

Weekly Round-Up, 2 December 2021

**Any weekly round-up attachments can be found at the following link:*

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1 Lectures and Events

Internal

1.1 Russian Research Reinvented: Let's Get Creative!

Are you a postgrad Russianist? Would you like the chance to share your research outside of classes in a fun and creative way?

If you answered yes, we would love for you to get involved in our mini exhibition project! We're seeking submissions of short poems, drawings, collages (and any other small-scale creations) inspired by something you are working on.

We will showcase these at the Russian Research Seminar in Week 2 of Hilary Term as part of a discussion on the importance and benefits of creative engagement with research.

If you are interested in hearing more or have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us! Email Charlotte Dowling at charlotte.dowling@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk and Jake Robertson at jake.robertson@univ.ox.ac.uk

1.2 Workshop Series in Songwriting with Katie Melua: The Silk Roads Project

** Please see item 1.2 attachment for further information:*

<https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/x/luS3eG>

1.3 Take Part in an International French Debating Competition

Invitation pour une équipe d'étudiants en langue française de l'Université d'Oxford au Concours Inter-Universitaire de Débat de La Haye de la Présidence Française de l'Union Européenne 2022

Voir le document attaché pour découvrir les 18 premières universités enregistrées sur 32 pour le Concours.

Les organisateurs de ce Concours souhaitent inviter les étudiants intéressés à participer à cette compétition mondiale, à contacter Mr. Aurelien Lorange, Professeur Assistant à l'Université de La Haye aux Pays-Bas, pour exprimer leur souhait de représenter l'Université d'Oxford à cette nouvelle compétition annuelle francophone de débat entre universités du monde entier.

Des étudiants en Français langue moderne, en Sciences Politiques, en Droit, en Relations Internationales, en Diplomatie, en Histoire et en Economie venant de 32 institutions réparties dans le monde vont participer à cette compétition de débat à l'oral en ligne, en Français, (sans aucune soumission écrite) avec un match de 30 minutes, par vidéo conférence une fois toutes les 2 semaines à partir de la fin mars jusqu'à début mai 2022 et pour les meilleures équipes lors des matchs éliminatoires entre mai et juin 2022. Le niveau de maîtrise de la langue française n'est pas un critère de jugement des matchs (il est conseillé d'avoir un niveau B2 minimum) mais l'effort de préparation des sujets et l'utilisation de vocabulaire adéquat seront récompensés pour convaincre les jury de chaque match.

La compétition est sponsorisée par le Ministère des Affaires Etrangères français à Paris (les Instituts Français et les Ambassades de France), l'Agence Universitaire Francophone à Montréal (coordonnant les activités en français de leur réseau de 1007 universités) et fera l'objet de reportages et entretiens avec TV5 Monde et Radio France Internationale.

L'Agence Universitaire Francophone proposera aux équipes finalistes de financer leur voyage à La Haye pour la Finale du Concours 2022.

Les organisateurs de la compétition proposeront des événements et des discussions avec des ambassadeurs francophones, des diplomates, des chefs d'entreprises, des organisations non-gouvernementales, pour aider au

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réseautage professionnel des étudiants souhaitant obtenir des informations pour leur carrière internationale par leur connaissance de la langue française.

Si vous êtes intéressés à représenter à recevoir plus d'informations dans la perspective de représenter l'Université d'Oxford et participer à cette compétition francophone annuelle, veuillez écrire un courriel directement à M. Aurelien Lorange sur son adresse aux Pays-Bas: A.Lorange@hhs.nl

Avec l'aimable aide du Prof. Dr. Seth pour accepter de diffuser cette invitation auprès des étudiants en langue française de l'Université d'Oxford.

** Please see item 1.3 attachment for further information:*

<https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/x/4QShGI>

For any queries, please email catriona.seth@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk

1.4 IMCC seminar 3 Dec 2021 4-5pm "Towards the identification of joint meaning construal: language and co-speech gestures on focus"

The IMCC seminar talk this week – **3 December 2021 at 4pm UK time** - will be **Towards the identification of joint meaning construal: language and co-speech gestures on focus** given by **Mr Nickil Maveli** and [Dr Tiago Torrent](#), Federal University of Juiz de Fora, Brazil.

Abstract: In this talk, we report on a project aimed at developing a prototype that is capable of identifying joint meaning construal using multi-modal channels of communication. Specifically, for a co-speech gestures dataset, we devise a mechanism to disambiguate meaning considering the influence of all the different modalities involved in a particular frame. To circumvent the complexity arising from various gesticulations possible, we limit our analyses to hand gesture types. While developing the prototype, we were confronted with a lack of annotated datasets that could be representative of the joint meaning construal phenomenon. Hence, we leverage semi-supervised learning techniques to annotate additional unlabeled data after identifying potential lexical triggers and their broader lexical context. Furthermore, since each frame could have multiple interpretations, we use human-in-the-loop approaches to annotate a subset of our validation set, for instance, tagging a frame with a predefined binary choice questionnaire to assess construal dimensions. We report our performance on that set.

Venue for our IMCC seminar talks:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89517574860?pwd=emRKZXVaaJhsQVM3UUdHbldJeiM1dz09>

Meeting ID: 895 1757 4860

Passcode: 997712

Please sign up for [our IMCC mailing list](#) and [our IMCC YouTube Channel](#) to stay informed about our IMCC research seminars and other events and get access to IMCC seminar talk recordings.

Looking forward to seeing you all this Friday at 4pm UK time!

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

External – Elsewhere

1.5 Cardiff University's School of Modern Languages events listings (Dec 21)

** Please see item 1.5 attachments for further information:*

<https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/x/8PlcSg>

<https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/x/8Hs3X6>

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1.6 The Power of Women – Online Workshop

Below is a link to the programme of an online inter-disciplinary workshop (*The Power of Women. A challenge for democracy*) organised by **Giulia Sissa** (Classics & Political Science, UCLA) on behalf of the Collegium Helveticum (ETH Zurich).

<https://collegium.ethz.ch/en/veranstaltungen/?event=9404>

The event is taking place on **Friday 10th December 2021** (4,00–7,45pm Zurich time = 3,00–6,45pm U.K. time). There is no need to register. The details of the Zoom meeting are available in the programme page

2 Calls for Papers

2.1 Call for Submissions -- Columbia Journal of Literary Criticism

The [Columbia Journal of Literary Criticism](#) is seeking pitches and essays for its 2022 issue to be published in the spring. Writers should either be current undergraduates or recent graduates submitting undergraduate work.

Founded in 2002, CJLC acts as an interdisciplinary, undergraduate forum centered around literature, culture, and politics. The journal is published once annually and includes articles, reviews, interviews, and original artwork. CJLC attempts to examine the world around us in a way that is informed by academic thought but not subsumed by it.

Submission guidelines:

Pitches: Please email submittojlc@gmail.com with an outline of your article and a proposed/provisional bibliography. Please include your name, university and year of graduation. If we like the pitch, we'll contact you to set a deadline and work with you throughout the writing process.

Essays: You are welcome to submit an article, or essay to be converted into an article, to the same address. Please attach your essay as a word document, and include your name, university, and year of graduation in the body of the email. You are welcome to submit an essay from a previous course, granted that the essay or an adaptation has not been published elsewhere.

Submissions are due **January 1st, 2022**, but you are very welcome to submit earlier.

Before submitting, please take a look at our past issues to get a sense for what we publish: <http://c-j-l-c.org/archive/>

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Columbia Journal of Literary Criticism

“The play’s the thing / Wherein I’ll catch the conscience of the king.”

—William Shakespeare, *Hamlet*

“The thing about playing is always the precariousness of the interplay of personal psychic reality and the experience of control of actual objects. This is the precariousness of magic itself.”

—D. W. Winnicott, *Playing and Reality*

“To [our] anthropological needs [...] can be added specific needs which are not satisfied by commercial and cultural infrastructures; this refers to the need for creative activity, [...] of the need for information, symbolism, the imaginary and play.”

—Henri Lefebvre, *Writings on Cities*

The forthcoming issue will explore the theme **PLAY**. We look forward to receiving ruminations on play that expand and reshape its interpretive boundaries. Play is as much a mode of moving through and experiencing the world as

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it is a way for us to distance ourselves from what is real. Play gestures towards a possibility beyond the solemnity that too-often characterizes our anxious, mortal existence.

What does it mean to play? “Play” has one root in the Old English *plegan*, “to move lightly and quickly, to frolic, to engage in sport.” It has another root in the German *pflügen*, “to take care of, to nurture.” Conversely, we use “play” today idiomatically to mask the numerous brutal realities of our times. War is a theater to its architects; traders play the market and only a few know the rules of the game.

Play is performance, play is passion, play is a promise. But what does it mean to play in an age that places increasing stress on body and mind in the service of accumulating capital and power? How does play bring us joy and loosen strictures of class, race, gender, sexuality, and ability? How does play allow us to transgress these categories, and how does it reinscribe them? How might play alter our modalities of recognition, organization, and kinship?

The theme of the 2021 issue of the Columbia Journal of Literary Criticism is to be read as much as a starting point as an instruction. Play with fire. Play it safe. Play your hand. Play to lose. Play dress up. Play house. Play on stage. Play ball. Play in the bedroom. Play to win. Play it up. Play your part. Play along. Play dirty. Play fair. Play nice. Play the game. Play it by ear. Play God. Play the Devil.

Feel free to send any questions you may have to the editors at submittojlc@gmail.com. We look forward to reading your pitches and submissions.

3 Adverts

Funding & Prizes

3.1 PhD Funding in German Studies at Durham University

Application Deadline: 12 January 2022

The School of Modern Languages and Cultures (MLAC) at Durham University welcomes applications from outstanding candidates to pursue a PhD degree in German Studies through the AHRC-funded Northern Bridge Consortium Doctoral Training Programme (NBCDTP), to begin in October 2022. Successful applicants will receive three and a half years of full funding, including tuition fees, a maintenance grant at the national Research Council UK rate, and access to additional funding streams from the Northern Bridge Consortium to cover study abroad, conference attendance, fieldwork and other costs. The programme offers high-quality academic supervision in vibrant research environments, as well as the expertise of a broad portfolio of strategic partners for research training and career development. All Northern Bridge Consortium PhD students have the opportunity to undertake a fully-funded work placement to support both academic and non-academic future careers.

For detailed information and guidance notes on the funding scheme and application process, please consult <http://www.northernbridge.ac.uk>, and the Postgraduate Funding pages on Durham University’s MLAC website (<https://www.durham.ac.uk/departments/academic/modern-languages-cultures/postgraduate-study/funding/>) and the website of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities (https://www.dur.ac.uk/arts.humanities/funding_opportunities/). Both UK and international candidates are eligible for the funding scheme, though international candidates should refer to the MLAC and Faculty pages for further information on the structure and composition of PhD funding at Durham.

The School of Modern Languages and Cultures at Durham University is consistently ranked among the top five programmes in Modern Languages in the United Kingdom. The Faculty of Arts and Humanities has recently been ranked among the top 30 in the world. MLAC is a national leader in interdisciplinary and transcultural Modern Languages research, featuring prominent research centres such as the Centre for Culture and Ecology (CCE) and the Centre for Visual Arts and Culture (CVAC).

Members of staff in German Studies cover a broad range of research areas, and we particularly welcome applications from candidates with research interests in the following fields: contemporary literature and film; visual

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culture and photography; environmental humanities; gender and queer theory; literature and globalisation; colonialism, postcolonialism, decoloniality; migration and transculturality; literature and science, cognitive humanities, system theory; political theory; aesthetics and politics; literature and law; human rights; German-Jewish thought; religion, theology, and literature; urbanism; memory culture; representations of the Holocaust; Austrian literature; modernism; and 18th- and 19th-century literature, in particular the 'Age of Goethe', Romanticism, and realism. For more information, see individual staff pages at <https://www.durham.ac.uk/departments/academic/modern-languages-cultures/about-us/our-people/>.

Prospective applicants should be able to demonstrate evidence of academic excellence at both undergraduate and postgraduate level (or equivalent professional experience), as well as evidence of sufficient research skills to undertake the project. For expressions of interest, and to discuss potential supervisors, please contact Dr Alexis Radisoglou, Director of German Studies (alexis.radisoglou@durham.ac.uk), as soon as possible.

Jobs, Recruitment and Volunteering

3.2 Translation Services

* Please see item 3.2 attachment for further information:

<https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/x/wFpzL1>

3.3 Remote Journalism and Translation Job

Apply ASAP

Hi, I'm an Oriental Studies alum looking for a new writer/ translator to join my team of journalists at FashionNetwork.com. It's a part-time role covering US news and, ideally, translating French news, about three to five short articles per day in total. Late evening availability is necessary.

Experience: Entry-level journalism - please have some writing samples to show. Ideally C1/C2 French ability; additional languages a plus.

Please send CV and writing samples to erin.floyd@fashionnetwork.com

3.4 Oxford Anthology of Translation: Call for Editors

Ongoing

The recently launched Oxford Anthology of Translation, or 'OAT', is looking for language editors ahead of its first call for submissions in Hilary Term.

The Oxford Anthology of Translation (OAT) is a new project dedicated to publishing students' literary translations and essays on translation. We want to establish an interdisciplinary space where all those interested in both the practical and theoretical aspects of translation can gather in Oxford, both literally and 'on the page' of the journal itself. As such, alongside printing a termly or bi-termly magazine, we intend to run events where students will be invited to read and workshop their translations.

We are currently hoping to fill editorial positions for all languages taught and studied at Oxford, but encourage applications from those with editorial competency in any and all languages!

We are especially in need of editors for the following languages: **Italian, Russian, Arabic, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, Greek, and Latin**, but also encourage applications for German, Spanish, French, Portuguese, &c. If you are interested in getting involved in any other way, such as copyediting or marketing, then please do get in touch.

All inquiries should be sent to oateditors@gmail.com. Language editor submissions should be sent by 31st December 2021 and include the following:

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- Name, including preferred pronouns
- A sample translation of any kind into English from the language you are applying for.
- A short explanation (100-300 words) of your translation, which could include, for example, your methods, or a justification for specific translational decisions.
- And if you wish, any other experience that might help you!

Applications from students at either undergraduate or postgraduate level at any stage of their degree are welcome. We expect that your position as editor will last roughly one year, and involve editing 2-3 issues of the magazine, whereupon we will make a new call for editors.

We look forward to hearing from you!

For any queries, please email adam.husain@wadham.ox.ac.uk

3.5 Advert for Germanist

An opportunity for a DPhil or graduate student to take German classes at Headington on a temporary basis and with immediate effect. Some classes are shared with other teachers and support will be provided.

If interested, please contact the Head of the MFL Faculty, Mr Ignazio Pompeo ipompeo@headingtonschool.com

Miscellaneous

3.6 UCML Early Career Academic Survey

We are writing to ask if you would kindly participate in our **Early Career Academic Survey** created by the [University Council of Modern Languages Early Career Academic Special Interest Group](#), hereafter the UCML ECA SIG. If you don't feel you can participate, we cordially ask that you pass this on to anyone you think might be interested in taking part. The findings will contribute towards the Code of Practice we are currently writing.

This survey is for **all academics working in Languages in UK Higher Education**, whether you are early career, a PGR, mid-career or at senior level. You might be wondering why we are seeking to survey all levels? Quite simply the reason is this – we all contribute to our shared working environments and impact on one another, so what happens with Early Career Academics affects everyone in different ways. We are therefore looking to gather data to provide a detailed picture of what is happening in Languages across UK Higher Education institutions to inform our Code of Practice and seek positive, constructive change to the benefit of all.

The survey should take no more than 10 minutes to complete.

To participate please click on this link: <https://forms.gle/H8ayyemuRib6DKYE9>.

Please note that this survey is now live and **will close on Monday 6th December at 6pm**. We will send a reminder, but we will not do so during the strike period.

You can also access our survey via the pinned Tweet: [UCML Early Career Academics \(@UCML_ECA\) / Twitter](#).

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact either of the UCML ECA SIG Co-Chairs, and or the ECA Representative:

Dr Hilary Potter (Co-Chair of the UCML ECA SIG) hilary.potter@rhul.ac.uk / hilaryjanepotter@gmail.com

Dr Dominique Carlini-Versini (Co-Chair of the UCML ECA SIG) dominique.carlini-versini@durham.ac.uk

Dr Liam Lewis, (UCML ECA Representative) liam.lewis@liverpool.ac.uk

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3.7 Coronavirus (COVID-19): Advice and 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.

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