# Weekly Round-Up, 4 February 2021

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# Weekly Round-Up, 4 February 2021

## 1 Lectures and Events

### Internal

### 1.1  In Conversation with Author David Diop

Online (Zoom/Youtube), Tuesday 9 February, 5.00 pm

On the occasion of the translation of his book 'Frère d'âme' by Anna Moschovakis ('At Night all Blood is Black', 2020, Pushkin Press). The discussion will be chaired by Catriona Seth.
**David Diop** was born in Paris and raised in Senegal. He is Professor at the University of Pau, where his research includes such topics as eighteenth-century French literature and European representations of Africa in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.
Frère d'âme, his second novel, was published as a lead title of the 2018 French rentrée littéraire by Éditions du Seuil. Shortlisted for the most prestigious French literary awards (Renaudot, Femina, Médicis and Goncourt), the novel received fourteen prizes including the Prix Goncourt des lycéens, eight foreign Goncourt choices, the Kourouma prize, the Strega europeo prize in Italy and the first Europese Literatuurprijs awarded by a jury of students in the Netherlands. Translated into thirteen languages, Diop's novel has been praised by critics, bookstores and readers of all ages.
**Anna Moschovakis**'s recent translations include *The Jokers* by Albert Cossery, *Bresson on Bresson* by Robert Bresson, and *At Night All Blood Is Black* by David Diop. She is also a poet and novelist, and an editor with Ugly Duckling Presse.

https://mfo.web.ox.ac.uk/event/conversation-david-diop

Please register here: https://zoom.us/j/94522406653?pwd=MEtLcnlLWUdxR29iWjREWDFyN1FsZz09

### 1.2 Anglo French Seminar in The History of Philosophy of Science (Afhopos)

Online (Ms Teams), Thursday 11 February, 4.00 pm

'The Science of Pierre Gassendi'
The Anglo-French Seminar in the History of Philosophy of Science (AFHOPOS) takes place once per term. It brings together English and French historians of philosophy of science to discuss a common area of enquiry. AFHOPOS is organised in collaboration between the Maison Française d'Oxford (MFO) and the Oxford Centre for the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology (OCHSMT) and the Oxford Centre for Intellectual History.

The AFHOPOS seminar of Hilary 2020 is dedicated to the natural philosophy and philosophy of mathematics of Pierre Gassendi and features two speakers: Dmitri Levitin (All Souls, Oxford), "Why Gassendi is more Representative of the Early Modern Transformation in Natural Philosophy than Descartes"
Delphine Bellis (Université Paul Valéry, Montpellier), "The Philosophy of Mathematics of Pierre Gassendi"

To receive a link to the event, please email Mogens Laerke mogens.laerke@cnrs.fr

### 1.3 Modern French Research Seminar

Online (Ms Teams), Thursday 11 February, 5.00 pm

'The 'Real' Racists: Co-optations of Antiracism by the French and American Right'
Dorian Bell (California)

To join this online event please use the following MS Teams link:

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NThjZTZlNmEtM2MzNi00NmNhLWIxOTMtMWE4ZTRkYWMzMmQy%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22cc95de1b-97f5-4f93-b4ba-fe68b852cf91%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b5647b99-f183-4567-bff2-7e80334cdd80%22%7d

## 1.4 Graduate Lecture Series 2021

We are pleased to announce the details of the Graduate Lecture Series 2021. Attached is a poster detailing the lectures for this year.
This lecture series is open to all Modern Languages undergraduates and graduates. Most of the lectures have been pre-recorded and are available for viewing at your convenience at the Canvas course page: Interdisciplinary MML Courses.
Lectures not yet available will be uploaded prior to the timing on the lecture list.

**\* Please see item 1.4 attachment to apply:**
https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/x/r6Y73T

## 1.5 Discussion Group - Book Launch of Colonial and Postcolonial Cyprus

Monday, February 8, 2021 - 13:00 to 14:00

This book analyses colonial and postcolonial writing about Cyprus, before and after its independence from the British Empire in 1960. These works are understood as 'transportal literatures' in that they navigate the liminal and layered forms of colonialism which impede the freedom of the island, including the residues of British imperialism, the impact of Greek and Turkish nationalisms, and the ethnolinguistic border between north and south. This study puts pressure on the postcolonial discipline by evaluating the unique hegemonic relationship Cyprus has with three metropolitan centres, not one. The print languages associated with each centre (English, Greek, and Turkish) are complicit in neo-colonial activity. Contemporary Cypriot writers address this in order to resist sectarian division and grapple with their deferred postcoloniality.

Cyprus is a particularly charged political and imaginative environment: once a British colony, now partitioned and caught between Greek and Turkish influence. In this context, writing in English has had a complex and evolving role: at first the medium of colonial oppression, English is now one of the languages of the island, to some extent a neutral tongue, and a language of opportunity, though still bearing traces of its imperialist past. The texts written in or translated into English which Daniele Nunziata explores, from Victorian travellers like Esmé Scott-Stevenson, through to mid-twentieth century figures like Lawrence Durrell, Taner Baybars, and Costas Montis, to contemporary Cypriot writers like Aydın Mehmet Ali, Yiannis Papadakis, and Nora Nadjarian, reveal surprising continuities as well as striking divergences and fractures. As he explores them, Nunziata develops an argument which (like the case of Cyprus itself) has much to offer the overlapping fields of postcolonial studies, translation studies, and comparative and world literature.

The preface of the book is available online on the Springer website (https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-58236-4#toc the pdf under Front Matter). Reading it is in no way a requirement, and the launch will not assume that participants have read it, but we thought that it could be useful to mention for those who are interested.
Dr Daniele Nunziata is a Lecturer in English Literature at St Anne's College, University of Oxford. His research on postcolonial literature has been published in numerous journals (including PMLA and the Journal of Postcolonial Writing) and in the Columbia University Press series, Studies in World Literature. He is a contributor to Writers Make Worlds.

This session will require registration. Please fill in this form by the Sunday preceding the event you would like to attend: https://forms.gle/M3CafZTEMF2PECkb7.

For any queries, please email anna.saroldi@merton.ox.ac.uk

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## 1.6 Medical Humanities Early Career Event: Overcoming Methodological Challenges

10 February, 14:00 to 16:30

The diverse fields that contribute to the medical humanities are unified by their focus on issues of medicine, health, and illness. Yet, despite this shared focus, medical humanities researchers face many methodological challenges in interdisciplinary collaborative research and wider engagement with patients and healthcare professionals. This event brings together doctoral students and early career researchers in all areas of the medical/health humanities to address methodological challenges in research and public engagement.

The event will be run via Zoom. The afternoon's schedule includes:
- Small-group opportunities to discuss specific problems and potential solutions.
- Examples of projects that have successfully tackled the challenges of combining humanities with healthcare from different disciplinary starting points.
- A short introduction to funding resources to support your current and future medical humanities projects.

We hope it will also be a fun opportunity to meet and talk with others in an often fragmented-feeling field.
It's convened by Anthony Fernandez (Assistant Professor in Philosophy, Kent State University, and Research Fellow in Philosophy, Oxford) and Emily Troscianko (coach, writer, and Research Associate at TORCH, Oxford).
When: Wednesday 10 February (HT week 4), 14:00 to 16:30 GMT.
All doctoral students and early-career researchers are welcome. If you have any questions, get in touch with us at anthony.fernandez@philosophy.ox.ac.uk and/or emily.troscianko@humanities.ox.ac.uk.
Sign up via Eventbrite: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/medical-humanities-early-career-event-overcoming-methodological-challenges-tickets-136451771923

For any queries, please email Emily Troscianko, emily.troscianko@humanities.ox.ac.uk

## 1.7 iSkills Wk 4: Open Access Oxford; Keeping up to date with research; Data sources for research

**In week 4 we are running the following FREE online workshops.  Please follow the links below to book your place:**
**Bodleian iSkills: Data sources for research - discovery, access & use (Mon 8 Feb 14.00-16.00)**This workshop will provide a grounding in the different ways quantitative and qualitative data is being made available to benefit researchers. By the end of the session you will also have some insight into how your own future work could add to the process and become part of the research discourse.
The course aims to provide an overview of macro and micro data sources available at the University of Oxford, including national data archives, subscription services, business data, and offers some pointers for further searching.
Who is this session for? DPhil students and research staff (particularly in Social Sciences). This workshop will be most beneficial to those researchers planning to use secondary data sources (quantitative, qualitative and mixed) as part of their research or who wish to learn more about the potential of open data platforms and data archives.
**Bodleian iSkills: Keeping up to date with research (Fri 12 Feb 10.00-11.30)**
An online introduction to using alerts to keep up to date with new research and save you time. A combination of presenter-led instruction and the opportunity for participants to set up email alerts to receive notifications for publications in their field of research.
Who is this session for? Postgraduates, researchers, academics and anyone interested in the topic.
**Open Access Oxford: what's happening? (Multiple dates - click here for full list)**
A briefing on open access publishing and Oxford's position: Green vs. Gold; funder mandates and publisher policies; Oxford Research Archive (ORA) and Symplectic; Act on Acceptance and OA policy for REF 2021; Open Access block grants including RCUK/UKRI and Wellcome Trust; OA website/ helpline; what's new.
Who is this session for? Current Oxford researchers and academics, research support staff and librarians.
**Bodleian iSkills: UK parliamentary and government materials - an introduction (One-to-one sessions on Thursdays, from 21 Jan to 18 Feb)** **– ALL SESSIONS FULLY BOOKED.  Please email the Official Papers team official.papers@bodleian.ox.ac.uk for any assistance with your research.**

Have a look at further workshops in our **iSkills programme** for Hilary Term, and also our available **video**

**recordings**, including the **Getting started in Oxford Libraries** series of videos which take you through many useful functions of SOLO, the University's resource discovery tool.

## 1.8 IMCC Seminar Talk 5th February 2021 Talk "Augmented Iconicity: Mutual Benefits of Gesture Theory and MoCap-data Analyses" by Prof. Irene Mittelberg

You are invited to the IMCC seminar talk **"Augmented iconicity: Mutual benefits of gesture theory and MoCap-data analyses".** The talk will be given by Prof. Irene Mittelberg (Natural Media Lab, RWTH Aachen University, Germany) this Friday **5th February 2021 at 4-5 pm UK time**.

Prof. Irene Mittelberg is going to show how advanced motion capture technology can be used to arrive at better theoretical models in cognitive linguistics, semiotics, and gesture studies. Please see further details below.

**The Zoom link is**:  https://fau.zoom.us/j/94635481416?pwd=Vk1FNzR0K0ROa0ZhOGZzdzVRVVRxdz09

You can **subscribe to our IMCC mailing list** by following the instructions published here: https://imcc.web.ox.ac.uk/subscribe-mailing-list

**International Multimodal Communication Centre, University of Oxford**
**Research Seminar Series, Hilary Term 2021**
**Co-Conveners: Dr Anna Wilson, Dr Scott Hale, and Dr Peter Uhrig**

5th February 2021, 4 pm – 5 pm, Zoom:
4 pm–4.40 pm: seminar talk
4.40 pm--5 pm: Q&A

**Talk:** "Augmented iconicity: Mutual benefits of gesture theory and MoCap-data analyses"

**Abstract:** This talk aims to highlight some ways in which empirical research into multimodal interaction may inform gesture theory and vice-versa. Adopting a cognitive-semiotic perspective (Mittelberg 2013; Wolf et al. 2017), I will present a set of studies carried out in the Natural Media Lab (RWTH Aachen University), which – while cutting across various modalities and disciplinary boundaries – have two things in common. They a) were motivated by questions central to semiotic and cognitive linguistic theory and b) involve motion-capture technology (MoCap). In multimodal interaction research, MoCap has proven to be a useful tool to investigate furtive gestures and head movements in minute detail. Compared to 2-D video recordings, 3-D numerical MoCap data represent quickly emerging and vanishing hand shapes and movements on a millimeter and millisecond scale. For example, visualizing otherwise invisible traces of gestural motion allows for new insights into the dynamic and schematic gestalt properties of communicative movements (Mittelberg 2019a/b).
First, the focus will be on *qualitative* analyses of gestures metonymically evoking actions and/or objects, by showing how a gesture's iconicity may be augmented through visualizing and freezing its motion trajectory. MoCap plots of gestures employed to describe paintings, for instance, have revealed formal and aesthetic qualities that facilitate deriving the underlying embodied image schemas and force dynamics (Mittelberg 2013, 2018). Second, I will discuss *quantitative* approaches that involve pattern analysis within and across study participants, involving, e.g., heat maps visualizing the speakers' individual styles of using gesture space. In another study, gesture signatures of selected movement types served as input for an algorithm searching the MoCap data set for similar trajectories and retrieving all the tokens of a given gesture type (Schüller et al. 2017). Finally, I will address some of the challenges that come with exploiting MoCap technology in the context of interdisciplinary gesture research.

**Short bio:**
Irene Mittelberg is Professor of Linguistics and Cognitive Semiotics at the Institute for English, American, and Romance Studies of RWTH Aachen University, where she directs the Centre for Sign Language and Gesture (SignGes) as well as the Natural Media Lab. She studied French linguistics and art history in Freiburg, Paris, and Hamburg, and holds a Ph.D. in linguistics and cognitive studies from Cornell University. Her work combines the semiotic theories of C. S. Peirce and Roman Jakobson with contemporary embodied approaches to language, cognition, and multimodal interaction, notably to examine how embodied image schemas, iconicity, indexicality,

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metonymy, metaphor, viewpoint, and frames motivate coverbal gestures. Another focus is comparing sign formation and the use of space in gesture, architectural design, and visual artworks. Recent interdisciplinary work includes pattern analysis in kinetic gesture data and the adoption of Peirce's universal categories for neuroscientific research into gesture. She published a monograph on *Metaphor and Metonymy in Language and Gesture* (2006), co-edited *Methods in Cognitive Linguistics* (2007), and has (co-)published over 50 journal articles/book chapters. Currently, she is preparing, with Todd Oakley, a special issue on Cognitive Semiotics for *Zeitschrift für Semiotik.*

For any queries, please email anna.wilson@area.ox.ac.uk

# 2 Calls for Papers

## 2.1 Call for Spring Submissions - UC Berkeley Comparative Literature Undergraduate Journal

For over nine years, the Comparative Literature Undergraduate Journal at UC Berkeley has been showcasing the best undergraduate research in literature and media from universities all over the world.

We are writing to issue a last minute reminder for everyone to submit their papers for the Spring 2021 issue and would like to extend this call for papers to all interested undergraduates and recent graduates. We invite research papers from all those working in, around, or critically engaging with literary topics in a comparative nature. Papers in any language are welcome. Possible topics include but are not limited to:

- Papers comparing at least two authors or texts
- Interdisciplinary research engaging multiples disciplines within the humanities
- Research engaging with literary theory and schools of criticism

For more information and full submission guidelines, or to view past issues of CLUJ, please visit our website's submissions page.

**Submissions for the Fall 2020 issue will be accepted until March 1st 11:59 p.m., Pacific Time.**

Link to submit HERE.

# 3 Adverts

## Jobs, Recruitment and Volunteering

## 3.1 An Opportunity from start@ox

Have you ever been interested in entrepreneurship, starting your own company or working for an early stage venture? Do you want to meet and ideate with students from other areas of the Oxford community?

try@ox is a 5-month program that facilitates cross-department student interaction to encourage students to meet, ideate, form co-founding relationships, and build ventures. After forming teams, program participants will be provided access to workshops ranging from assessing co-founder fit and idea quality, to finding product-market fit. Throughout the program, students will receive mentorship from venture capitalists and startup founders.
Reach out to hello@startatoxford.org with any questions, and apply for the program here:
https://tinyurl.com/1ndrmckj

For any queries, please email Linda Wei linda@startatoxford.org

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## 3.2 Interested in Central Asia?

Novastan is looking for volunteer contributors to help its new English version grow. Novastan is the only European media entirely dedicated to post-Soviet Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan). Launched in Bishkek in 2011 and run by a group of passionate volunteers, it is now based in Paris and Berlin.

For more information, please visit this page on our website: https://novastan.org/en/novastan/contribute/ Please get in touch with Valentine at vbaldassari@novastan.org if you are interested, or have any questions.

## 3.3 Rotational 12-month placement at Sanctuary Graduates

**\* Please see item 3.3 attachment for further information:**
https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/x/4g7xSC

## Miscellaneous

## 3.4 QTE 6th Form Book Reviews Project

Join us in a new MFL outreach project, run by the Queen's College Translation Exchange. We are giving state school sixth formers the opportunity to review books in translation. We'll send them the book and publish their review. If you have a title you'd like to recommend, fill in this form (https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=G96VzPWXk0-0uv5ouFLPkRPos2I1SLFNpSq2dmhrh9BURUxGMFVKQUpRMlJXTEQwOUxBWDE4WkNENy4u)– we'd love to hear from you! We're looking for:

- Translated work (fiction or non-fiction of any form or genre)
- Under 200pp preferred
- Accessible and interesting to 6th form students (age 17-18)
- Not currently on A-Level syllabi
- An enjoyable/engaging/stimulating/thought-provoking read
- New writing preferred

For any queries, please email cliona.vaughan-spruce@magd.ox.ac.uk

## 3.5 Book Announcement: Complete Works of Voltaire, vol.146: Poésies attribuées à Voltaire

Just published:
*Complete Works of Voltaire*, vol.146
*Poésies attribuées à Voltaire*
Critical edition by Simon Davies,
with Helder Mendes Baiao, Georges Pilard and Martin Smith
Oxford, Voltaire Foundation, 2021
ISBN 978-0-7294-1179-0, hb, xxvi+618pp., 5 ill.
Voltaire's celebrity caused many poems to be attributed to him that do not appear in acknowledged editions of his works or his correspondence. The poems range from social *politesse* or banter to history and flattery, from tawdry eroticism to his supposed religious conversion, with much in between.
Volume 146 of the *Complete works* collects some 170 examples of these. About a third can fairly safely be said to be his, the others are doubtful or clearly apocryphal, but all are examined as a necessary part of establishing the boundaries of the complete *œuvre* of France's most famous writer.
Related blog: 'A la manière de Voltaire' – contrefaçons et découvertes
Voltaire Foundation, email@voltaire.ox.ac.uk

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## 3.6 Coronavirus Updates

**Coronavirus (COVID-19): advice and updates**

A dedicated page has now been set up for Students:
**Coronavirus (COVID-19): advice and support for students**
(including FAQs for Students on a year abroad or overseas placement – please scroll down the page)

# 4 Year Abroad

## 4.1 Job Opportunities
The latest job opportunities and internships received by the Faculty can now be found via the new jobs board:
https://canvas.ox.ac.uk/courses/37004/pages/year-abroad-adverts?module_item_id=383619

The new Canvas Year Abroad pages are now 'live':
https://canvas.ox.ac.uk/courses/37004

*DISCLAIMER: Please note that the inclusion of vacancies received by the Faculty is a facility to assist students in sourcing possible placements and does not constitute any sort of recommendation of the organisation, or agreement with the content of the vacancies; the Faculty attempts to provide as much information on vacancies available to students as possible and makes every effort to check that the content complies with equality legislation and is otherwise appropriate for student employment but cannot confirm the quality of the experience. Where negative feedback from previous students is received, appropriate action is taken. Students should make every effort to conduct their own research into the opportunities and providers to reassure themselves of the quality of the provision.*