effect of alienating the human factor in the process.

**Key words:** *academic discourse; domination; alienation; nominal style; reconstruction of reality.*

## **GYPSIES: A LINGUISTIC CONSTRUCTION OF THEIR MARGINALITY IN ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS HEADLINES**

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### *Abstract*

The media represent a good channel for shaping and transmitting representations of society, representations that uphold the current values and opinions, influencing the people's beliefs and views. Starting from this idea and having in view the fact that, in the last decades, Gypsies have become a frequent topic of the news (at least) in Europe, the present paper has two aims: (1) to analyse the manner in which the Gypsies' marginality (which seems to be perennial) is linguistically constructed in some English newspapers headlines and (2) to depict the influence of these headlines upon the readers' beliefs regarding the Gypsies.

Key-words: gypsies, marginality, headlines, exclusion, integration

## **CENTRE AND PERIPHERY IN THE PROCESS OF TRANSLATION**

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### **Abstract**

Faithfulness and/or betrayal are considered to be inevitable in the process of translation. To whom should the translator be faithful? To the author's communicative intention? To the meaning of the text? To the source language? To the target language? By answering some of these questions, following a semio-pragmatic approach, we will try to provide arguments in favour of the hypothesis that the central element in the process of translation, the only decision-maker in this complex semiosis, is the translator; author (her/his intention) and reader (her/his response) are only peripheral. Translating a literary text is a particularly complex process of communication; the translator connects two communicative events: a first event initiated by the author of the original text, where the translator is recipient/interpreter/ reader and a second event, initiated by the translator, in which she/he (the translator) becomes the author/producer of another text. Context is another central element. Meaning is context-dependent/use; this makes it impossible, at least in the case of the literary texts, for the same signified to be assigned to different signifiers - belonging to different signifying systems - produced in different contexts. In literary texts, the meaning of words/expressions lies at the periphery of the signified; meaning is vague and indeterminate, it is hidden, implied, written between lines. By processing the ambiguous signs in appropriate contexts, the translator can only try to create the closest possible meaning to the meaning intended by the author of the original text. We will also try to prove that the faithfulness/betrayal issue is nothing but a matter of relevance.

**Key words:** *centre, periphery, signifier, signified, context, relevance*

## IDENTITY DILEMMAS IN THE POST-TOTALITARIAN ROMANIAN CRITIQUE

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### Abstract

The Eastern-European cultural space registers an acute and deliberate separation from the communist political system, which leads to a conscious quest for a self lead by the literatures that are reborn after the mechanism of ideological oppression disappeared. The result is a permanent re-definition of the national cultural positions with reference to the European centre, joined by a revision of aesthetic criteria that allow peripheral cultural ‘voices’ to interact on the Western scene. The stated aim is for ‘marginal literature’ to actively participate to the European circulation of cultural production, which entails the necessity of invoking studies focused on European interferences, as well as comparative analyses of the status of other *marginal* post-communist literatures, which found a solution for their *identity problem* by supporting a national cultural voice already heard in a European context. The underlying development of the pluriethnic multiplicity is conditioned, from a globalizing perspective, by the promotion of the undergoing re-discussion and re-evaluation of the national canon in regard to the European one, which gives way, on the Romanian stage, to different validation / invalidation strategies for the concept of *identity through literature*. Therefore, the arguments for and against the Eurocentric position of Romanian literature motivate several significant directions within the larger concept of ‘Romanian cultural identity’, organized around certain minimal cultural items which define dichotomies that are sometimes excessively artificial, such as basic ruralism vs urbanism, cultural following vs European vocation, cultural-identity non-value vs cult of the national writer, overbid ‘cultural patriotism’ vs the acute consciousness of the marginal location.

**Key words:** *critical discourse, complex of the margin, Romanian literature, identity, dilemmas.*

## GENDER MARGINALIZATION AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION

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### **Abstract**

Gender inequality and economic marginalization contribute to the concept of social exclusion, that gained currency in the European context in response to rising unemployment and income inequalities of closing decades of the 20th century, a period of considerable economic and social dislocation. "Social exclusion" is seen from the definition offered by the European Foundation to represent the other end of the spectrum to "full participation". We argue that the primary value-added of a social exclusion perspective for development policy lies not so much in the "naming" of a new problem, as it appears to have done in northern social policy studies, but in offering an integrated way of looking at different forms of disadvantage which have tended to be dealt separately in the development studies literature. In particular, the experience of the certain "set apart" groups and categories in a society is captured. There is a bridge between the concept of poverty, which focuses on absolute levels of deprivation, and that of inequality, which is concerned with distributional issues. Social exclusion helps to highlight inequalities in the distribution of deprivation of the poor.

We speak about a conceptualization of social exclusion, poverty, health, education, the policy implications for linking poverty reduction strategies to the challenge of building more inclusive societies.

**Key words:** *social exclusion, marginalization, decentralization, set-apart groups, gender.*

## INDIAN CAPTIVITY NARRATIVES – FROM MARGIN TO CENTER

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### **Abstract**

The Indian captivity narrative is the first purely American literary genre. We may thus argue that the American literature has its beginnings in a writing which strongly implies the idea of marginality. In such narratives the hero, as well as the author, was almost always a woman who was brutally separated from her cultural milieu by being taken captive and then returned to her community carrying a message molded by her experience in the contact zone and beyond. In my presentation I will approach three different captivity narratives –Mary Rowlandson's, Hannah Duston's, and Olive Oatman's - presenting three different types of captive and the differing discursive means by which their story was told. The emphasis will fall on the cycle life within the community (which meant marginality as a woman) – captivity (which implies the status of the other, the outsider, for both captive and captor) – return to the community as spiritual victor. The one who had experienced the double burden of being a woman and a captive was placed at the center because of the spiritual use of what she had undergone. But sometimes the center only meant disguised marginality.

**Key words :** *captivity narrative, contact zone, liminality, narrative voice, Puritanism*

## THE CONTEMPORARY LINGUISTIC FASHION OF ROMANIAN MARGINALIZATION IN CREATING THE VERBAL IDENTITY OF LOCAL ENTERPRISES AND TRADEMARKS

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### Abstract

In the context of Romania's contemporary crises, the theory of forms without substance formulated by Titu Maiorescu (1868) continues to explain the emergence of fashionably empty cultural forms that point toward the lack of adaptation of foreign elements to local realities. In addition to this theoretical model, “the BPSE pattern” (Salkie 1995) and the theory of migration from margin to center (as revised by Cutitaru 2004) support our attempt at mirroring the cultural transitions of the Bacău town in terms of the linguistic fashions of advertising names (Kryukova, 2008: 409).

Considering that linguistic identity is one of the essential components of individual and collective identity, enhanced or subverted by specific cultural practices, our paper brings to attention an alarmingly widespread phenomenon: the gradual pushing of Romanian linguistic items to the periphery in promotional culture, under the influence of globalization. Once placed at the core of the verbal identity of local companies, firms and trademarks and stored for generations in the collective memory, most Romanian names suffer nowadays from this marginal positioning, diachronically surveyed throughout our study, in order to understand the public acceptance of predominantly foreign names as a guarantee of quality and a true sign of modernity.

The case study on Bacău advertising names proves that, in a country with a largely monoglotic population, the overt markedness of our town Europeanization has also been achieved by marginalizing traditional, linguistically transparent onomastic forms and through wearing a cosmopolitan mask, artificially imposed as the suitable face of changing realities. If we interpret this situation as a reflection of a dramatic identity crisis, is the way out of it to be found in the return to outdated yet culturally-charged names, in the creative reconciliation of traditional and modern consumer values or in a revolutionary reversal of positions in branding local enterprises and trademarks?

**Key words:** *linguistic marginalization, advertising name, trademark identity, culturally charged name, Bacău town*

## MARGINALIZATION AND THE EVOLUTION OF CONSCIOUSNESS

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### Abstract

Having conducted a theoretical study, we found out that at the basis of society marginalization there is difference in levels of public mind of different mentalities. Positive (evolutionary) changes in the person's consciousness pass through the following stages: from a “fleshly” man consciousness, corresponding to a globalized society, a “sensitive” man consciousness, corresponding to an Europeanized society, to a “spiritual” man consciousness, corresponding to an internationalized society.

With the broadening of public consciousness the society marginalization level is being reduced. At its highest stage of a “godsent” man consciousness – it reaches a minimum level of the phenomenon absence. Therefore, to eliminate the negative effects of marginalization process, it is necessary to create special conditions that lead to evolutionary changes in the person’s consciousness in the space of various cultures coexistence. The analysis of the social consciousness of modern man living areas on the example of the Crimea, which is the “crossroads of cultures”, showed that such conditions on the peninsula during the thousand-year history of its development have been achieved by mixing a large number of cultural (including musical) rhythms and harmonizing of the peninsula space. This conclusion may be useful for the social life stability in regions where marginalization exists.

**Key words:** *evolution, personality, society, culture, marginalization.*

### **Law as “Masculine Culture”: Issues of Legal Language**

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#### **Abstract**

The present paper is a response to the problem of (neutral) legal language and discusses the assumption that law is a “masculine culture”. We consider that the masculinities of legal language are based on the ground that the “proximate genre” in legal discourse is a male one. From the “reasonable” man’s perspective to the special legislation concerning women rights, legal language underlines the idea that the legal field, as a reflection of social life, is andocentric. Thus, we will present how the modern representation of women is affecting the law and unleashes normative strategies challenging “gender equality”.

**Key words:** *legal discourse, masculine culture, gender equality.*

## MALE MARGINALITY IN HENRY JAMES'S INTERNATIONAL NOVELS

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### **Abstract:**

In Henry James's international novels, some of the male characters are offered a marginal place. Their marginality is caused by the lack of aggression and masculinity, by illness, lack of desire and normal heterosexual life, but also of financial success. They are caught in a clash between society, which is based on the conventional image of masculinity (physical aggression, heterosexual activity) and the marginal male 'self', characterized by atypical aspects (androgyny, homosexuality, passivity). The result is a strong disappointment as they gradually or suddenly discover their lack of importance in the lives of the people around them. These male characters represent 'the other' to their sexual intimacy, so they have to face the aspects of marginality. If James's earlier novels present the marginal male trying to construct his self-image, imagining himself in an aggressive role, but repressing the voice of individuality, in the later ones, the tension and struggle are greater in the male characters who try to find an equilibrium between their self and society.

**Key words:** *atypical, marginality, masculinity, 'self', 'the other'.*

## LINGUISTIC MARGINS AND NUCLEI IN DISCOURSE

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### **Abstract**

Language can be regarded as being composed of essential nuclei surrounded by several less important margins. They come as a sequence, alternating one after another, becoming a rhythm of units. In their turns, they lead to other units similar to wavelets within a final wave, coming back and forth, taking up what was previously said and trying to form a discourse. These units are hierarchically structured through consecutive embedding, therefore making subordination a margin which builds up a complex structure. We shall focus on the importance of the margin of a sentence which brings the nucleus a form to be interpreted as part of a whole, as well as on considering the immediate constituents a means to decipher the meaning of a complex or compound sentence.

**Key words:** *subordination, embedding, immediate constituents, unit, phrase, hierarchy*



## MARGINALIZATION IN POSTCOLONIAL THINKING

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### **Abstract**

Once western thinking has been unanimously recognized, sanctioned and codified as universally canonic, othering has been achieved in its most radical forms. Thus, the civilizing mission of colonialism becomes not a story of progress and enlightenment, but one of marginalization and destruction. Postcolonial theory is therefore called to expose the ideological processes by which knowledge is acquired under the control and surveillance of subject peoples.

Postcolonial thinking has stressed the common political, social, and psychological terrain through which all the colonized peoples had to pass. It has recognized the potency of such concepts as ‘Blackness’ at the heart of the oppression and denigration endemic to the colonial enterprise. But it has also recognized the fictionality of such a concept, and the readiness with which the colonized Black could be persuaded to wear a white mask of culture and privilege. Postcolonial theory has brought together the concept of alienation and of psychological marginalization from a kind of Marxist awareness of the historical events within which came into being the ideologies responsible for imposing this alienation.

**Key words:** *western thinking; otherness; postcolonial theory; oppression; ideology.*

## THE ‘SELF’ VS. THE ‘OTHER’

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### **Abstract**

In intercultural communication, the dichotomy the ‘self’/the ‘other’ is vital in building identity. A people’s identity has been viewed by other peoples through the eyes of their own identity.

Hence, feelings such as denial, defense, minimization, acceptance or integration (Bassnett 1993) have been arisen. In our paper, we understand the word “minimization” as “marginalization”. These stages are also considered to be elementary to both the process of translation and the cultural studies being also perceived as mediums in intercultural communication.

**Key words:** *self, otherisation, alterity, identity, borders*

## GENIUS – OR ABOUT CULTURAL MARGINALIZATION KIND. ROMANIAN LITERATURE CLASSICS – THE PERFECT EMBODIMENT OF GENIUS AND MARGINALIZATION

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**Abstract**

Genius has also been a special kind of human typology. To a certain limit we can even say that geniuses don't belong to this earthly world. They seem to be a particular group of human beings that have nothing in common with their fellows. It is precisely their field of high preoccupation and activity that differentiate them from ordinary people and makes the latter to isolate them and to expulse them from the social life. As Aristotle once said "there is no genius without a drop of madness". So then what are those elements that transform an ordinary man into a genius? How can we make the difference between a crazy person and a genius one?

**Key words:** *genius, Romanian classics, Romanian literature, marginalization, cultural expulsion.*

**MARGINS AND MERGINGS IN MAXINE HONG KINGSTON'S *THE WOMAN WARRIOR***

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**Abstract**

*The Woman Warrior* by Maxine Hong Kingston is a novel whose richness offers scores of interpretations among which the one we propose for discussion in our paper is vital for the understanding of the spirit of the author, narrator and story altogether. The movement from the Asian (communist) space, community and code to the American (capitalist) one, from traditions to novelty, from nature to civilization, from the condition of the poor to the one of the well-off, from the universe of the community to the one of the family, from mother to daughters, from first wife to second wife, from sanity to insanity and ultimately the movement from biography to fiction renders a surpassing of borders which create a fabulous (with both meanings of the words) writing which keeps the reader in a trance and the analyst in an ecstasy of the possibilities open to interpretation.

**Keywords:** *Chinese vs. American, communism vs. capitalism, biographical vs. fictional/fabulous*

**BORDERLINE INSTANCES OF ARGUMENTATION IN ERISTIC DIALOGUE**

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**Abstract:**

A series of unavoidable conditions are meant to satisfy argumentation in eristic dialogues; the particular context in question necessarily implies:

1. personal involvement - direct addressing, turn-taking, anticipating the opponent's future moves, etc. - as any dialogue presupposes;
2. real-world situations to favour, if not purely adversarial (as in argumentative quarrels), at least a combative sort of verbal exchange between antagonist parties, whose main purposes might be: to impress others, to seek victory (often in disregard of truth and evidence), to make critical assessments, to sustain an argument, to provide rebuttals, or to resolve differences of opinion;
3. techniques of argumentation highly based on dishonest tricks including: fallacies and ambiguities, emotions, irony and artistic devices (such as euphemism, metaphor, metonymy), all of them meant to influence the other's perception, to facilitate persuasion, to manipulate, even to encourage or compromise relationships.

Nevertheless, the fulfilment of some of the above-mentioned conditions is sometimes endangered to a greater or lesser extent. Such instances of argumentation in eristic dialogues are to be identified in the case studies below.

**Key-words:** eristic dialogue, code-switching, adherence and disagreement, dangerous bias, fallacies

## THE OTHER RENAISSANCE: REVIVAL OF THE AUTHENTIC WOMEN

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### Abstract

Excluded, ridiculed and disregarded by misogynist literature, history and society, feminist authors of quite a few numbers personify marginality in their protest against the worldwide Renaissance social system. Raised to be an efficient wife, Renaissance women are imprisoned in a dull life framed around silence, obedience, ignorance and domestic work. Accomplishing lesser duties attributed to femininity, they are denied of high pursuits like writing, literature and art, closely associated with masculinity in the biased world. Nevertheless, some Renaissance authors dare challenge women's fate, thus labelled as marginal and dissenter by discoursed society. Among them Anne Bradstreet from England, Christine de Pizan and Laura Cereta from Italy, Marie Le Jars de Gournay and François Poullain de la Barre from France and Juana Inés de la Cruz from Mexico represent a universal objection against male tyranny. As the new age brings about an intellectual awakening into the world, these authors revive by producing rather prolific, inspirational quality works. Yet, they are regarded minor or even non-existent by major patriarchal system simply for defending women's rights, only until they are eventually ensured their justified positions by literary cycles.

**Key words:** *Renaissance, misogynist, discourse, feminist, author.*

