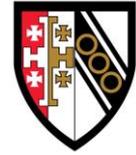


Languages and Linguistics Residential

Academic Session Overview



Selwyn College Cambridge

Tuesday 2nd July

16:30

German

'German women writers after 1945'

Dr Yvonne Zikovic

This lecture focuses on the role of gender in German writing after 1945. Faced with challenges of post-fascist memory and national identity, German and Austrian women writers in particular were trying to break free from oppressive social and aesthetic traditions. Discussing writers such as Ingeborg Bachmann, Peter Handke and Ruth Klüger, we will look at challenges to paradigms of femininity, masculinity, sexuality and the family (both in the traditional circumscribed sense and as larger collective of the nation). Along the lines of the feminist credo that the private is always already political, we will examine the ethics that underlie these writings and attempt to shed more light on their historical and political contexts through a gendered reading of literature.

Wednesday 3rd July

08:45

Spanish

'Imagining a future beyond the crisis in contemporary Spanish Cinema'

Dr Bryan Cameron

Focusing on *El arca de Noé* (Adán Aliaga & David Valero, 2014), *Cuerpo de élite* (Joaquín Mazón, 2016), *Perdiendo el norte* (Nacho García Velilla, 2015), *Carmina o revienta* (Paco León, 2012) and *Carmina y amén* (Paco León, 2014), I will examine the methods deployed by fictional protagonists to evade the brutalities of a reality shaped by crisis (austerity measures, youth unemployment, housing foreclosures, etc.) in contemporary Spain. These fictional characters—in a range of filmic genres—learn to sidestep the brutalities of a neoliberal reality through time travel, covert military activity, emigration and fraudulent activity. As evidence of what Frederic Jameson has termed the "utopian calling," these protagonists look beyond the hardships of the (post-) crisis years in Spain and toward a future that stands as an unmistakable rejection of the nation's current socio-cultural landscape.

PTO

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Wednesday 3rd July

10:00

Linguistics (Group A)

'Fingerprints, DNA and... voicemail? Voice crime and the life of a forensic phonetician.'

Dr Kirsty McDougall

Crimes involving a voice are a common occurrence – for example, a hoax emergency call, a fraudulent phone transaction, an obscene voicemail, or the planning of a drug deal. Some of these cases involve recordings of speech (e.g. recorded over the telephone, on CCTV or by a police bug), while others involve no speech recording but a victim or witness heard a voice at the crime scene. In both situations, the identity of one or more speakers is usually under question. Despite the impression given by popular television crime series, there is no technique for identifying a speaker on a speech recording with 100% reliability. A person's voice varies, depending on tiredness, emotion, how loud and fast he or she is speaking, and many other factors, making the task of identifying a speaker very complicated in the forensic situation, where recordings are usually short, of poor quality and in a range of speaking styles. This session will examine types of cases undertaken by forensic phoneticians, the techniques they use and their limitations.

12:00

Japanese (Group B)

'Beyond Murakami: Reading Modern Japanese Literature in Translation'

Dr Vicky Young

In the UK, the most famous contemporary writer of Japanese literature is surely Murakami Haruki (Norwegian Wood, Kafka on the Shore, 1Q84). Yet, how representative is Murakami of modern Japanese literature? Surely there is more. Is it different? Is it better, or worse? In this session, we will survey the variety of literature that Japan has to offer, and try to identify gaps between what we find in translation and what gets lost. These questions force us to consider what we mean by 'modern Japanese literature', and what it means to study this diverse topic at Cambridge University.

13:45

Russian ab initio (Group A)

'An introduction to learning Russian ab initio'

Dr Elena Filimonova

Ever thought of learning language from scratch? A language that uses a different alphabet?

This is your opportunity to experience an intensive Russian language class. You will not only learn to say 'Hi' or 'Thank you' in Russian, you will learn to read Cyrillic alphabet and will even have a go translating simple texts.

If you have GCSE, are studying Russian for A Level, you won't be bored either. You can be sure that you will leave having learned something new!

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Wednesday 3rd July

13:45

French (Group B)

'Novels and Newspapers in Nineteenth-Century France'

Dr Edmund Birch

What are the connections between fiction and news? This is one of the questions we shall explore in this session as we consider the history of the French press in the period after the Revolution of 1789. The story of the newspaper industry in this era is one of remarkable growth: the nineteenth century was an age of new technologies and new readers. But fiction, at this time, came to play a remarkable role in the development of newspapers. An array of predominant literary figures published in the press. This was not only the heyday of the serial novel (works such as Alexandre Dumas père's *The Three Musketeers*); many authors such as Guy de Maupassant were journalists in their own right. By thinking through the intricate histories of literature and journalism in France, we will trace the influence of journalism on the novel--but we will also find evidence of the ways in which fiction left its mark on journalistic writing.