ILÂNSCO24

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Landscapes in Language, Society and Cognition 2024

Book of abstracts

9-11 September 2024

University of Zurich, Switzerland

Scientific committee

Cristiana Lucchetti

Philipp Striedl

Sara Racca

Aleksej Tikhonov

Contact

ilansco@slav.uzh.ch

Website

http://tinyurl.com/ILANSCO24

Supporters

Canton and City of Zurich

Department of Geography

Department of Slavonic Studies

URPP Language and Space

UZH Alumni

UZH Graduate Campus

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PLENARY TALKS

Language and landscape – what's next?

BURENHULT, NICLAS
Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University
niclas.burenhult@ling.lu.se

Landscape is increasingly gaining attention in the language sciences as a domain with interesting properties of lexical and grammatical expression. There is also a growing recognition outside the language sciences that language may be crucial to understanding the domain, and that the study of its linguistic manifestations can have significant theoretical and practical ramifications. The variability in how different languages and speech communities encode and express landscape has received particular attention in this regard. Yet our understanding of this variability and its underlying regularities remains limited. In this talk I outline some lines of inquiry likely to be rewarding in our further investigation of the relationship between language and landscape, as well as broader issues of space and place. Onomastics, psycholinguistics, historical linguistics, language documentation, translation studies, and linguistic typology, among other disciplines, all have an important role to play in this development of the field.

Keywords
Language and landscape, Landscape categories, Landscape typology.

Between Aesthetics and Ecology – Considerations on a New Concept of Landscape in the Biodiversity Crisis

KELLER, CLAUDIA
Deutsches Seminar, Universität Zürich
claudia.keller3@uzh.ch

The Basel sociologist and economist Lucius Burckhardt (1925-2003), known as the founder of 'strollology', articulated in his text titled The Scenic View (1995) the impossibility of looking at landscapes as detached observers in the face of contemporary ecological crises. According to Burckhardt, we are 'participants, co-destroyers, sympathizers, and ultimately anything but strangers [to the landscape]. We are the first generation to see the landscape both as participants and aesthetically.' This insight leads to the task of developing a new concept of landscape that mediates between the potentially conflicting yet inseparable paradigms of aesthetics and ecology, in the context of biodiversity and its conservation. This keynote presents several considerations on this task. Firstly, based on Burckhardt's approach, it illustrates how 'landscape,' perception, and language are interconnected and how closely they are linked to the destruction of nature and the biodiversity crisis. Secondly, it outlines Burckhardt's ethos of the 'smallest possible intervention' and integrates his critique of conventional planning to the ecological landscape discourse. Finally, the talk complements Burckhardt's perspective with examples from contemporary art and literature that, adhering to the principle of 'making visible,' transform the concept of landscape from a static backdrop into a dynamic co-world with diverse agencies.

The Emotional Geography of Home: Place Names, Identity, and Landscape Perception in a Multilingual Czech-Polish Region

MÁCHA, PŘEMYSL
Czech Academy of Sciences
macha@eu.cas.cz

Language in its appellative as well as proprial dimension significantly structures the ways in which we relate to the physical and social world around us. In everyday situations, however, cognition and speech are rarely divorced from emotion and identity. The resulting landscape perception is therefore always a fine mixture of different factors in which this or that factor has the upper hand depending on the specificity of the social context. This is true even for monolingual areas but becomes doubly fascinating in multilingual situations in which speakers of different languages inhabiting the same space navigate their everyday lives between intelligibility, intimacy of home, and identity. I will present the results of an on-going research on toponymy, linguistic landscape, environmental perception, and ethnic identity in a borderland region of eastern Czechia. In this region, two official languages – Czech and Polish – and a distinct dialect – po naszymu – are spoken on an everyday basis. Despite their linguistic proximity and prevailing but not complete mutual intelligibility, significant, though often subtle, differences in place naming exist which structure daily conversations and the interpretation of the linguistic and ethnic landscape. Drawing on qualitative and quantitative data I will relate the findings to the larger disciplinary debates on the role of language in perception and social relations.

Keywords
Place names, Landscape perception, Emotional geography, Czech-Polish borderlands.

Ecostylistic Approaches to Landscapes: Between Theory and Practice

VIRDIS, DANIELA FRANCESCA
University of Cagliari, Department of Humanities, Languages and Heritage
dfvirdis@unica.it

Moving from the results achieved in recent research (my latest book-length study and the volumes I edited or co-edited), this presentation discusses ecostylistic approaches to landscapes and nature as represented in literary and non-literary discourse. Theoretically, the presentation introduces the terms and theories in the discipline of stylistics which can be applied in ecostylistic analysis, namely, foregrounding, point of view, metaphor and framing, lexical choices, collocation, compounding, semantic crescendo, corpus stylistics. Analytically, the presentation examines five case studies belonging to as many different text types, that is, environmental website, pornographic novel, academic lecture, tourist web portal, magazine article. The main research purpose of this study is twofold: 1. To investigate the ecostylistic strategies utilised to produce a sample of texts treating landscapes and nature; 2. To identify the ideologies and agendas underlying these texts. Furthermore, and above all, this presentation would like to inspire us to reconsider who we are and to reformulate our ecological and social priorities. The presentation falls within the disciplinary aims and scope of ecostylistics, and is relevant to such neighbouring areas as ecolinguistics, ecocriticism, discourse analysis, environmental communication, and the ecological humanities as a whole.

Keywords
Ecostylistics, Ecological discourse, Landscapes, Nature, Environmental website, Pornographic novel, Academic lecture, Tourist web portal, Magazine article.

References
Burke, M. ed. 2023 [2014]. The Routledge Handbook of Stylistics, 2nd edition. London and New York: Routledge.

Carter, R. 2010. Methodologies for stylistic analysis. In Language and Style: In Honour of Mick Short, eds. D. McIntyre and B. Busse, 55-68. Basingstoke: Palgrave MacMillan.

Douthwaite, J., D.F. Virdis, and E. Zurru, eds. 2017. The Stylistics of Landscapes, the Landscapes of Stylistics. Amsterdam and Philadelphia: John Benjamins.

Myerson, G., and Y. Rydin. 1996. The Language of Environment: A New Rhetoric. London and New York: Routledge.

Sotirova, V. ed. 2016. The Bloomsbury Companion to Stylistics. London: Bloomsbury.

Stibbe, A. 2021 [2015]. Ecolinguistics: Language, Ecology and the Stories We Live By, 2nd edition. London and New York: Routledge.

Stockwell, P., and S. Whiteley, eds. 2014. The Cambridge Handbook of Stylistics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Virdis, D.F. 2022a. Ecological Stylistics: Ecostylistic Approaches to Discourses of Nature, the Environment and Sustainability. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Virdis, D.F., E. Zurru, and E. Lahey, eds. 2021a. Language in Place: Stylistic Perspectives on Landscape, Place and Environment. Amsterdam and Philadelphia: John Benjamins.

Virdis, D.F., ed. 2022b. Ecostylistics: Texts, Methodologies and Approaches, special issue of the Journal of World Languages 8.3 (2022).

PAPER AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Woke or Wrong? Whose name lives on? Tokenism, Restoration and Revolting Taxonomic Nomenclature in the Built and Natural Environment

ALLEN WEST, DIANE
University of the West Indies at Mona, Jamaica
dianeallenwest@gmail.com

It is a point of socio-onomastic subjectivity that personal names are assigned to University buildings and to natural organisms insofar as relative power and social influence dictate. This paper examines the practice and consequences of eponymously naming academic spaces and further acknowledges the offensive quality of taxonomic patronyms classifying the natural environment. The contexts though separate, altogether offer contemporary frameworks for analysing semiotic trends in the built environment and the natural world. They also expose an enterprising onomastic bias in academia promoting elite selectivity in deciding whose names live on. Betwixt 'the woke' and 'the wrong,' social activism and debates persist as to what ethical or moral principles should prevail in upholding monumental names founded by bad people. The study further considers that the moral yardstick for 'good and bad people' as historical actors, and hence their 'worthy or unworthy names,' varies from century to century and are oftentimes flipped within a single century. These contentions, aimed in part, at balancing scholastic ethics with restorative justice, minority rights and indigenous representation, are, with compelling arguments, countered by notions that onomastic freedoms and taxonomic nomenclature are being directly threatened by non-linguistic and non-scientific forces. In short, the scientists who feel that names serving mainly as identifiers or lexical tokens should not be subject to moral scrutiny, are fighting back. Far from finding perfect solutions for hurtful histories, the seminal questions Onomasticians must seek to answer in establishing its own disciplinary codification of names; are questions such as, what types of anthrotoponyms are deemed universally injurious to humanity and whether patronyms referencing scientific classifications should conform to restorative principles of indigenous primacy, diversity, equity and inclusion. This is a necessary conversation within the field of Onomastics that this study should sufficiently advance and hopefully, inspire further research.

Keywords
Anthrotoponyms, Patronyms, Taxonomic nomenclature.

African landscapes and the climate crisis: Contrastive and ecolinguistic analysis of framings and appraisal patterns online

AMENDOLARA, VINCENZO
Bologna University
vincenzo.amendolara3@unibo.it

"In an environmental narrative, authors describe their perception and experience of a landscape in a form that enables the reader to follow their track in mind" (Scheider et al., 2022, 211). Developing a proactive "eco-awareness" (Al-Sammarraie et al., 2022, Slovic, 1992) means fully grasping the multifaceted nature of how landscapes (Tuan, 1977) are framed and linguistically conceptualized in everyday interactions. Computer-mediated communications (Thurlow et al., 2004) and online news-

platforms constitute a fundamental source of information for constructing eco-awareness, aiming at promoting resilience and sustainability. Sustainability, however, must be considered in its entirety, comprising all its "pillars" (Connelly, 2007), which go far beyond the mere environmental feature and evaluate social and cultural dimensions (see Soini & Birkeland 2014). The climate crisis is undeniably one of the most daunting challenges of the Anthropocene, and the way the connection among landscapes, humans, flora, and fauna (see Fagerholm et al., 2020) is depicted online might indeed lead to an enhancement of individuals' eco-awareness, but also provoke eco-anxiety. Employing the theoretical framework of ecolinguistics (Stibbe, 2020) paired with a corpus-assisted approach (Poole, 2022), online articles and posts across various platforms (European, American, and African) in three languages (English, Italian, and German) will be analyzed and compared. The contrastive analysis will focus on framings and appraisal patterns (Stibbe,2020) used in the three languages to describe the dramatic effects of the climate crisis on Africa's natural landscape. The collected texts will be gathered in a corpus to be analyzed with the SketchEngine corpus management tool. The innovative and interdisciplinary nature of this study lies in its contrastive analyses combined with different approaches stemming from Cognitive Linguistics, Appraisal Theory, Corpus- and Ecolinguistics, aiming to foster and scrutinize the importance of discursive constructions for a robust eco-awareness development (Lakoff, 2010).

Keywords
Ecolinguistics, Corpus-Assisted Critical Discourse Analysis, Framing, Africa, Web.

References

Akram Yahya Al-Sammarraie, A., Kaur, H. ., & Baizura Binti Baha, I. (2022). Eco-awareness as an Antithesis of Apocalyptic Eco-Phobia in Margaret Atwood's (The Year of the Flood). Dirasat: Human and Social Sciences, 49(4), 469–479. https://doi.org/10.35516/hum.v49i4.2101.

Connelly, S. (2007). Mapping Sustainable Development as a Contested Concept. Local Environment. 12. 259-278. 10.1080/13549830601183289.

Fløttum, K. (2017). The role of language in the climate change debate. London: Routledge.

Lakoff, G. (2010). Why it matters how we frame the environment. Environmental communication, 4(1), 70–81.

Plastina, A. (2020) Social-Ecological Resilience to Climate Change: Discourses, Frames and Ideologies. Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

Poole, R. (2021). Corpus-Assisted Ecolinguistics. Bloomsbury Academic.

Soini, K., & Birkeland, I. (2014). Exploring the scientific discourse on cultural sustainability. Geoforum, 51, 213-223. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2013.12.001.

Stibbe, A. (2020). Ecolinguistics: Language, ecology and the stories we live by (2nd ed.). London: Routledge.

Thurlow, C., Lengel, L., & Tomic, A. (2004). Computer Mediated Communication Social Interaction and the Internet. Sage Pubns Ltd.

Tuan, Y. (1977) Space and Place: The Perspective of Experience, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota.

Toponymic Silence and Toponymic Noise: How US state cartographers obscured the Indohispano namescapes of Nuevo México and Colorado

BEKÉ, LEN NILS
University of New Mexico
lennilsbeke@gmail.com

This paper draws on the results of a research project in ethnogeography and language documentation focused on mapping out the vernacular place name inventories used by Spanish-English bilingual communities in northern Nuevo México and southern Colorado, USA, to determine a typology of the

linguistic strategies for toponymic silencing employed in the creation of state-sanctioned cartographic representations. Toponymic silencing may be defined as the set of representational practices by which hegemonic actors erase, obscure, and delegitimize the place naming practices of minoritized or subjugated populations (cf. Harley 1988, Helander 2013). 'Official' maps of the study area silence toponymic traditions in Amerindian languages by near total omission. They simultaneously obscure the mostly Spanish-language place names in local oral usage through a variety of strategies including omission, partial and full translation, standardization of dialect forms, deliberate misspelling, incorporation of language learner errors, arbitrary addition of English elements, and substitution with unrelated English place names. On the most detailed topographic maps produced by the United States Geological Survey since the 1950s, barely 15.4% of the total toponym labels for natural features in the study area constitute accurate representations of names in local oral tradition, as ascertained by the author through extensive fieldwork and interviews. USGS field records from the time these maps were first developed provide evidence that Survey employees were dismissive of the local Spanish speaking community and made only minimal efforts towards broad popular consultation, instead relying largely on the information provided by other government employees, primarily working for the National Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the US Postal Service. Taken at face value, the manipulations made by the USGS result in impoverished construals of individual named places and significant misconstruals of local communities' ways of speaking, their geographic categorization, and their familiarity with the uplands.

References

Harley, J. B. (1988). Silences and Secrecy: The Hidden Agenda of Cartography in Early Modern Europe. Imago Mundi, 40, 57–76.

Helander, K. R. (2014). Sámi placenames, power relations and representation. In I. D. Clark, L. Hercus, & L. Kostanski (Eds.), Indigenous and Minority Placenames: Australian and International Perspectives (1st ed.). ANU Press. https://doi.org/10.22459/IMP.04.2014.18

Imagining "Central Europe" in South Slavic Literature: Mental Mapping of "Srednja Evropa" by Danilo Kiš

BICKHARDT, PHILINE
University of Zurich
philine.bickhardt@uzh.ch

When Karl Schlögel (2002) says that the center of Europe is in the east, one could argue referring to the South Slavic and Jewish author Danilo Kiš: The center lies in the Southeast. With the help of the concept "Pannonia" (often also "Kakania"), which Kiš used in many literary places and texts, I will analyze how Kiš creates a mental map of Central Europe as the center of European history (in his trilogy Jani radi, Bašta Pepeo, Peščanik). Pannonia refers to the geographical Pannonian plain (connecting several European states), which is for Kiš both fertile ground due to geological layers that are millions of years old and a "Pannonian swamp" that marks the decline of Central European Jewry. Regarding the question of literary conceptualization of "Central Europe": Kiš is not primarily interested in geography, the view "from above" (on a vertical plane → topography), nor in the horizontal view of landscape and spaces "from below" (→ topology). The spatiality that he is primarily concerned lies underneath. He goes into geological depths (strata as a geological concept), into the sandy soil and layers of earth (Tatjana Petzer spoke of "history as palimpsest", 2008). Since Ivo Andrić as Jugoslav novel prize winner and Miroslav Krleža as the most famous Jugoslav-Croatian writer also processed "Pannonia" understood as Central Europe in their texts, I will attempt an outlook on the meaning of the concept "Central Europe" for South Slavic writers in the 20th century. Since the concept of "Central Europe" is in public and scientific discourse mostly associated with the work of western and west Slavic

literary writers (for example the polish writer Tomasz Różycki), this contribution wants to emphasize a so far little investigated southeastern conceptualization of "Central Europe" – in order to shake off an Eurocentric tendency attributed to the term "Central Europe".

Keywords
Central Europe / Southeastern Europe, Mental Mapping, Imaginary Landscape in Southslavic Literature

References

Schlögel, Karl (2002): Die Mitte liegt ostwärts. Europa im Übergang, München.

Marszalek, Magdalena; Sasse, Sylvia (2010). Geopoetiken. Geographische Entwürfe in den mittel- und osteuropäischen Literaturen, Berlin.

Petzer, Tatjana (2008): Geschichte als Palimpsest. Erinnerungsstrukturen in der Poetik von Danilo Kiš, Frankfurt am Main et. al.

Cognitive correlates of crosslinguistic differences in landscape terminology: Language, conceptualisation and visual processing in speakers of two Nahuan languages

BOEG THOMSEN, DITTE
University of Copenhagen
ditte.boeg@hum.ku.dk

Landscape terms allow speakers to communicate about recurring features of their environment, and research within the frameworks of semantic typology and ethnophysiography has found perceptual aspects of landscape features to play different roles in the semantic content of landscape terms across languages (Burenhult & Levinson 2008). The resultant crosslinguistic variation is expected to correspond to cognitive variation (Turk et al. 2011), but we cannot rely solely on linguistic evidence to posit a relationship between landscape language and landscape cognition. To investigate whether and how landscape terminology is related to cognitive routines, the current study combined linguistic and nonlinguistic experiments to compare landscape categorisation in speakers of two Nahuan languages spoken in mountainous environments in Mexico: Tequila Nahuatl (Veracruz) and Cuacuila Nahuatl (Puebla). The study varied perceptual parameters proposed in previous studies (shape, size, material) in experiments targeting landscape language on the one hand (landscape terms) and landscape cognition on the other (nonlinguistic categorisation, visual processing). Linguistic categorisation of landforms was investigated with director-matcher games, nonlinguistic categorisation with a similarity-judgment task requiring pointing responses (cf. Lucy & Gaskins 2003). In this task, participants' looking behaviour was registered using eye-tracking to obtain measures of visual processing. Results demonstrated that speakers of Tequila Nahuatl primarily relied on material for linguistic and nonlinguistic categorisation of landforms, whereas for speakers of Cuacuila Nahuatl, size and shape were decisive. Further, nonlinguistic categorisation was related to visual processing, with reliance on shape for similarity judgment predicting visual attention to borders of landforms. Speakers of Tequila Nahuatl were less likely to allocate early attention to border regions, as expected from their reliance on material, not shape, for linguistic and nonlinguistic categorisation. Together, the linguistic and nonlinguistic results support the hypothesis that culturally shared linguistic strategies for communicating about landscape influence cognitive habits of conceptualizing and perceiving landscape.

Keywords
Generic landscape terms, Semantic typology, Nonlinguistic categorization, Eye-tracking, Nahuatl.

References

Burenhult, N. and S.C. Levinson. 2008. Language and landscape: a cross-linguistic perspective. Language Sciences 30: 135–150.

Lucy, J.A. and S. Gaskins. 2003. Interaction of language type and referent type in the development of nonverbal classification preferences. In Gentner and Goldin-Meadow (eds.), Language in Mind: Advances in the Study of Language and Thought, 465–492. MIT Press.

Turk, A.G, D.M. Mark and D. Stea. 2011. Ethnophysiography. In Mark, Turk, Burenhult and Stea (eds.), Landscape in Language: Transdisciplinary perspectives, 25–45. John Benjamins.

The Role of Home Landscape and Homesickness in International Students' Life

BOTKOVELI, NATIA

Friedrich Schiller University of Jena

Institute of Slavonic Languages and Caucasus Studies

nbotkoveli1995@gmail.com

Advancements in technology and increased cross-border workforce mobility have led society to intricate challenges and meaningful transformations over recent decades. Internationalisation became prevalent in the education field as well. Nowadays, international education has become one of the must-have experiences for aspiring academia members. Several scholars (Di Pietro, 2012; Sisavath, 2021; Harder et al., 2015) have well-documented how studying abroad contributes to the development of students' global competencies. However, some studies (Baier, 2013; Presbitero 2016; Zhou et al., 2007; Pérez-Rojas et al., 2021) suggest that sociocultural and geographical adaptation is a significant psychological transformation for international students' academic journey and should be paid more attention in acculturation research. Even though homesickness and missing familiar landscapes were identified as important adversities by international students in the existing literature, these issues still often get overlooked (Rathakrishnan et al., 2021) and there is a significant gap in the field addressing the impact these challenges can have on student's well-being. In this study, I aim to investigate what is the role home landscape plays in the international sojourn of students with a post-Soviet background in Germany. The reason for choosing this target group is based on the fact that their motivation to seek higher education in Western Europe is still unclear in the scientific literature, additionally, not much is known about their study journey, resilience and experiences in Germany even though according to UNESCOIS 2020 census Germany was named a top destination for the international students from the post-Soviet countries. For this study, I conducted semi-structured interviews with 20 international students to elicit data regarding participants' views on being away from their familiar landscapes and its impact on their emotional well-being. The study has shown that homesickness and the loss of a familiar landscape are common experiences for this group, characterised by feelings of disorientation, frustration, and instability.

Keywords

Homesickness, International students, HE, Post-soviet countries, Sociocultural adaptation.

References

Baier, Stefanie Theresia. 2015. "International students: Culture shock and adaptation to the U.S. culture." Master's thesis, Eastern Michigan University.

Di Pietro, Giorgio. 2012. "Does studying abroad cause international labor mobility? Evidence from Italy." *Economics Letters* 117, no. 3 (2012): 632-635.

Harder, A., A. Andenoro, T.G. Roberts, N. Stedman, M. Newberry, S.J. Parker, and M.T. Rodriguez. 2015. "Does Study Abroad Increase Employability?" *NACTA Journal* 59, no. 1: 41–48.

Pérez-Rojas, A. E., Choi, N.-Y., Yang, M., Bartholomew, T. T., & Pérez, G. M. 2021. Suicidal Ideation Among International Students: The Role of Cultural, Academic, and Interpersonal Factors. *The Counseling Psychologist*, 49(5), 673-700.

Presbitero, Alfred. 2016. "Culture shock and reverse culture *shock: The moderating role of cultural intelligence in international students' adaptation." *International Journal of Intercultural Relations* 54: 75-85.

Rathakrishnan, Balan et al. 2021. "Homesickness and Socio-Cultural Adaptation towards Perceived Stress among International Students of a Public University in Sabah: An Exploration Study for Social Sustainability." *Sustainability* 13, no. 9: 4924.

Sisavath, Soubin. 2021. "Benefits of Studying Abroad for Graduate Employability: Perspectives of Exchange Students From Lao Universities". *Journal of International Students* 11 (3):547-66.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Institute of Statistics. https://uis.unesco.org/

Zhou, Yuefang, Divya Jindal-Snape, Keith Topping, and John Todman. 2007. "Theoretical models of culture shock and adaptation in international students in higher education." *Studies in Higher Education* 32, no. 6: 751-768.

Liminal Space: Frontiers and Enunciation in "Sea Skin": Testimony of a subsaharan migrant stranded in Tunisia

BOUABID, MYRIAM

University of Turin / University of Manouba
myriambouabid009@gmail.com

Surrounded by a vast expanse of saltwater, the city of Zarzis witnesses migrant tragedies through a massive shipwreck and letters drifting in bottles. Recipients, awaiting signs, receive objects or even the bodies of their loved ones. The waves reveal migrants' identities through foreign currencies found in their pockets, indicating origins from places like Guinea, Mali, or Libya. In collaboration with Borderline Europe and within the framework of my Doctoral research "Liminal Space: Frontiers and Enunciation," we explore Liminality to understand the sea as a transitional space between Africa and Europe. The documentary "Sea Skin", featuring a Guinean migrant stranded in Zarzis and determined to reach Europe, helps us examine how liminality manifests in the marine landscape and impacts the migrant experience. Employing landscape semiotics to guide us through sensory experiences that lead to border-semiotics—"the border: commonly that of geopolitics, but also that of meaning" (Costantini, 2014)—we perceive the maritime landscape as a threshold frontier. The seascape thereby reveals its multifaceted nature, encompassing objects, actors, locations, and policies. Through analyzing the figures, forms, and movements within this border landscape, we strive to grasp its dynamic nature. Our interdisciplinary research, intersecting anthropology, semiotics, and linguistics, examines the Mediterranean crossing, where migrants undergo both a change of state and a transformation of state (Green, 1999). We explore how mechanisms of identity construction and experiences of "rupture", "betrayal", and "violence" impact the social and psychological transformations of migrants. In liminal zones, migrants are neither fully anchored in their homeland nor completely integrated into their new society, eluding precise quantification and statistical boundaries.

Keywords
Liminality, Frontiers, Enunciation, Semiotics, Landscape.

References
Bachelard, Gaston, Poétique de l'espace (1957), Paris, PUF, 2008.
Benveniste, Émile, l'invention du discours, Paris, Éditions In Press, 2006.
Costantini, Michel, Sémiotique des frontières art et littérature, Paris, L'Harmattan, 2014

Greimas, Algirdas Julien & J. FONTANILLE, Jacques, 1991, Sémiotique des passions. Des états de choses aux états d'âme, Paris, Seuil, 1991.

Lotman, Youri, La Sémiosphère, traduit du russe par ankaledenko (1966), Limoges, Pulim, 1999.

Van Gennep, Arnold, 1909, Les Rites de passage : études systématiques des rites…, Paris, Libr. Emile Nourry (réimpr. : Paris, Picard, 1981).

Fontanille, Jacques, « Espaces du sens. Morphologies spatiales et structures sémiotiques », in L'Espace, Actes du Congrès de l'Association Canadienne des Sociétés Savantes, 2000.

Green, Nancy L. « Trans-frontières : Pour une analyse des lieux de passage ». Socio-anthropologie, no 6 (15 novembre 1999). Https://doi.org/10.4000/socio-anthropologie.110.

Greimas, Algirdas julien, « Pour une sémiotique topologique », in Sémiotique de l'espace, Actes du Colloque de l'Institut de l'Environnement, tenu en mai 1972 à Paris, Groupe 107 (dir.), Paris, Recherches DGRST. [In Sémiotique et sciences sociales 1976, p. 129-157.]

Marcos, Isabel. "Paysages, expérience et existence." Publié dans *Dynamiques de la ville : Essais de sémiotique de l'espace*, octobre 2007.

R is for Rural: The phonological construction of the countryside in southern England

BRITAIN, DAVID
Universität Bern
david.britain@unibe.ch

Woods (2001:9) argued that "'rurality is … a social construct … an imagined entity that is brought into being by particular discourses of rurality that are produced, reproduced and contested by academics, the media, policy-makers, rural lobby groups and ordinary individuals. The rural is therefore a 'category of thought'". I show here how, through a circuit of the emergence, circulation and reproduction of ideological discourses (Phillips, Fish and Agg 2001), Southern English rurality is partially constructed and reproduced through the strategic deployment in TV, in film, in song and in other media of rhoticity, the realisation of non-prevocalic /r/ in words such as 'farm' and 'car'. Rhoticity is a rapidly obsolescing phonological characteristic of the English rural southwest. In other areas of the rural South of England, it died out well over a century ago (Ellis 1889). Despite the waning use of rhoticity in the South-West, however, comedians, film-makers, and dramatists still routinely recruit rhoticity to phonologically construct the peripheral 'South-West'. Characters that we are urged to read as from this area, especially old ones in pastoral occupations, especially those without a long formal education, are routinely portrayed with rhotic accents. The ideological circuit has led to the association of rhoticity as being iconically rural. Rhoticity has, therefore, been deployed to construct *any* such older, less educated rural character, wherever they come from in the south of England and whether or not their character comes from a part of England where rhoticity can still be found. Examples from TV drama, comedy, film, and the internet will be used to demonstrate how a recessive consonant is put to work to construct and disseminate ideologies of the countryside. I argue that such constructions of rurality, broadcast regularly into people's living rooms, strongly shape how people 'see', and, 'hear', the countryside.

Keywords
Rural, Dialect, Media, Language ideologies, Rhoticity.

References
Ellis, A. (1889). On Early English Pronunciation: Part V. London: Truebner and Co.

Phillips, M., Fish, R. and Agg, J. (2001). Putting together ruralities: towards a symbolic analysis of rurality in the British mass media. Journal of Rural Studies 17: 1-27.

Woods, M. (2011). Rural. London: Routledge.

Bilingual Landscapes and Memory in the Israeli Arab City of Umm əl-Faḥm

CERQUEGLINI, LETIZIA
Tel Aviv University
letizia.cerqueglini2024@gmail.com

Linguistic landscapes' effects on memory represent a new interdisciplinary research field (Shohamy 2012). I tested the impact of Hebrew and Arabic linguistic landmarks (LLMs; Shohamy & Ghazaleh-Mahajneh 2012) on spatial memory in 20 (10 men/women) Palestinian Arabic/Hebrew bilinguals aged 45–60 from Umm əl-Faḥm (Israel). In communicative linguistic tests, each informant was tested eight times for two known/unknown environments, both as director and matcher. The director watched 10-second videos of a man passing 12 LLMs (six Arabic/Hebrew), two for each category (shop sign/public office/road sign). The matcher received a map representing the man's path and 24 stickers in Arabic and Hebrew with the same LLMs as in the stimulus. Ten minutes after viewing, the director had one minute to instruct the matcher (out of sight and allowed to ask three questions) on the LLMs' location. In the individual cognitive test, informants were tested four times for four unfamiliar environments. They observed a stimulus array of six similar toy buildings containing six LLMs (three in Arabic/Hebrew, two for each category) for ten seconds. Ten minutes later, they moved to a different room and received 12 similar toy buildings containing the six LLMs in Arabic and Hebrew. They had 15 seconds to reconstruct the environment as it appeared in the stimulus. Analytical parameters for linguistic and cognitive tasks were the number of exact matches and reaction time. In linguistic tasks on known environments, 89% of LLMs in all categories were remembered as in real life, even when shown in the other language. In unfamiliar environments, Arabic LLMs were remembered more frequently (93%) and rapidly. Hebrew signs were mainly remembered when associated with road signs (95%), predominantly in Hebrew in real life. Cognitive results align with linguistic task results on unfamiliar environments, with higher accuracy (93%) for Arabic than Hebrew (72%) LLMs.

Keywords
Linguistic Landscapes, Bilingualism, Memory, Palestinian Arabic, Hebrew.

References
Shohamy, E. 2012. "Linguistic landscapes and multilingualism". Martin-Jones, M. et al. (eds.) The Routledge Handbook of Multilingualism, 538–551. Routledge.

Shohamy, E., Ghazaleh-Mahajneh, M. 2012. "Linguistic landscape as a tool for interpreting language vitality: Arabic as a 'minority' language in Israel". Gorter, D. et al. (eds.) Minority Languages in the Linguistic Landscape, 89–106. Palgrave.

Landscaping literature: a Digital Interactive Map of Primo Levi's Turin

CRAVERO, MATTIA
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milano - Catholic University of the Sacred Heart of Milan
mattia.cravero@unito.it

My paper aims at building a literary map to investigate the close relationship between literature and landscape. I will take the Italian chemist-writer Primo Levi's work as a case-study – in his literary texts, he describes Turin (where he spent all his life, "with involuntary interruptions") as a multifaceted city, thereby linking its places with specific periods of his life or setting some of his literary works in them. Illustrating how I realized my Digital Humanities project "Primo Levi's Turin", I will provide a replicable methodology to create an interactive literary digital map by combining Google Earth and WordPress. To clearly understand what Levi saw and how he perceived Turin's landscape, the Google Earth map is organized in pins which provide historical photos of the places and Levi's own description of them, with a WordPress link to commentaries which go through his relationship with the places he talks

about. As a result, the map will isolate specific categories of pins (such as school, Hebraism, university, chemistry, poetry, and so on) which reveal how Levi conceptualized, metaphorized, and framed Turin's urban landscape as well as historical stratification by writing about the places in which he lived during all his lifetime. In so doing, this map will be a key-instrument through which users will get to know Turin's urban landscape (as well as the transformations it underwent) through Levi's personal sense of place, thereby reading the passages in which he describes or quotes specific Turin sites in his literary works or interviews. On the one hand, the map will provide and highlight crucial insights to understand Levi's place attachment with Turin; on the other, it will offer a replicable methodology which could help to understand how literary authors (as well as people) think, talk about, and interact with landscapes.

Keywords
Primo Levi, Literature, Turin, Sense of place, Place attachment.

Jewish and Arab students' spatial identity through Linguistic landscape

GOLDHABER, RAVIT & YAIR, TAMI
Beit Berl College
ravit.goldhaber@beitberl.ac.il - tami.yair@beitberl.ac.il

The research focuses on the connection between linguistic landscapes (LLs) in everyday life and spatial identity of Arab and Jewish students in Israel. LLs is a reflection of the differential power and status different social-linguistic groups hold in society (Shohami and Abu Ghazaleh-Mahajneh, 2012). Moreover, Ben Rafael et al. (2006) indicate that LLs serves as symbolic representations which can influence language ideologies and reflect the process of structuring identities (Haber, 2020). Most of the research literature emphasizes the multilingual commercial settings of LLs in Arab localities (Amara, 2013). We suggest to turn the spotlight to Arab and Jewish students' spatial identity and to investigate whether they are maintaining their 'Arab-home' culture identity (as a minority), or influenced by 'Hebraisation' through the exposure to Israeli culture and its values, as well as to 'Englization' through globalization, which is connected with worldwide trends. Beyond this it is interesting to investigate this issue in the context of the conflict-ridden Israeli reality especially after the October 7 attack on Israel. 250 Arab and Jewish Students who study in Beit-Berl college (which stresses shared life between Jews and Arabs) volunteered anonymously to fill in a questionnaire which relates to LLs in three languages --Hebrew, Arabic and English-- in their everyday life spaces such as neighborhood and town, working place, studying college, entertainment areas and shopping areas. The questions were categorized into seven subjects: ethnic identity, feelings of alienation, social marginality, feelings of security, shared life, relations in public areas and globalization. The findings indicate that in public areas as the formality of linguistic landscapes decreased, the Arab students' spatial identity was related to Hebrew language. While the Arab identity increased in Arab locality areas. Additionally, linguistic landscapes reflecting diversity and inclusion of others' identities were observed, supporting shared life of Jews and Arabs.

Keywords
Linguistic landscapes, Spatial identity, Jews and Arabs in Israel, Minority.

References

Amara, M., (2013). The status of Arabic and Hebrew in the linguistic landscape in Israel and East Jerusalem. In: N. Barzilai, where cultures meet. Oranim, Academic College of Education, Faculty of Advanced Studies, pp. 18-26.

Ben-Rafael, E., Shohamy, E., Amara, M.,& Trumper-Hecht, N. (2006). Linguistic landscape as symbolic construction of the public space: The case of Israel. International journal of multilingualism, 3 (1), 7-30.

Haber, O. (2020). Language Ideologies in the Landscape of a Teachers' College. Israel Studies in Language and Society, 13 (1), 116-153.

Shohamy, E. & M. Abu Ghazaleh-Mahajneh (2012). Linguistic Landscape as a tool for interpreting language vitality: Arabic as a 'minority' language in Israel. In: D. Gorter, H.F. Marten & L. van Mensel (eds), Minority languages in the Linguistic Landscape. Basingstoke: Palgrave-Macmillan, pp, 89-106.

Landscape Narratives - The Perception of Space and Landscape on Old Maps

HUTTERER, DOROTHEA

LMU Munich, Rachel Carson Center for Environment & Society

dorothea.Hutterer@rcc.lmu.de

The history and conception of the early modern cultural landscape can be reflected due to visual sources - especially old handpainted maps. Maps were made for different occasions, either to settle disputes, for administrative purposes or to represent. The process of creating the map can be divided into written and oral sections, each of which requires the involvement of different actors. To begin with, it is necessary to obtain basic information and clarify the occasion. Once information has been collected, it must be given a form. The result of the combination of spatial information and content information is the map. The participants move around the landscape and inform each other about their environment. The spatial knowledge that is ultimately reflected in the map is thus the result of temporally and culturally determined social interaction processes and is based on an intensive examination of the local conditions. Archival sources can give a deep insight to the perception of space while mapmaking. This documentary unity of the media of text and image is often subject to strict formal requirements in the context of a court case, with the result that the abstract medium of language has found a complement in the vivid medium of image. The spatial knowledge of individuals quickly becomes the spatial knowledge of all stakeholders. Maps are to be understood as social processes that can provide insights into historical landscape use. This talk on "Landscape narratives - the perception of space and landscape on old maps" will show the steps of collecting information and knowledge and follows two major questions:

•	How do people from diverse backgrounds think, talk about and interact with landscapes during the mapmaking process?

•	How can manuscript maps help to understand historical land use?

Keywords
Manuscript maps, Mapmaking as social process, Environmental history, Space and Landscape.

References
Parts of this topic are based on the interdisciplinary research of my submitted dissertation "Karten - Kontext - Kulturlandschaft. Umweltgeschichten an Altkarten aus Altbayern". In my dissertation thesis I analyzed in an own chapter on "Umwelt im Kartenbild" the meaning, function and use of several landscape elements and its visual representation.

Aymans, Gerhard: Die handschriftliche Karte als Quelle geographischer Studien, in: Landkarten als Geschichtsquellen, Köln 1985 (Archivberatungsstelle Rheinland, Archivhefte 16).

Baumann, Anette: Beweiskommissionen und Augenscheinkarten. Strategien der Visualisierung von Inaugenscheinnahmen am Reichskammergericht (1495-1806). In: Baumann/Schmolinsky/Timpener (Hrsg.): Raum und Recht. Visualisierung von Rechtsansprüche in der Vormoderne. Oldenbourg 2020.

Beier, Herbert: Vom Messtisch bis zur Satellitenmessung – Eine Dokumentation zur Entwicklung der Vermessung in Bayern. Landesamt für Vermessung und Geoinformation, München, 2009.

Handbuch der historischen Kulturlandschaftselemente in Bayern, hg. vom Bayerischen Landesverein für Heimatpflege, vom Bayerischen Landesamt für Denkmalpflege und vom Bayerischen Landesamt für Umwelt, München 2013.

Knoll, Martin / Reith, Reinhold: An Environmental History of the Early Modern Period. Experiments and Perspectives, Wien 2014 (= Austria: Forschung und Wissenschaft - Geschichte 10).

Küster, Hansjörg: Geschichte der Landschaft in Mitteleuropa. Von der Eiszeit bis zur Gegenwart. Jubiläumsed. München 2013.

Leidel, Gerhard: Von der gemalten Landschaft zum vermessenen Land: eine Ausstellung des Bayerischen Hauptstaatsarchivs zur Geschichte der handgezeichneten Karte in Bayern. München 2006.

Schlögl, Daniel: Der Planvolle Staat – Raumerfassung und Reformen in Bayern 1750–1800. Schriftenreihe zur bayerischen Landesgeschichte 138, Beck, München 2002.

Sieman, Wolfram/ Freytag, Nils (Hrsg.): Umweltgeschichte. Themen und Perspektiven. München 2003.

RespekTiere deine Grenzen. Enabling co-orientation and co-operation in the linguistic landscape through semiotic space architecture

JANICH, NINA & SIMON, NIKLAS
Technische Universität Darmstadt
nina.janich@tu-darmstadt.de - niklas.simon@tu-darmstadt.de

Linguistic interaction research assumes that interaction spaces are socially constructed. In the concept of "doing space" (Hausendorf/Jucker 2022), situatedness enables shared perception (coorientation), movement (co-ordination) and action (co-operation). This is achieved not only by language use but also by the interaction architecture of the space – it enables the participants to interpret, navigate and participate within the situation. In the talk, this concept of Doing Space will serve as a methodological framework for the analysis of hiking trail signs. Such signs are understood as linguistic landscapes (Auer 2010) in the natural space/cultural landscape. The Doing Space concept will be tested for its viability for linguistic landscape research using a discursive and sociolinguistic case study: the analysis of hiking trail signs concerning grazing cattle in the Austrian Hohe Tauern National Park. This example comes in handy because there are always conflicts between tourists and grazing cattle owners, ranging from occasional annoyance about dog excrements to fundamental liability issues. The central question of the talk is to what extent hiking trail signs lead to interpretation, navigation and participation, which in turn enable to co-orientation, co-ordination and co-operation of the various actors who use the cultural landscape with different interests (Hartung/Kirchhoff 2014). With regard to the semiotic form of the signs (text-image relationship, amount of text, font size), the question is also discussed as to what extent the situation of walking is actually reader-friendly, i.e. to what extent an interaction space can be created here at all.

Keywords
Doing space, Linguistic landscape, Hiking trail signs, Conflicts about landscape use.

References
Auer, Peter (2010): Sprachliche Landschaften. Die Strukturierung des öffentlichen Raums durch die geschriebene Sprache. In: Deppermann, Arnulf/Linke, Angelika (Hrsg.): Sprache intermedial. Stimme und Schrift, Bild und Ton. Berlin u. a. (IDS-Jahrbuch 2009), 271–298.

Hartung, Gerald/ Kirchhoff, Thomas (Hrsg.) (2014): Welche Natur brauchen wir? Analyse einer anthropologischen Grundproblematik des 21. Jahrhunderts. Freiburg/München.

Hausendorf, Heiko/Jucker, Andreas H. (2022): Doing space: The pragmatics of language and space. In: Jucker, Andreas H./Hausendorf, Heiko (Hg.): Pragmatics of space. Berlin/Boston, 1-20.

Waldsterben 2.0 – A case study on continuity and divergence in German public political discourse around forest diebacks between 1990 and 2020

JOHNSON, PATRICK
Technische Universität Darmstadt
patrick_david.johnson@tu-darmstadt.de

In 2003, the German Minister for Consumer Protection, Food and Environment Renate Künast proclaimed that a trend of wide-ranging damages to German forests was successfully reversed. At that point, the term Waldsterben had already been established within public German environmental discourse for more than 20 years (Schäfer 2012: 11). Although Künast herself later argued for a redefinition of the term in light of global climate change, its usage rapidly declined both across German Newspapers and within the proceedings of the German Federal Parliament. From 2004 until 2019, Waldsterben mostly appeared in the context of historical reappraisals, accompanied by a meta-discourse about the appropriateness of the term itself. This ongoing debate didn't discourage discursive participants from labeling recent damages to forests as Waldsterben 2.0 or neues / zweites Waldsterben. The popularization of these phrases not only refueled discussions about the original term, but also introduced an additional layer, primarily focused on the comparison of the two phenomena: Aspects such as the factors causing damages to forests and its affected constituents – first and foremost different types of trees – are frequently put forth as arguments about the terminological scope of Waldsterben and its derivatives. To analyze these discursive entanglements, a corpus of German Newspapers and Plenary Debates of the German Federal Parliament ranging from 1990-2020 is evaluated through a multiscalar approach. Combining Topic Modelling, Temporal Word Embedding and microreading, our corpus and computer linguistic case study is heavily inspired by Purves/Koblet/Adams' (2022) approaches to environmental narratives and thus aims to establish a better understanding of differing perceptions evoked through environmental terminology.

References

Purves R./Koblet, O./Adams B. (2022): Analysing Environmental Narratives Computationally. In: Ross S. Purves, Olga Koblet and Benjamin Adams (Ed.): Unlocking Environmental Narratives. London: Ubiquity Press, 43-84.

Schäfer, R (2012): „Lamettasyndrom" und „Säuresteppe": Das Waldsterben und die Forstwissenschaften 1979-2007. Freiburg: Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Institut für Forstökonomie.

Perceptions of Landscape Structures in Stifter's Nachsommer. From Anthropocentric to Ecocentric

KNOLLER, JULIA
University of Zurich
julia.knoller@uzh.ch

My contribution, and thus my Poster, is based on my master's thesis in German studies on Adalbert Stifter's Nachsommer from the perspective of Ecocriticism. Ecocriticism is an interdisciplinary field of research that deals with the relationship between humans and their environment (and why the term "environment" is not really correct, I will explain in more detail in the course of my lecture). Using Stifter's artwork, I will examine the alleged dualisms between humans and nature, touch on the question of fate and self-determination/autonomy and who dominates whom, questioning the anthropocentric view and shifting it to co-dependent networks. My thesis is that Stifter describes humans as part of nature and the environment instead of splitting them into different categories. While analysing his descriptive style of writing, I found that he leads the reader from a linear (birth,

life, death) perception of life to the realisation that humans are embedded in a circular structure (based on nature e.g. the seasons). Stifter's oeuvre is famous for its thorough depiction of the landscape, which seems to be far more important than man himself, simply because of the dedicated amount of text. Landscape in Nachsommer allows us to approach and experience that which cannot be "reasonably" understood: Structures of space and time in which man becomes infinitely small: millenniums preserved in stone (geology), beauty or horror in glaciers and destructive forces such as a thunderstorm. When humans see themselves as part of nature instead of trying to manage and oppose it, the question of sustainability suddenly becomes remarkably simple. Der Nachsommer may be seen as idealistic, but more often simply as beautiful and peaceful. For me, it represents a well-played story that gives a sense of what life, society and upbringing could be like and motivates to live in a better world.

Keywords
Ecocriticism, Literature, Adalbert Stifter.

References

Blackbourn, David: Die Eroberung der Natur. In: Landschaften der deutschen Geschichte. Aufsätze zum 19. und 20. Jahrhundert. Göttingen 2016. S. 221-230.

Bühler, Benjamin: Ecocriticism. Grundlagen – Theorien – Interpretationen. Stuttgart 2016.

Dürbeck, Gabriele und Urte, Strobbe (Hgg.): Ecocriticism. Eine Einführung. Köln, Weimar, Wien 2015.

Glotfelty, Cheryll/ Fromm, Harold (Hgg.): The Ecocriticism Reader. Landmarks in Literary Ecology. Athen, Georgia 1996.

Goodbody, Axel: NATURE, TECHNOLOGY and CULTURAL CHANGE in TWENTIETH-CENTURY GERMAN LITERATURE. The Challenge of Ecocriticism. Hampshire/New York 2007.

Heinze, Eva-Maria: Schönheit des Alltäglichen. Zur Ethik des täglichen Umgangs bei Albert Schweitzer, Martin Buber und Adalbert Stifter. Freiburg/München 2016.

Ireton, Sean: Between Dirty and Disruptive Nature: Adalbert Stifter in the Context of NineteenthCentury American Environmental Literature. In: Colloquia Germanica, Vol. 44, No. 2 (2011), S. 149-171.

Preisendanz, Wolfgang: Die Erzählfunktion der Naturdarstellung bei Stifter. In: Ders.: Wege des Realismus. Zur Poetik und Erzählkunst im 19. Jahrhundert. München 1977. S. 92-103.

Soper, Kate: What is Nature? Culture, Politics, and the Non-Human. Cambridge, Massachusetts 1995.

Stifter, Adalbert: Werke und Briefe. Historisch-Kritische Gesamtausgabe. Herausgegeben von Alfred Doppler und Wolfgang Frühwald [seit 2000 herausgegeben von Alfred Doppler und Hartmut Laufhütte]. Stuttgart u.a. 1978 ff.

Landscape needs sound: water and songbirds in an evolutionary psychology perspective

LENTI BOERO, DANIELA
Independent researcher, Valle d'Aosta, Italy
d.lentiboero@gmail.com

A soundscape should be considered as a landscape sound track. Musician R.Murray Shafer (1977) considers water and song birds among the "tonic" of a soundscape. Water is among themost appreciated sound in many different cultures and songbirds have been domesticated for their songs (Lenti Boero 2022). A water fall might hold characteristics of sense of place and attachment (Krause 2012). The the aim of present study is to compare natural sounds in naive and musical trained subjects. Twenty-six children (age 11 years old) and six experienced musicians (mean age 31 years old, mean music training 20 years) collectively listened to two geophonic sounds and two different black bird

(Turdus merula)sounds (song and alarm) and were asked to define them as: harsh, warm, aggressive and sweet.

Tab.1. Number and percentages of definitions assigned to each sound.

		Volcano	River	Black bird song	Black bird alarm
harsh/aggr.	children	100%	20%	12%	71%
	musicians	83%	0%	17%	60%
sweet/warm	children	0%	80%	88%	29%
	musicians	17%	100%	83%	40%

Differences between groups are not significant: volcano: chi-square = 0.0526, DF=1 P=0.819; river: chi-square = 0.252, DF=1, P=0.616; Black bird song: chi-square = 0.00224, DF=1, P=0.962, alarm: chi-square = 1.46, DF=1 P= 0.228.

Previous research put in evidence that not all naturalsounds are perceived as pleasant or judged in the same way (Lenti Boero et al. 2009, Ratcliff 2021),this might be very important in understanding soundscape preferences and for soundscape conservation (Pavan 2017). The reasonsfor preferencens' diversity are well explained by evolutionary psychology perspective (Lenti Boero & Bottoni 2008).

Keywords
Soundscape, Evolutionary psychology, Nonlinear sounds.

How is geoparsing influenced by language? Linguistic, geographical and data perspectives from the Finnish context

LEPPÄMÄKI, TATU
Digital Geography Lab, University of Helsinki
tatu.leppamaki@helsinki.fi

Place names, or toponyms, are used to structure space and refer to places meaningful to us. Texts with georeferences are an interesting data source for geographical research (Hu, 2018) – however, if toponyms are not paired with coordinate information, quantitative spatial analysis methods remain limited (Janowicz et al., 2022). Therefore, geoparsing, the process of automatically finding and geolocating toponyms in texts, has been proposed as a preprocessing step (Gritta et al., 2020; Hu, 2018; Purves et al., 2018). Geoparsed texts have been used to, for example, mapping landscape appreciation patterns (Gregory et al., 2019) and examining a cityscape through the toponyms in Airbnb descriptions (Brunila et al., 2023). Many geoparsing systems are built for the English language. Languages are not alike, nor do natural language processing methods necessarily carry across languages, as critiques from linguistics have highlighted (Bender, 2019). How does the language of focus affect geoparsing, then? I present lessons learned from developing, annotating, and evaluating geoparsing resources for Finnish, a language distinct in some ways from the large Indo-European languages geoparsing is usually applied to. First, languages are morphologically different – Finnish words tend to be conjugated, which adds an additional processing step, lemmatisation. A full error analysis of the geoparser output shows lemmatisation is a significant source of errors in the processing pipeline. Second, training custom geoparsing methods tends to ingest heaps of data, such as georeferenced Wikipedia pages. Yet, such data is available for few languages. Finally, English geoparsing corpora used for evaluating geoparsers shows a distinct bias towards the Anglosphere, as do our Finnish corpora towards Finland. We close by discussing the larger implications for geoparsing, which matter given the realised (Brunila et al., 2023; Gregory et al., 2019) and potential applications of geoparsing in the study of landscapes.

References

Bender, E. (2019). The #BenderRule: On Naming the Languages We Study and Why It Matters. The Gradient. https://thegradient.pub/the-benderrule-on-naming-the-languages-we-study-and-why-it-matters/

Brunila, M., LaViolette, J., CH-Wang, S., Verma, P., Féré, C., & McKenzie, G. (2023). Toward a Critical Toponymy Framework for Named Entity Recognition: A Case Study of Airbnb in New York City. Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing, 4676–4695. https://doi.org/10.18653/v1/2023.emnlp-main.284

Gregory, I., Donaldson, C., & Taylor, J. (2019). Landscape Appreciation in the English Lake District: A GIS Approach. In T. Coomans, B. Cattoor, & K. De Jonge (Eds.), Mapping Landscapes in Transformation: Multidisciplinary Methods for Historical Analysis. Leuven University Press.

Gritta, M., Pilehvar, M. T., & Collier, N. (2020). A pragmatic guide to geoparsing evaluation: Toponyms, Named Entity Recognition and pragmatics. Language Resources and Evaluation, 54(3), 683–712. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10579-019-09475-3

Hu, Y. (2018). Geo-text data and data-driven geospatial semantics. Geography Compass, 12(11), e12404. https://doi.org/10.1111/gec3.12404

Janowicz, K., Zhu, R., Verstegen, J., McKenzie, G., Martins, B., & Cai, L. (2022). Six GIScience Ideas That Must Die. AGILE: GIScience Series, 3, 1–8. https://doi.org/10.5194/agile-giss-3-7-2022

Purves, R. S., Clough, P., Jones, C. B., Hall, M. H., & Murdock, V. (2018). Geographic Information Retrieval: Progress and Challenges in Spatial Search of Text. Foundations and Trends in Information Retrieval, 12(2–3), 164–318. http://dx.doi.org/10.1561/1500000034

Studying the Historical Landscape Semantics of Scottish Gaelic through Corpus Linguistics and Place Name Evidence

MADLENER, REBECCA

Sabhal Mòr Ostaig / University of the Highlands and Islands, UK

21016714@uhi.ac.uk

Current scholarship on past and present Gaelic landscapes is carried out by scholars from a range of academic disciplines, such as onomastics (e.g. Murray 2019), archaeology, history (e.g. Dodgshon 2015), and literary studies (e.g. Mulligan 2019). A thorough linguistic understanding of Gaelic landscape vocabulary is still missing. Previous studies on the semantics of Old Gaelic landscape vocabulary have largely been carried out by Liam Mac Mathúna (e.g. 1987, 1988, 2004). The electronic availability of language material and the digital methods to study it have greatly improved since his studies. This means that a larger corpus can now be investigated, warranting a re-examination of the evidence and an extension of the historical scope up to the present day. As the surviving language material of any historical language constitutes a corpus, corpus linguistics offers ideal methods for approaching historical language data. There is currently no appropriate historical corpus of Gaelic available online, so a corpus consisting of texts available from different online resources (e.g. CELT, DASG) will be compiled for this study. The target terms' semantics will be determined based on their collocates (co-occurring words). The collocates will provide insight into the speech community's uses of and interactions with landscape features. Detailed physical descriptions of landscape features are rare in the historical record. Place-name evidence will provide insight into the features' physical reality. Places with names containing the target terms will be visited to gather information about their shape, location, appearance etc. The findings from this fieldwork will be combined with the corpus evidence to provide a more complete understanding of the target terms' semantics. The study will shed light on

how Gaelic speakers conceptualised the landscape throughout the language's history and contribute to literary, ecological and ethnological landscape studies, as well as historical linguistics and onomastics.

References
Dodgshon, R. A. 2015. No Stone Unturned: A History of Farming, Landscape and Environment in the Scottish Highlands and Islands. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

Mac Mathúna, Liam. 1987. 'Continuity and Innovation in Early Irish Words for "Water Expanse"'. In Studien Zum Indogermanischen Wortschatz, edited by Wolfgang Meid, 83–99. Innsbruck: Innsbrucker Beiträge zur Sprachwissenschaft.

Mac Mathúna, Liam. 1988. 'Old Irish Heights and Word-Field Potential'. Studia Hibernica 24 (1): 29–50. https://doi.org/10.3828/sh.1984_1988.24.2.

Mac Mathúna, Liam. 2004. 'Continuity and Change in Early Irish Words for "Plain": Exploring Narrative Text and Place-Name Divergence'. Ériu 54: 149–70.

Mulligan, Amy C. 2019. A Landscape of Words: Ireland, Britain and the Poetics of Space, 700-1250. Manchester Medieval Literature and Culture 27. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Murray, John. 2019. Reading the Gaelic Landscape = Leughadh Aghaidh Na Tìre. Caithness: Whittles Publishing.

University College Cork. 2020. 'CELT: Corpus of Electronic Texts'. Accessed 27 March 2024. https://celt.ucc.ie/.

University of Glasgow. n.d. 'Dachaigh Airson Stòras Na Gàidhlig (DASG)'. Accessed 27 March 2024. https://dasg.ac.uk.

Cognitive perception of landscapes by Dargin speakers, the influence of culture of the nation on word-formation processes

MAGOMEDOVA, SAIGIBAT
Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE)
chenphoeb@gmail.com

This study investigates an indigenous Dargin language, its reflection of the world and the way culture of its speakers shapes the cognitive basis of language with the focus on the leading word-formation process - polysemy. The investigation shows the importance and influence of Dargin speakers' cultural interpretation of landscape and the way it shapes new words in the language that consequently develop new meanings. Linguistic analysis of the functioning of landscape defining words was conducted on 50 examples of Dargin proverbs and sayings. The practical significance of the study is that the results can be used for educational purposes in the fields of any inter-disciplinary purpose, identity, world-image research, as by establishing contrasts and similarities that can only be discovered via comparison, linguistic analysis advances the knowledge of the structural characteristics of any language. The study concludes that landscape defining words have their cultural significance in the cognitive perception of reality by the nation. Landscape, in creating such meanings, plays a crucial role, as it is able to produce various culture and world-view based associations.

References
Abdullaev Z.G. (1967). Dargin language. Languages of the indigenous folks of the USSR. Makhachkala. Gramota.

Abdulfatakhova D. K. (2016). The diversity of the material and spiritual culture of the Dargins and its impact on the educational space of Dagestan. Makhachkala. Gramota Publishing House.

Benner, Dietrich. (2003). Wilhelm von Humboldts Bildungstheorie, Weinheim and Munich: Juventus.

Bouda, Karl. (1997). Die darginische Schriftsprache. (Beiträge zur kaukasischen und sibirischen Sprachwissenschaft, 4.). Leipzig.

Berg, Helma van den.(2001). Dargi Folktales. Oral Stories from the Caucasus. With an Introduction to Dargi Grammar. Leiden.

Kornienko, N. A. (2019). Language picture of the world in the formation of ethnic identity of personality. SWorld-Ger Conference Proceedings, gec20-01, (pp. 68–71). Moscow. Eksmo.

Mursalova L.A. (2020). Structural and semantic characteristics of colour meanings in the Lezgin and English languages. Makhachkala.

Nikitin M.V. (2008). Fundamentals of the linguistic theory of meaning. Leningrad University.

Omarov I. M. (2011). Dargin folk proverbs and sayings. Makhachkala: Daguchpedgiz, (206 p).

Stanlaw J. (2023). Language, the Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis, and the Americanist Tradition in Anthropology, Linguistics, and Cognitive Science. Anthropology, Illinois State University.

Arctic conceptualisations of land: The semantics of elevated places in Kalaallit Nunaat (Greenland)

MAŠKOVÁ, STEPHANIE
Griffith University, Australia
stephaniemaskova.pedersen@griffithuni.edu.au

This paper explores the semantics of elevated places in the official language of Kalaallit Nunaat (Greenland), Kalaallisut (Greenlandic), and the underexplored postcolonial Arctic variety of Danish, Kalaallisut-Danish. Kalaallit Nunaat has come to occupy a central place in the climate crisis (Jensen, 2022). Still, research on Arctic conceptualisations of the natural world is not yet sufficiently represented in the literature or decision-making processes. Prior research on words referring to the natural world in Kalaallisut includes studies of plant terminology (Whitecloud & Grenoble, 2014), land- and seascape terminology (Grenoble et al., 2019), wind terminology (McMahan et al., 2022), and snow terminology (Mašková, 2022a). While many semantic domains in Kalaallisut still need to be covered, the research on the environmental semantics of Kalaallisut-Danish is close to non-existent, with only one published study on the subject (Mašková, 2022b). Therefore, based on the Natural Semantic Metalanguage (NSM) approach and linguistic evidence from text corpora and semantic consultations carried out in 2024, this paper proposes and contrasts semantic explications of the Kalaallisut word 'qaqqaq' ('fell', 'mountain', 'hill') and the Kalaallisut-Danish word 'fjeld' ('fell', 'mountain', 'hill'). By collaborating with speakers to explicate the linguistically encoded Arctic conceptualisations of land, the study aims to promote local knowledges in research and decision-making processes, thereby fostering sustainable approaches to addressing environmental challenges in the region. Words for elevated places often serve as a prime example in conversations about differences between Danish in Kalaallit Nunaat and Denmark (Petersen, 1976). Therefore, this paper further proposes semantic explications of the Denmark-Danish words 'bjerg' ('mountain') and 'bakke' ('hill') to explore how differences in the physical and human environments correlate with culture-specific conceptualisations. Overall, by examining the terms for elevated places in an Indigenous language alongside a postcolonial variety and colonial language, this study offers valuable insights into the intricate connections between languages, cultures, and land.

References

Grenoble, L. A., McMahan, H., & Petrussen, A. K. (2019). An Ontology of Landscape and Seascape in Greenland: The Linguistic Encoding of Land in Kalaallisut. International Journal of American Linguistics, 85(1), 1-43. https://doi.org/10.1086/700317

Jensen, L. (2022). Postcolonial sovereignty in Greenland and Indigenous Australia. KULT. Postkolonial Temaserie, 17(Greenland - 301 years later), 1-16.

Mašková, S. (2022a). A Semantic Analysis of Snow-related Words in Danish and Kalaallisut (West Greenlandic). Scandinavian Studies in Language(13(1)).

Mašková, S. (2022b). Postkolonial semantik - Et casestudie af naturord i det Nuuk-danske betydningsunivers [MA Thesis, Roskilde Universitet]. Roskilde Universitet.

McMahan, H., Grenoble, L. A., & Petrussen, A. K. (2022). A socially anchored approach to spatial language in Kalaallisut. Linguistics Vanguard, 8(s1), 39-51. https://doi.org/doi:10.1515/lingvan-2020-0013

Petersen, R. (1976). Dansk i Grønland. Mål & Mæle, 1, 21-25.

Whitecloud, S. S., & Grenoble, L. A. (2014). An Interdisciplinary Approach to Documenting Knowledge: Plants and Their Uses in Southern Greenland. Arctic, 67(1), 57-70. http://www.jstor.org/stable/24363721

Social distance and the conceptualisation of space

OGIERMANN, EVA

King's College London, School of Education, Communication and Society
eva.ogiermann@kcl.ac.uk

This presentation examines conceptualisations of space during the Covid-19 pandemic by focusing on the implementation of social distancing in enclosed spaces. The need to contain the virus, in a context of an unprecedented global health crisis, has resulted in an abundance of Covid-19 signs implementing containment measures aiming at reducing contact between people. Drawing on a collection of over 3500 Covid-19 signs photographed in London between March 2020 and October 2021, as well as examples from different countries, this presentation shows how business owners have implemented government instructions on their premises. It follows work in linguistic landscape studies, which assigns an increasingly central role to the emplacement of signs (Scollon & Wong Scollon 2003), viewing them as demarcations of space (Blommaert 2013: 15) which organize "spatial practices as well as social practices enacted in the spaces" (Jaworski & Thurlow 2010: 8). At the same time, the present study goes further as it examines how the signs conceptualise space by putting relatively vague instructions into practice. While Covid-19 legislation defined social distance as consisting of 2 meters, the present study looks at how this requirement was implemented locally. This ranged from merely reproducing government instructions, leaving it to the customers to figure out how to maintain a 2-metre distance, to more tailored spatial arrangements. On the one hand, this involved practical considerations related to the size and layout of the premises, which resulted in instructions targeting specific forms of behaviour (such as queuing or one-way traffic). On the other, some businesses took a personal approach reflected in the signs' linguistic and visual choices (often involving humour), skillfully combining the need to ensure clarity, compliance with the measures, and customer retention.

References

Blommaert, Jan. 2013. Ethnography, Superdiversity and Linguistic Landscapes: Chronicles of complexity. Clevedon: Multilingual Matters.

Jaworski, Adam, and Crispin Thurlow. 2010. Introducing Linguistic Landscape. In Semiotic landscapes: Language, image, space, ed. by Adam Jaworski, and Crispin Thurlow London, UK: Continuum. 1-40

Scollon, Ron, and Suzie Wong Scollon. 2003. Discourses in Place: Language in the Material World. London: Routledge.

Arctic Landscapes, Nostalgia and Concrete: The Odyssey as Lens on two Depictions of Migration from Damascus

PANAGIOTIDIS, ALEXIA

University of Zurich

alexiamaria.panagiotidis@ds.uzh.ch

Odysseus can be considered one of the earliest migrants in European literature. He is driven by nostos, the telos of returning home. It could be argued that nostos shapes Odysseus' perception of landscapes as alien and perilous, such as the macabre island of the Sirens. In the 17th century, the term 'nostalgia' was coined, today a common topic in literature about migration. To illustrate this, two contemporary novels on Syrian migration will be examined. The theoretical framework of nostos/nostalgia, in conjunction with dislocation, and the rhetorical trope of personification are employed. A diligent close reading is used in order to understand how landscapes are shaped by migration. The first novel is Leila and the Blue Fox by Kiran Millwood (2022). During a research trip to Greenland, Leila and her mother are able to discuss their migration experience from Syria for the first time. Leila's mother tracks an arctic fox, which is crossing borders in search of a new home due to climate change. The travel is partially depicted in the animal's own language. The arctic atmosphere contrasts with that of Damascus. Although it may initially have a narcotic effect, it also conserves memories and 'breaks the ice' for talking about migration. The second novel, Betonhjerter (Engl. Concrete Hearts; 2023), is written by the Syrian author Sara Rahmeh, who grew up in Denmark. The narrator, the 17-year-old Yasmin, portrays the residents of a migration district from an inward perspective, placing particular emphasis on her mother's relationship with her hometown Damascus. The overall aim is to provide an authentic portrayal, possibly in light of political measures. The landscape is no longer present and disappears into the inorganic form of the concrete. The novel contributes to a new understanding of the experience of migration in Northern Europe by bringing the material to life.

References

Homer: Odyssey (around the 8th or 7th century BC).

Kiran Millwood Hargrave: Leila and the Blue Fox (2022).

Sara Rahmeh: Betonhjerter (2023).

A Space of Their Own: Landscapes of Thessaloniki's Jewish community through a corpus based analysis of Museum Audio Guides

PSOMA, THEODORA & MATTHEOUDAKIS, MARINA
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, School of English
Department of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics
tpsom@enl.auth.gr - marmat@enl.auth.gr

Landscapes, real or imagined, are a common theme in museums' collections. Regarding the Jewish Museum of Thessaloniki (JMT) in Greece, landscapes exhibits provide visitors with insights into the city's multicultural history and identity. In the context of this presentation, landscapes refer to space inhabited by the Jewish community in Thessaloniki before the Holocaust. And although general and diverse audiences gain an understanding of the content via Audio Guide texts, research on the language of verbal descriptions is scarce (Hutchinson & Eardley, 2021). The language of Audio Guides and its study raises an important issue; that of accessibility and inclusion for Blind and Partially Sighted audiences (BPS) and visitors with learning or cognitive (dis)abilities. Our presentation discusses how practitioners use language in order to describe these landscapes. Representations of space, spatial expressions and toponymy in English Audio Guide texts of the JMT are the focus of this study. For the purpose of this research, we draw upon the text models and patterns for textual reference as regards to spatial representations of Thessaloniki's urban landscape before the Holocaust. Therefore, we have compiled a corpus of JMT's Audio Guides. The texts have been analyzed with the use of corpus-based methodology of the GENTT Research Group method (Perego, 2018) and on the basis of Systemic Functional Linguistics (Halliday, 1994). This corpus based study into the language of museum Audio Guides, reflects interdisciplinary readings of landscapes. Our topic is founded in the intersection of Corpus Linguistics, Museology and Critical Disability Studies while it also draws upon theories of Accessibility Studies. Data analysis offers a corpus-based overview of some relevant linguistic and textual features of JTM's Audio Guide texts, thus providing a more comprehensive understanding of landscapes representation as an integral part of Thessaloniki's identity, in the context of accessibility for general audiences as well as for visitors with various (dis)abilities.

References
Burenhult, N., & Levinson, S. C. (2008). Language and landscape: A cross-linguistic perspective. Language Sciences, 30(2–3), 135–150

Butler, Christopher S. (2014). Corpus studies and functional linguistic theories. Functions of Language 11:2, 147-186. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1075/fol.11.2.02but

Halliday, M. A. K. (1994). An introduction to functional grammar. Edward Arnold

Hutchinson, R., & Eardley, A. F. (2021). Inclusive museum audio guides: 'guided looking' through audio description enhances memorability of artworks for sighted audiences. Museum Management and Curatorship, 36(4), 427–446. https://doi.org/10.1080/09647775.2021.1891563

Izquierdo, I. G., & Albi, A. B. (2008). A multidisciplinary approach to specialized writing and translation using a genre based multilingual corpus of specialized texts. LSP and professional communication (2001-2008), 8(1)

Kress, G. & van Leeuwen, T. (2006). Reading Images: The Grammar of Visual Design, 2nd edition. Routledge

Landau, B., & Jackendoff, R. (1993). "What" and "where" in spatial language and spatial cognition. Behavioral and Brain Sciences, 16(2), 217–238.
doi: https://psycnet.apa.org/doi/10.1017/S0140525X00029733

Levinson, S.C., Kita, S., Haun, D.B., & Rasch, B. (2002). Returning the tables: language affects spatial reasoning. Cognition, 84, 155-188. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0010-0277(02)00045-8

Perego, E. (2018). Into the language of museum audio descriptions: a corpus-based study. Perspectives, 27(3), 333-349

Soler Gallego, S. (2016). A corpus-based genre analysis of art museum audio descriptive guides. In F. Alonso Almeida, L. Cruz García, & V. González Ruiz (Eds.), Corpus-based studies on language varieties: Linguistic insights (pp. 145–166). Bern: Peter Lang.

Long Flowing-water Places in Chinese: An NSM Approach

RAO, XU
The Australian National University
emma.rao1990@gmail.com

As Bromhead claims (2018), one thing that all people have in common is the need for water—especially fresh water. This statement is especially true for an agricultural country like China. According to China's documented and archaeologically verified history, the Shang dynasty (c. 1500–1100 B.C.) saw the emergence of Chinese culture in the lower Yellow River basin. Apart from its cultural hearth, China also boasts several cultural hubs that developed near water features, such as the one created near the West Lake 西湖 (Duan, 2020; Han 2012). Naturally, water management became a top priority for the government, and the concept of shuǐ 水 ('water') became the central to the Chinese people's worldview. As Ball (2017, p. 3) noticed, shuǐ 水 is one of the most potent vehicles for Chinese thought and one of the key determinations of Chinese civilization. Thus, the way Chinese people categorize water places is the embodiment of Chinese people's perspective of their surrounding environment and allows us to peer into the geographies of China, Chinese people's way of life and worldview. In this article, I will conduct fine-grained semantic analysis on three Chinese landscape terms for long flowing-water places, i.e., jiāng 江 ('river'), hé 河 ('river') and xī 溪 ('creek/stream'), with the use of Natural Semantic Language (NSM) approach. The meanings of these terms will then be compared to those of their counterparts in English, French and Pitjantjatjara/Yankunytjatjara, as analyzed by Bromhead (2018). In the concluding section, the concept of hóng-shuǐ 洪水 ('flood') will be discussed and compared to the English term 'flood' (Bromhead, 2021), which is used in insurance policies in Australia. The purpose of this study is to uncover the cultural components concealed in the Chinese categorization of long flowing-water places and demonstrate how semantic analysis can facilitate pertinent cross-cultural communication.

Keywords
Semantics, Long Flowing-water Places, NSM Approach.

References
Ball, P. (2017). The water kingdom : a secret history of China. The University of Chicago Press. https://doi.org/10.7208/9780226470924

Bromhead, H. (2018). Landscape and culture—Cross-linguistic perspectives. John Benjamins Publishing Company. https://doi.org/10.1075/clscc.9

Bromhead, H. (2021). Disaster linguistics, climate change semantics and public discourse studies: a semantically-enhanced discourse study of 2011 Queensland Floods. Language Sciences (Oxford), 85, 101381-.https://doi.org/10.1016/j.langsci.2021.101381

Duan, X. (2020). The rise of West Lake: a cultural landmark in the Song Dynasty. University of Washington Press.

Han, F. (2012). Cultural landscape: A Chinese way of seeing nature. In Managing Cultural Landscapes (1st ed., pp. 90–108). Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203128190-7

Between climate and biodiversity protection: discursive conflicts about the forest as a polyvalent space

RHEIN, LISA
Technische Universität Darmstadt
lisa.rhein@tu-darmstadt.de

The article deals with the forest as a discursive space characterised by diverse conflicts. This is characterised by current debates surrounding the current forest dieback, climate change and increasing drought, but also by cultural-historical values and concepts. Especially since the political demands for biodiversity protection in the forest, the utilisation concept of the commercial forest has come under fire: conservationists are calling for new protection zones without logging, and the call for a new forest wilderness is growing louder. The starting hypothesis of this contribution is that the different perspectives on the intrinsic value and utilisation of the forest are the main causes of the discursive conflicts, i.e. that the conflicts that arise in and around the forest can essentially be traced back to specific concepts of 'forest'. Such concepts have already been worked out in individual studies (Biller 2010; Mack et al. 2023; Naendrup 2020; Schriewer 2015); however, there is no specific focus on the stakeholder groups of forestry and nature conservation. Therefore, the respective concepts of 'forest' as they are introduced into the discourse by the different actors are analysed. Using a corpus consisting of websites, magazines and flyers of the two groups of actors mentioned, qualitative methods (concept/frame analysis; Gardt 2008; Kalwa 2013) are used to show that the frequently assumed agonality of forestry and nature conservation actors does not materialise in this form. A special focus lies on the forester Peter Wohlleben whose concept of forest is highly controversial and publicly disputed. The presented research is part of an interdisciplinary project on the forest discourse, together with biology and political science. Central results and milestones are also discussed in the interdisciplinary project network and also with practitioners from the field (e.g. foresters) in order to evaluate/validate findings.

Keywords
Forest, Concept, Discourse, Nature conservation, Frames.

References

Biller, Steffen. 2010. Die Entstehung des waldbezogenen Klimadiskurses am Beispiel von Naturschutz und Forstwirtschaft in Deutschland. In Fenn Faber, Marion Jay, Sabine Reinecke & Till Westermayer (Hrsg.), Entscheidungen mit Umweltfolgen zwischen Freiheit und Zwang. Tagungsband der 7. Tagung der Nachwuchsgruppe Umweltsoziologie (NGU), 65–74. Arbeitsbericht, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Institut für Forstökonomie.

Gardt, Andreas. 2008. Kunst und Sprache. Beobachtungen anlässlich der documenta 12. In Achim Barsch, Helmut Scheuer & Georg-Michael Schulz (Hrsg.), Literatur-Kunst-Medien: Festschrift für Peter Seibert zum 60. Geburtstag (Kontext 8), 201–224. München: Meidenbauer.

Kalwa, Nina. 2013. Das Konzept "Islam": Eine diskurslinguistische Untersuchung (Sprache und Wissen Band 14). Berlin: DE GRUYTER.

Mack, Philipp, Jakob Kremer & Daniela Kleinschmit. 2023. Forest dieback reframed and revisited? Forests (re)negotiated in the German media between forestry and nature conservation. Forest Policy and Economics (147). https://doi.org/10.1016/j.forpol.2022.102883.

Naendrup, Ineke. 2020. Wer ist schuld am Waldsterben?! Eine deutsche Debatte. http://resilienceblog.com/2020/01/24/wer-ist-schuld-am-waldsterben-eine-deutsche-debatte/.

Schriewer, Klaus. 2015. Natur und Bewusstsein: Ein Beitrag zur Kulturgeschichte des Waldes in Deutschland (Waxmann-E-Books Europäische Ethnologie). Münster & New York: Waxmann. https://elibrary.utb.de/doi/book/10.31244/9783830982920.

Revisiting A Bad Study: Map-Tasks as Place-Making Mapping Narratives

ROSS, MELODY ANN
Universität Duisburg-Essen
melody.ross@uni-due.de

Perceptual dialectology takes as a guiding principle that everyday people — when appropriately queried — can engage in sophisticated, nuanced reflections on language use, the principles underlying variation, and the spatial relationships entailed between the two. One way to get at this knowledge is via a map task, in which participants delineate linguistic boundaries within a mostly-blank map (Preston, 1989). This analysis revisits data collected by the author in one such endeavor undertaken in a highly-multilingual post-colonial nation, which, by most measures of success, failed spectacularly. That study found only that participants were more likely to draw administrative divisions than linguistic ones as prompted, but failed to explore the ideologies and goals underlying this practice. Using the same data, and now visualizing trends via aggregate maps (Montgomery and Stoeckle, 2013), this new analysis treats the original data as the results of an exercise in place-making within the methodology of narrative mapping (Caquard and Cartwright, 2014) to show that participants were, in fact, engaging with the spirit of the task, if not the specifics. Rather than ignoring (or misunderstanding) the researcher's linear space-to-language prompt, often participants were instead introducing an intermediary, multidimensional step within their linguistic orientations; first (almost uniformly) from space-to-place, then (more variably) from place-to-language. This new analysis shows that conceptions of linguistic territorialization can be interpreted as highly personal, multidimensional spatial storytelling in these perceptual-dialectological-cum-narrative maps.

Keywords
Perceptual dialectology, Narrative mapping, Place-making.

References
Caquard, Sébastien and William Cartwright. 2014. Narrative Cartography: From Mapping Stories to the Narrative of Maps and Mapping. The Cartographic Journal 51(2):101-106.
Montgomery, Chris and Philipp Stoeckle. 2013. Geographic information systems and perceptual dialectology: a method for processing draw-a-map data. Journal of Linguistic Geography 1:52–85.
Preston, Dennis. 1989. Perceptual dialectology. Dordrecht, Netherlands: Foris.

Landscape as a political tool to create national narratives

SANZ MARTÍN, CRISTINA
Real Academia de España en Roma
cristinasanz@usal.es

Since Modernity, Art began to appropriate Landscape gradually. It became a platform for artists to explore ideas and reflect on societal advancements. Thus, despite the collective imaginary having a passive idea about Landscape (always considered secondary in the hierarchy of pictorial genres), it also came to be instrumentalized for various purposes, such as what happened with portraits. We aim to show how Landscape has been used in certain periods of Western history as a tool for cultural construction with a clear political objective. We will do this through two cases of study related to the creation of two nations: The Netherlands and the USA. In the 17th Century in Holland (then the United Provinces of the Netherlands), pictorial Landscape was used as a propaganda instrument to claim the sovereignty of this new nation that had just gained independence from Flanders. Likewise, in the 19th Century in the USA, we find the Hudson River School in Painting. Also later, with the arrival of Photography, the photographic Landscape was employed by the US government as a tool of power demonstration to propagandize the colonizing capacity of the new nation over the territories of the

Western and the opportunities for exploitation that these territories towards California had for the average citizen from the central-eastern territories. The government paid for exploration campaigns, including photographers such as Timothy O'Sullivan, William Henry Jackson, or Carleton Watkins— and later, Anselm Adams's works also contributed to this national pride. In these cases, Landscape was used as a tool for political propaganda, among whose objectives was the desire to build an individual sense of belonging to a collective and endow this collective with a common identity—pursuing a national identity. These purposes extend beyond the boundaries of Art and delve into the interests of Cultural Anthropology, Sociology or Politics.

Keywords
Art, Landscape, Anthropology, Ideology, Cultural construction.

References

Bright, S. (2005). Fotografía hoy. San Sebastián: Nerea.

Cauquelin, A. (2013). L'invention du paysage. París: Presses Universitaires de France.

Elger, D., Rosenblum, R. & Fundación Juan March. (2007). La abstracción del paisaje: del Romanticismo nórdico al expresionismo abstracto. Madrid: Editorial de Arte y Ciencia.

Ferber, L. (2009). The Hudson River School: Nature and the american vision. New York: Skira Rizzoli.

Lévi-Strauss, C. (1993). Raza y cultura. Madrid: Cátedra.

Maderuelo, J. (2005). El paisaje: génesis de un concepto. Madrid: Abada.

Newhall, B. (2002). Historia de la fotografía. Barcelona: Gustavo Gili.

Novak, B. (2007) Nature and Culture: American Landscape Painting (1825-1875). Nueva York: Oxford University Press.

Olmo S., "Naturalezas artificiales: el paisaje fotografiado", in Olivares, R. et al. (1994). Los géneros de la pintura. Una visión actual. Madrid: Publicaciones de Estética y Pensamiento.

"Rubens, Brueghel, Lorena. El paisaje nórdico en el Prado". Museo del Prado, curated by Teresa Posada Kubissa. https://www.museodelprado.es/actualidad/exposicion/rubens-brueghel-lorena-el-paisaje-nordico-en-el/cdf0e228-2efb-4687-a1e8-46d39f0413e9.

The Many Faces of a Valley: Intersecting Visions of Kashmir and its Landscape in European Travel Literature

SURESH, AAKRITI
University of Bristol
aakriti.suresh@bristol.ac.uk

The valley of Kashmir, in northern South Asia, figures extensively in European travel literature written between the nineteenth and the twentieth centuries. The orientalist romanticization of Kashmir as 'paradise on earth' is seen as the central theme to be found in these texts. However, throughout the course of colonial rule in the Indian subcontinent, Europeans travelled to Kashmir in diverse capacities and generated multiple visions of Kashmir. This paper will explore the changing nature of European conceptualisations of Kashmir's landscape. The paper uses European travel writings, produced by doctors, colonial administrators and explorers, as primary sources and argues that European interaction with Kashmir's landscape was multi-faceted; creating pluralistic, co-existing and constantly evolving narratives about the region. This paper situates itself within the genre of theoretical debates that study the processes through spaces are imagined, produced, and reproduced. The ideas of space as socially produced (Lefebvre, 1991) and space as "fundamental in any exercise of power" (Foucault, 1984) allow us to look at landscapes as deeply political entities. Building upon the concepts of "imaginative geographies" (Said, 1978), "cultures of exploration" (Driver, 2001) and the "travelling gaze" (Arnold, 2006), this paper will undertake a critical, qualitative reading of European travel literature on Kashmir. The paper will build on my earlier work that explored how Kashmir came to be

imagined as a frontier space in the empire, and will analyze the aesthetic, commercial, civilisational and sacred framings of Kashmir that were developed by travellers. The paper will contribute to debates in the histories of colonialism, as well as literary studies and political ecology as it will highlight the dynamic nature of knowledge production, exploring the processes through which landscapes are not merely 'explored', but created in a constant interaction with diverse ideologies, presuppositions, and geopolitical realities.

Keywords

Travel literature, Colonialism, Knowledge Production, Conceptualisations.

References

Arnold, D. (2006) The Tropics and the Traveling Gaze: India, Landscape, and Science, 1800-1856. Seattle and London: University of Washington Press.

Driver, F. (2001) Geography Militant: Cultures of Exploration and Empire. Oxford: Blackwell.

Lefebvre, H. (1991) The Production of Space. Oxford: Blackwell.

Rabinow, P. (Ed.) (1984) The Foucault Reader. Harmondsworth: Penguin.

Said, E. (1978). Orientalism. New York: Vintage Books.

Landscape and Spatial Description in Contemporary Japanese

TELEGINA, MARIA

Tokyo College

maria.telegina@mail.u-tokyo.ac.jp

Spatiality in our mind and language is an essential aspect of our mental lexicon. However, recent research (Blasi et al., 2022) suggests that the previous scholarship did not pay the necessary attention to the diversity of material when examining fundamental mental lexicon domains, such as spatiality. To address this issue, this paper aims to describe and analyze patterns of spatial description in contemporary Japanese, an underrepresented language in spatiality research. This work contributes to the typology of spatial description through analyses of materials obtained from a spontaneous speech experiment and focuses on the patterns of landscape description in Japanese. Spatial descriptions of six static visual stimuli were collected from 51 native Japanese speaking participants and recorded, transcribed, and organized in a corpus. Corpus annotation and analysis follow the basic principles Kobozeva (2000) outlined. Her approach is rooted in Talmy's work (1983), and the typology proposed by Kobozeva intersects with the notion of perspective developed by Taylor and Tversky (1996). The analysis of the frames of reference within each of the patterns of description shows differences from what previous works based on European languages (e.g. Taylor and Tversky, 1996) suggested. The most significant differences are the prevalence of intrinsic frame of reference, or object-centered frame of reference, in scanning perspectives in Japanese, as opposed to relative frame of reference, or viewer-centered frame of reference, in English. Moreover, there is a presence of variation of scanning, based not on predominantly "left"/"right" scanning axis, as typically found in English (Taylor & Tversky 1996) or in Russian (Kobozeva 2000), but on the "closer/further away" axis. The findings of this paper confirm the suggestions of previous studies on spatiality, such as Levinson (2003), that a wider range of languages needs to be investigated to gain a fuller understanding of spatial description.

References

Blasi, Damián E., Joseph Henrich, Evangelia Adamou, David Kemmerer & Asifa Majid. 2022. Over-reliance on English hinders cognitive science. Trends in Cognitive Sciences. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tics.2022.09.015.

Kobozeva, Irina Mikhailovna. 2000. Grammar of Spatial Description. In Nina Davidovna Arutyunova & Irina Borisovna Levontina (eds.), Logicheskiĭ analiz i͡azyka : i͡azyk prostranstv, 152–162. Moskva: I͡Azyki russkoĭ kul'try.

Levinson, Stephen C. 2003. Space in language and cognition: explorations in cognitive diversity (Language, Culture, and Cognition). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Talmy, Leonard. 1983. How Language Structures Space. In Herbert L Pick & Linda P Acredolo (eds.), 225–282. Boston, MA: Springer US. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4615-9325-6_11.

Taylor, Holly A. & Barbara Tversky. 1996. Perspective in spatial descriptions. Journal of Memory and Language 35(3). 371–391. https://doi.org/10.1006/jmla.1996.0021.

Baroque Architecture as Part of the European Landscape: 19th-Century Perception

VARABEI, TATSIANA
University of Greifswald
tatsiana.varabei@uni-greifswald.de

In the long 19th century, Baroque architecture across Europe was mainly considered tasteless and of limited value, especially in France and England, where it never achieved universal acceptance (Bazin 1968). The rehabilitation of the style was initiated by German-speaking art historians at the end of the century. Simultaneously, Baroque experienced its revival as a building style for public structures, coinciding with the rise of national states and colonial empires (Payne 2011, Damjanović 2022). The perception and treatment of Baroque monuments as integral components of local landscapes varied notably among different regions of Europe. For example, in Western Europe, Baroque elements were often replaced by Gothic features (Jokilehto 1999), while in the former Grand Duchy of Lithuania, which was then part of the Russian Empire, many churches underwent reconstruction in Classicism or pseudo-Byzantine/Russian styles (Slyunkova 2010). The study primarily utilizes published narrative sources, such as art criticism works, local history books, periodicals, memoirs, travel notes, etc. It also incorporates visual sources such as photos, drawings, watercolors, and more. The topic employs a number of theoretical frameworks, such as cultural heritage and identity studies, political and socio economic perspectives, as well as postcolonial theory. The research methods used include, among others, comparative analysis, critical discourse analysis, visual analysis, as well as selected digital history methods. The research aims to adopt an interdisciplinary approach, integrating insights from political and social history, art history, cultural studies, heritage science, and other fields. Through this lens, we can explore diverse perceptions of Baroque buildings by different individuals and communities in close connection with aesthetic shifts, identity formation, and preservation practices.

References
Bazin, Germain. Destins du baroque. Paris: Hachette, 1968.

Damjanović, Dragan. "For the Glory of Nation: Architectural Heritage in Nineteenth-Century Europe." In Forging architectural tradition: national narratives, monument preservation and architectural work in the nineteenth century, edited by Dragan Damjanović and Aleksander Łupienko, 335–340. Oxford (NY): Berghahn Books, 2022.

Jokilehto, Jukka. A History of Architectural Conservation. Butterworth-Heinemann, 1999.

Payne, Alina. "On Sculptural Relief: Malerisch, the Autonomy of Artistic Media and the Beginnings of Baroque Studies." In Rethinking the Baroque, ed. H. Hills, 39–64. London: Ashgate Press, 2011.

Slyunkova, Inessa. Khramy i monastyri Belarusi XIX veka v sostave Rossiyskoy imperii: Peresozdaniye naslediya. Moskva: Progress-Traditsiya, 2010.

Invisible urban landscapes of mass repression in post-2020 Belarus

VAZYANAU, ANDREI
European Humanities University
andrei.vozianov@ehu.lt

After the rigged presidential election of August 2020 and the brutal suppression of the protests that followed, Belarus is facing arguably the most massive repressions in Europe since the breakup of the Soviet Union. Along with dozens of thousands of imprisonments and a mass exodus from the country—with more than 5% of the population leaving within three years—the repressions include large-scale dispossession in the forms such as destruction of property during police searches, increased utility bills for political migrants, confiscation of real estate, and restrictions that preclude renting out or selling the property. This situation redefines the materiality of Belarusians' homes, either inhabited or abandoned, due to the persecution of their dwellers. It also pushes people to bring out, burn, or dig into the ground illegalized objects such as banned flags or books. The notion of landscapes of repression was used in contexts as different as urban planning (Hebbert 2006), Spanish Civil War (Ealham 2007), and Soviet Gulag (Pallot & Gavrilova 2022). I apply it to the present-day Belarusian cities, where any visible reminders of the 2020–2021 protests and the ongoing repressions are erased. My current ethnographic research explores the materiality of forced relocations by asking Belarusians about the objects they retain, wander with, or leave behind. For the discussion on landscapes, I focus on the transformations of or/and growing voids in rooms, apartments, and houses of the repressed. Although material, these changes remain highly invisible, both literally, for a visitor in a seemingly integral Belarusian city, and discursively, shadowed by more spectacular and large-scale instances of violence and destruction in the region. Additionally, I explore colonial aspects of this landscape: while Belarusians are fleeing westwards from the repressions that are Kremlin-backed, many new buyers of real estate in Belarus are Russians.

References
Ealham, C. (2007). Myths' and the Spanish Civil War: Some Old, Some Exploded, Some Clearly Borrowed and Some AlmostBlue'. Journal of Contemporary History, 42(2), 365-376.

Hebbert, M. (2006). Town planning versus urbanismo. Planning Perspectives, 21(3), 233-251.

Pallot, J., & Gavrilova, S. (2022). Mapping the landscapes of the Stalinist mass repressions. Open Research Europe, 2.

Comparing Semantic Geographic Information of Toponyms through Landscape

WANG, SONGLIN
University of Zurich
songlin.wang@uzh.ch

Toponyms are names given to particular geographic objects. They could contain a greater degree of semantic meanings, particularly about landscape, compared to names of other objects. Various research has been conducted to investigate them across regions and countries, aiming at revealing their landscape-related semantic information and seeking the way that people perceived landscape features during the act of naming. However, only small subsets of toponyms in Switzerland have been studied, utilizing somewhat limited data and methods. This research seeks to address such gaps by focusing on more generic parts commonly found in Swiss toponyms, to examine and compare the landscape they denote. In the first phase, via data-driven approach, nature-related generic parts were extracted with the help of gazetteer, together with multiple sources containing their meanings. Then, two case studies were conducted, comparing those generic parts related to convex landforms (e.g., mountains, hills, peaks) and those about open areas through landscape, for which topography and land cover were considered. Bag-of-word model was used for such comparisons, by analyzing the frequency of 'word' occurrences (here 'word' is landscape pattern). The research found that for generic parts about convex landforms, there are typically one-to-one relationships between the generic parts and the types of designated geographic object, while on the contrary, the generic parts about open areas show more similarities in their referentiality. In all, this extensive study uncovered the meanings, similarities and differences of a larger set of generic parts in Swiss toponyms regarding landscape, combining the tools of linguistics and GIScience, for a more comprehensive understanding of the relationship between people and landscape.

Keywords
Landscape, Toponyms, Generic Parts, Extraction, Bag-of-words, Comparison.

Using literary analysis of Gaelic place-names, songs, stories and sayings to inform sustainable management of coasts and cultural tourism on the island of Muile ~ Mull, Scotland

WHYTE, ALASDAIR C.
University of Glasgow
alasdair.whyte@glasgow.ac.uk

This paper will present literary analysis of Scottish Gaelic place-names, songs, stories and sayings relating to the endangered native European oyster, and to shellfish more generally, in order to inform sustainable practices on the island of Muile ~ Mull off the west coast of Scotland. It will be proposed that references and imagery relating to oysters and shellfish in Gaelic cultural artefacts not only indicate the significance of oysters and shellfish to the daily life of indigenous Gaelic-speakers but, moreover, are indicative of the breakdown of societal dynamics between landowners and tenants in Gaelic Scotland, particularly from the 19th century onwards. The paper will present an ongoing research project which aims to simultaneously restore native oysters and revitalise local Gaelic in Muile ~ Mull by reintroducing native oysters in locations identified via place-name research to have had populations of native oysters historically. Native oyster populations suffered rapid decline locally and globally from the 19th century onwards due to over-exploitation; and this is paralleled in Muile ~ Mull by the near contemporary rapid decline of Gaelic language and culture. Furthermore, coastal communities in Muile ~ Mull suffer from a lack of employment opportunities intertwined with out-migration of young people. The ongoing research project involves the interdisciplinary research of

colleagues in disciplines across four Colleges in the University of Glasgow (Celtic & Gaelic; Ecology & Environmental Biology; Education; Geography & Earth Sciences) to inform restoration of native oysters and increase understanding of oysters in Gaelic culture with the aim of: improving the marine environment; providing a sustainable food resource; contributing to the revitalisation of Gaelic; and providing employment opportunities. Longer-term aims are to contribute to ongoing development of a social enterprise offering Gaelic cultural experiences and a Gaelic cultural centre including sustainable shellfish production.

Keywords

Oysters; Gaelic; Place-names; Language revitalisation; Community regeneration.

References

Whyte, Alasdair C. & Mcgregor, Anna, 'Eisirean! Native oysters! Restoring native oysters for natural, economic and cultural benefits', in Scotland's Environmental Histories: mapping out a way forward, Scottish Historical Review, special issue (forthcoming Edinburgh University Press, Autumn/Winter 2025).

Maclean, R. (MacIlleathain, Ruairidh), 'Ecosystem Services and Gaelic: a Scoping Exercise', NatureScot Research Report No. 1230 (2021).

Ní Mhathúna, Déirdre, 'Traditional Ecological Knowledge and the relevance of Dùthchas in Gàidhealtachd Environmental Futures, Scottish Affairs 30:2 (May 2021), 251-261.

McFadyen, Mairi & Sandilands, Raghnaid, 'On "Cultural Darning and Mending": Creative Responses to Ceist an Fhearainn / The land Question in the Gàidhealtachd', Scottish Affairs 30:2 (May 2021), 157-177.

Linguistic Landscape in Space: Images Reflecting the Identities of Jewish and Arab Students in Israel

YAIR, TAMI & GOLDHABER, RAVIT
Beit Berl College
tami.yair@beitberl.ac.il - ravit.goldhaber@beitberl.ac.il

The research examines the presence of Arabic and its role compared to Hebrew and English within the linguistic landscape of Arab and Jewish students studying at a college in Israel, one of whose goals is to foster a shared society between Jews and Arabs. Previous research on linguistic landscapes (LL) has primarily focused on multilingual commercial settings, with limited attention given to how Israeli students perceive the interconnectedness of linguistic landscape, identity, and culture. According to Gorter (2013), linguistic landscapes not only reflect the linguistic and social diversity of a given context but also signify the power dynamics and status of linguistic groups. LLs serve as symbolic representations of public space (Ben-Rafael et al., 2006) and can influence language ideologies and reflect identities (Haber, 2020). As part of two courses exploring culture in space, researchers instructed Jewish and Arab students to photograph elements of their everyday life environments that they felt exemplified their identity and culture within the linguistic landscape. Students captured images of the linguistic landscape in their residential areas, workplaces, and study spaces. From these images and accompanying explanations, researchers collected and qualitatively analyzed 200 formal and informal photographs, considering their level of formality and their connection to students' identities and cultures. The findings indicate that as the formality of linguistic landscapes decreased, students identified more elements of identity within them. Additionally, linguistic landscapes reflecting diversity and inclusion of others' identities were observed, suggesting a shared desire to foster a shared society between Jews and Arabs, particularly amidst the complex dynamics between these groups in Israel.

References

Ben-Rafael, E., Shohamy, E., Amara, M.,& Trumper-Hecht, N. (2006). Linguistic landscape as symbolic construction of the public space: The case of Israel. International journal of multilingualism, 3 (1), 7-30.

Gorter, D. (2013). Linguistic Landscapes in a Multilingual World. Annual Review of Applied Linguistics 33: 190–212.

Haber, O. (2020). Language Ideologies in the Landscape of a Teachers' College. Israel Studies in Language and Society, 13 (1), 116-153.

Harvesting Fruitful Human-Nature Connections in Orchards: Perspectives from an Ethnographic Discourse Analysis in Luxembourg

ZHANG, YIMIN

Research Institute of Multilingualism, Department of Humanities, University of Luxembourg

yimin.zhang@uni.lu

The growing impacts of human activities on the natural environment have triggered extensive academic reflection on the relationship between humans and nature. One perspective to examine human-nature connections is through the concept of landscape (Förster et al., 2012). While studies have tackled the sustainability benefits of landscapes such as forests (e.g. Erbaugh & Oldekop, 2018), gardens (e.g. Lee, 2017) and urban parks (e.g. Rigolon, 2016), less attention has been given to orchards. Yet, encompassing various wildlife habitats and interactions between society and nature, orchards merit special research interests as they lie on a continuum between natural ecosystems such as forests, where human impact is minimal, and artificial ecosystems such as gardens, which are highly dependent on human maintenance. As a 'semi-natural habitat' (Barnes & Williamson, 2022), orchard is a unique setting to study human-nature connectedness. Therefore, I employ an ethno-case study (Parker-Jenkins, 2018) approach to examine how five Luxembourgish environmental volunteers think, talk about and interact with three local orchards, and analyse the ethnographic data using Hajer and Versteeg's (2005) discourse theory framework. Demonstrating how orchards are perceived and constructed as sites to form intellectual, environmental and recreational human-nature connections, I argue that a socio-constructivist perspective enables a comprehensive understanding of the meaning of landscapes. Situated within discourse studies, my project also contributes to the interdisciplinary field of Environmental Humanities using orchards as an illustration to illuminate the multifaceted and evolving human-nature relationships. Comprehending the diversity and complexity of human-nature connections empowers us to negotiate the conflicts that result from the collision between different perceptions of nature. This contribution also showcases an alternative narrative on how people experience landscapes and co-exist with nature in convivial ways, contrasting with the dominant crisis narratives that highlight the dichotomy between human society and natural environment, often casting human as the antithesis of nature.

References

Barnes, G., & Williamson, T. (2022). English Orchards: A Landscape History. Windgather Press.

Erbaugh, J. T., & Oldekop, J. A. (2018). Forest landscape restoration for livelihoods and well-being. Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability, 32, 76–83. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cosust.2018.05.007

Förster, F., Großmann, R., Iwe, K., Kinkel, H., Larsen, A., Lungershausen, U., Matarese, C., Meurer, P., Nelle, O., Robin, V., & Teichmann, M. (2012). What is Landscape? Towards a Common Concept within an Interdisciplinary Research Environment. Landscape Archaeology Conference (LAC 2012), eTopoi. Journal for Ancient Studies, Special Volume 3 (2012), 169–179.

Hajer, M., & Versteeg, W. (2005). A decade of discourse analysis of environmental politics: Achievements, challenges, perspectives. Journal of Environmental Policy & Planning, 7(3), 175–184. https://doi.org/10.1080/15239080500339646

Lee, J. (2017). Experimental Study on the Health Benefits of Garden Landscape. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 14(7), Article 7. https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph14070829

Parker-Jenkins, M. (2018). Problematising ethnography and case study: Reflections on using ethnographic techniques and researcher positioning. Ethnography and Education, 13(1), 18–33. https://doi.org/10.1080/17457823.2016.1253028

Rigolon, A. (2016). A complex landscape of inequity in access to urban parks: A literature review. Landscape and Urban Planning, 153, 160–169. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2016.05.017

Analysing the analysis of ecological change – the case of forest adaptation to climate change

ZUMOBERHAUS, JAN
University of Fribourg
jan.zumoberhaus@unifr.ch

My research examines forest adaptation to climate change in the Swiss mountain valley of Valais, focusing on how foresters interpret the complex and dynamic changes in biophysical landscapes. Challenges like tree dieback, interspecific succession, intraspecific adaptation, game browsing, spread of pests, non-native species, and extreme events create a notable sense of uncertainty about the future of forests in this region. Through qualitative interviews, the study explores how foresters meaningfully articulate this ecological complexity and uncertainty. Drawing from a critical realist perspective on discourse and semiosis (Nellhaus, 1998; Fairclough et al., 2004), I view language as inherently referencing and dialectically related to other dimensions. These dimensions include (1) the changing biophysical nature of forests, (2) individual knowledge about these changes, and (3) the envisioned future state of forests. I further conceptualise these dimensions as involving analytical movements (Lund, 2014; Sayer, 1992:87–88) between (1) the concrete and the abstract, (2) the empirical and the theoretical, and (3) the actual and the possible. Analysing the foresters' statements through the lens of this conceptual framework reveals the eager yet unsatisfied quest of foresters for causal explanations of these changes, the multiple self-reflexive processes they engage in, and their outline of the possible with regard to practically manage forests for adaptation to future conditions. In sum, this study argues for a deeper examination and reflection on the multidimensional cognitive and analytical processes used to heuristically comprehend the profound impacts of global change, particularly global warming, on forest landscapes, ecological systems in general, and their management.

Keywords

Climate change adaptation, Forests, Ecological change, Analytical movements.

References

Fairclough, N., Jessop, B., & Sayer, A. (2004). Critical realism and semiosis. In J. Joseph, & J. M. Roberts (Eds.), Realism, discourse, and deconstruction (pp. 23–42). London, New York: Routledge.

Lund, C. (2014). Of What is This a Case?: Analytical Movements in Qualitative Social Science Research. Human Organization, 73, 224–234.

Nellhaus, T. (1998). Signs, Social Ontology, and Critical Realism. Journal for the Theory of Social Behaviour, 28, 1–24.

Sayer, A. (1992). Method in Social Science: A realistic approach. (2nd ed.). London: Routledge