



The University of
Nottingham

UNITED KINGDOM • CHINA • MALAYSIA

PGR Symposium Programme 2013

**Thursday 16th May 2013
9am to 5pm – Room A46, Trent**

9.00am – WELCOME

9.10am Session One – Chair – Ed Downey

Kavitha Ganesan

Title: Narrativising National Belonging Through the Use of Text and Image in Christine Wu Ramsay's *Days Gone By* (2007)

Abstract: Christine Wu Ramsay's life-writing, *Days Gone By* (2007), is presented by the author, a fourth generation female Chinese-Hakka, whose great-grandfather, emigrated as a labourer, from China to the island of Penang in Malaya, which was then a British Straits Settlement, and eventually, became a millionaire. Christine, who was born in Singapore, and raised in Penang, is presently an Australian resident. Due to the narrative's multi-location, in this presentation, I will examine the use of text and image as a postcolonial narrative strategy, and how it appropriates the role of the migrant in the makings of Malaysia as a nation.

Yaxiao Cui

Title: Virginia Woolf's Manipulation of Narrative Point of View: A Stylistic Analysis

Abstract: In this paper, I examine how Virginia Woolf manipulates the presentation of narrative points of view in two of her novels: *Mrs Dalloway* and *To the Lighthouse*. Specifically, this paper focuses on a particular linguistic construction: parentheticals. The definition and categorisation of parentheticals will be introduced first. Following that, I will demonstrate with textual examples how this linguistic construction complicates the presentation of viewpoints and generates special stylistic effects. Furthermore, I will also relate Woolf's narrative technique with her notion of self and experience.

Pamela Grieg

Title: Where did the Lay Folks' Catechism Go?

Abstract: Archbishop John Thoresby instructed a monk to produce a basic instruction to non-Latin reading priests. So we know where it came from. However, far more interesting is where did the text end up? Who owned the text, and why/where was it circulating?

10.10am Session Two – Chair: Hilde van Zeeland

Ed Downey

Title: Cheap print and popular Conservatism: Political literature in the Romantic period

Abstract: This paper will give a brief insight into some of the strategies employed by Conservative activists in the 1790s. This period witnessed the growth of political consciousness and ideological division that still influences contemporary society. However, the implications and innovations of Loyalist activism have been neglected from an academic perspective. My paper will attempt to demonstrate some of the recent research findings in this area.

Elizaveta Mateeva

Title: Orkney as Otherworld: the Picture of the Orkney Islands in *Friðþjófs saga ins frækna*

Abstract: Unlike other genres of saga literature and especially *konungasögur*, in *fornaldarsögur* the Orkney Islands are mentioned relatively rarely and hardly any events take place there. A notable exception is the episode of Friðþjófr's voyage to Orkney in *Friðþjófs saga ins frækna*. Structurally, the Orkney chapters occupy central position in the saga and contain much of its poetry, and the whole episode may be seen as a variation of the journey to the Otherworld plot. This presentation considers the contamination of legendary and pseudo-historical motifs and outlines the special significance of Friðþjófr's Orkney trip for the whole saga's narrative.

Chengjing You

Title: Mental imagery in second language motivation: A Dynamic perspective

Abstract: Based on an interview study of 20 Chinese L2 learners' experiences in using mental imagery at different stages of their lives, this paper examines the dynamic nature of mental imagery in L2 motivation, with the focus on its types of changes, the impacts on their L2 achievement as well as its pedagogical relevance.

Makenzi Crouch

Title: 'Holy Saint Francis, what a change is here!': Adaptations of *Romeo and Juliet* in internet short film

Abstract: In this paper I consider the adaptation of *Romeo and Juliet* in twenty-first century internet short film. The play's long history of adaptation across various media and its continued popularity make the proliferation of short film adaptations on video-hosting sites like YouTube and Vimeo unsurprising; these films revision the star-crossed lovers in distinct settings with unique variations, offering new interpretations to a familiar story and opening up additional lines of dialogue with the play. These reinterpretations may particularly resonate with younger, modern, and more global audiences in much the same way as Zeffirelli's and Luhrmann's earlier films helped define generations.

Session Two will be followed by a Coffee Break

11.30am Session Three – Chair – Chloe Harrison

Rachael Stanley

Title: The Legacies of Naturalism in Twentieth Century English Literature

Abstract: I will be providing a short introduction to my research, explaining and defining what is meant by the genre of 'Naturalism' and picking out the key characteristics that my research traces in 20C English literature and highlighting the authors whom my research particularly focuses on. I will proceed to explain why this is such an important investigation and the reasons why this area of literature has been so consistently overlooked.

Eric Rundquist

Title: The Semantics of Style in the Representation of Consciousness

Abstract: My paper will consider existing literary linguistic research on consciousness presentation, and its application to the *representation* of consciousness in Modernist narrative. In particular, I look at how the stylistic constructs that are used to this end are inherently meaningful for the conceptualization of fictional minds. I also consider some of the basic problems in this line of research, such as the role of the narrator in the free indirect style and the representation of non-verbal mental activity.

Steven Macnamara

Title: Joan of Arc and Radclyffe Hall Inspiration and influence

Abstract: Although it is not surprising that history's most famous cross-dressing woman should influence, either consciously or unconsciously, one of literature's most infamous cross-dressing female writers, what Joan of Arc offered Hall remains unrecognised in literary and gender studies. By contextualising the social and cultural significance of Joan of Arc during Hall's life, this paper presents an alternative way of viewing Hall's work and her identity as a female masculine woman.

Marijana Macis: Formulaic Language: Collocations

Title: Formulaic language: Collocations

Abstract: This presentation is about the literature review I have done on formulaic language. I am going to talk about what interesting facts I learned about formulaic sequences, specifically collocations and what gaps there are in the existing research. I am also going to outline what I hope to do in my first study.

12.30 pm – Lunch, with Poster Session:

Gareth Carrol

Title: Getting your Wires Crossed: are native language idioms encountered in a second language processed as formulaic sequences?

Abstract: Formulaic language – idioms and other set phrases – is a vital part of native speaker competence and provides a processing advantage for known sequences (e.g. *pain in the neck*) over novel language (e.g. *pain in the back*). Is this advantage retained when phrases are translated, i.e. are L1 idioms still processed as known phrases when they are encountered in a second language (L2)? This research explores the question of formulaicity in bilingual speakers using translated Chinese idioms and asks how a 'dual route' model of novel and familiar phrases might be adapted to accommodate multiple languages.

Arwa Hasan

Title: Unrealized Text-Worlds in Dystopia

Abstract: This research utilizes a cognitive stylistics approach; an application of Text-World Theory to dystopian narratives, in which unrealized worlds are created in the minds of the readers. This is done through the use of negations, counterfactuals, unfulfilled expectations, etc. which require a greater participation on the part of the reader in processing and creating these text-worlds. The aim of this research is to focus on the role of the reader in the narrative, and aims to compare and contrast the effects of these unrealized world-switches on reader-implication in narratives of control such as George Orwell's *1984*.

Jason Ward

Title: The forgotten Film Adaptations of D.H. Lawrence's Stories

Abstract: This poster outlines some of the most striking findings of my PhD thesis: Most D. H. Lawrence films are adaptations of short stories, yet most short film adaptations have never been released. Most criticism of Lawrence on film has been fidelity-based, yet the fluid nature of Lawrence's work means there is often no singular text to be faithful to. Literary adaptation is both a process and a mode of criticism that highlights the navigation of possibilities in creativity and reading. Current film adaptations, which rely less on funding from conservatively minded studios and television producers, seek dialogue rather than fidelity.

Brent LaPadula

Title: Memory and Identity Formation: A Cognitive Construction of the Self in 'The Wanderer'

Abstract: In this poster, I will look at how the concept of individuality and identity functioned in the Old English elegy 'The Wanderer', coming to the conclusion that selfhood was not as static as many believed it to be in Anglo-Saxon society.

Christine Muir

Title: Directed Motivational Currents: Inspiring successful language learning through the creation of intense motivational pathways

A 'Directed Motivational Current' can be described as an intense motivational drive capable of both stimulating and supporting long term behaviour, such as learning. This new conceptualisation offers a fresh explanation of motivational impetus through viewing motivation as not a static but a fluid entity, ever evolving both over time and in response to countless outside influences. As such, Directed Motivational Currents are able to offer a more representative explanation of motivation against the backdrop of our chaotic world. It draws from several prominent strands of current motivational understanding, including The L2 Motivational Self System, vision and dynamic systems theory. Directed Motivational Currents offer compelling motivational potential both inside the L2 classroom and also in wider contexts. Further research is needed to fully realise their potential.

1.30pm Session Four – Chair – Wipapan Ngampramuan

Davide Castiglione

Title: Quantifying text difficulty through response data: an experiment in poetry comprehension

Abstract: The paper I present here is part of the empirical section of my thesis, analysing the correlation between style, text semantics and perception of difficulty in poetry. I describe and discuss the response data obtained through a questionnaire. The aim of the test has been that of evaluating the understanding of six very different poetic texts. To fulfil such aim, various behavioural indicators of text comprehension have been devised. The reciprocal consistency and relevance of all the indicators point to the inter-subjective validity of difficulty perception. Such perception, in turn, is anchored to textual features amenable to rigorous linguistic description.

Louise Chamberlain

Title: 'This is our poem Tom Tom/ less than the whole dale gets in the poem': site and place in Alec Finlay's *White Peak/Dark Peak*

Abstract: Contemporary poetry which engages with a specific place, location, or region is frequently labelled 'poetry of place'. This paper will introduce the concept of 'site-specificity' as interacting with, although not necessarily a subset to, the umbrella term of place poetry. Through an examination of Alec Finlay's site-specific walking project *White Peak/Dark Peak* (2010), I will show how performance theory's insights into the notion of 'site' can reinvigorate ecocritical and geographical notions of 'place' in contemporary poetry. Finlay's poetic engagements with the Peak District will be read as a multi-faceted 'event', as his representation of place-names and walking negotiates the relationship between the place of the Peak District and the specific site of the project.

Frea Waninge

Title: Motivation in the classroom. Or, what is this learning experience of which you speak?

Abstract: What happens to students' motivation when they are in a classroom? Are they motivated, bored out of their mind or writing a shopping list? How do students get interested in a topic, and how important exactly is a good teacher?

In an attempt to answer these and even more interesting questions, this presentation reports on a recent two-part study into classroom experience. During the first phase of the study 54 participants reported on different *states* they experienced in learning situations. This prompted a second round of interviews which had 45 participants elaborate on the development of their interests.

Session Four will be followed by a Coffee Break

2:30pm –Session Five – Chair: Laura Nixon

Mélodie Garnier

Title: Breaking down the phrasal verb

Abstract: My research focuses on the acquisition and processing of formulaic sequences, more particularly phrasal verbs. Phrasal verbs are very frequent in informal and spoken English, but are notoriously difficult for learners to master because of their semantic and syntactic unpredictability, and of their polysemy. This paper will first present some interesting things I learned about phrasal verbs whilst doing my literature review, and then will outline what I hope to do in my first study.

Eleanor Rye

Title: Distinguishing Between Norn and Scots in Orkney Place-Names

Abstract: When Scandinavians settled in parts of England in the medieval period, they would have immediately encountered English speakers. In Orkney, contact with speakers of Scots occurred only several centuries after the initial Scandinavian settlements. Despite these very different histories of language contact, in both areas it can be difficult or impossible to distinguish between words of Scandinavian and English or Scots origin in place-names as the languages are so closely related. This presentation will consider how scholars have approached the problem of distinguishing between words in the cognate languages and how the problem differs in Orkney and England.

Fatemah Albalawi

Title: Second Language Demotivation among Saudi Arabian Female University Students: An Investigation of the Learners' Self-Remotivational Strategies

Abstract: This thesis aims at demonstrating the dynamicity of demotivation and suggesting remotivational techniques and tips to help students overcoming demotivation and raising teachers' awareness of the phenomenon and the relevant issues they can help their students to deal with. Demotivating factors that will be extracted in the current thesis are hoped to add to the few small studies conducted in the literature. They are also hoped to show how demotivating factors vary among different cultural contexts. Also, the studies that will be carried out during the next three years are hoped to be a combination of studies that explore and explain the demotivation process comprehensively. The studies aim also at conceptualising L2 demotivation systematically and developing a theory that explicitly addresses the complexity and dynamicity of demotivation.

Soudabeh Ananisarab

Title: Shaw and Eugenics: Explaining Shaw's Connection to Malvern

Abstract: The reasons for the connection between George Bernard Shaw and a theatre festival in Malvern whose reputation as a rural English town seems to contradict Shaw's image of himself as the revolutionary figure of the nineteenth century are debatable. This paper argues that Shaw's theories on eugenics in relation to the manner in which climate affects human behaviour are directly linked to his interest in the countryside and ultimately his aims in Malvern. Thus, this paper attempts to demonstrate that the rural setting of the Festival was a major aspect of Shaw's attempt to nurture his ideal audience in Malvern.

3:30pm – Session Six – Chair: Kholood Saigh

Jessica Mason

Title: Mapping out the *Holes*: tracking readings of a novel by Louis Sachar

Abstract: My research explores the nature of reading in the English classroom. In particular, I am interested in how readers understand and treat the narratives they encounter in school in relation to other contexts. This paper presents some of the findings from my current project which maps out different reading experiences of the novel *Holes* by Louis Sachar, a popular text at Key Stage 3.

The study reveals some interesting divergences between young readers' experiences of this text in school compared to when left to their own devices.

Brandie Workun

Title: Female Tragedies of Innocence in John Lydgate's *Fall of Princes* and Edmund Spenser's *Faerie Queene*

Abstract: While the significance of Chaucer and Gower in the late sixteenth century is well known, that of Lydgate is only now being examined. This paper addresses the possible influence of Lydgate's writing, *Fall of Princes*, on *The Faerie Queene*, focusing on the presentation of the virtue of chastity. Like many of their contemporaries, both Lydgate and Spenser develop chastity as primarily a feminine virtue; both present chastity within marriage as the perfection of the virtue. At the same time, however, both writers are also concerned with chastity as an active virtue, exemplified in Lydgate's writing by Penelope, and in Spenser's in Britomart; they also see the destruction of chastity by male assault as tragic. Through detailed comparison of key figures, this paper will discuss common threads in the presentation of this virtue, and identify the features which link these writers together. One feature is the sympathetic narrative voice. This is most evident when analyzing the three different presentations of Lucretia by Gower, Chaucer, and Lydgate. By comparing the three contrasting presentations of Lucretia I intend to show how Lydgate's 'Complaint of Lucrece' influenced Spenser's depiction of female tragedy. Although Chaucer does present a sympathetic narrative his portrayal of Lucretia lacks the self-identity evident in Spenser's female figures. A further area of investigation I would like to pursue in this paper are the differences between the Medieval and Early Modern depiction of passivity and agency in the female figures of tragedy.

Lorenzo Mastropierro

Title: From *wilderness* to *darkness*: Lexical cohesion in *Heart of Darkness* and its Italian translations

Abstract: The adoption of reiterated words and semantic fields to describe different entities in a text allows to establish a cohesive connection among them. This paper shows how lexical repetition and semantic preference contribute to relate, through lexical cohesion, different themes in Joseph Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*, namely forest/wilderness and darkness. Moreover, comparing the original with its Italian translations demonstrates how the modification of these lexical links during the translation practise could result in an altered fictional representation of such fundamental themes in the target texts.

Session Six will be followed by a Conclusion and Drinks Reception