

Title of BIP: Poetics of space in plurilingual literature in Romance languages

General information

Objectives and Description:

Objectives: This BIP aims:

- ☒ to apply new and innovative student-centered methods for teaching literature to young students in the age of AI;
- ☒ to unite students from three partner universities for exchanging views on issues of pluri- and multilingualism, enabling them to engage in intensive intercultural exchanges and analyze fundamental aspects;
- ☒ to strengthen the collaboration between partner universities through research projects and to involve as many students and young researchers as possible in these projects;
- ☒ to introduce, in collaboration with Caroline Fischer from UPPA, new mutualised courses at the Faculty of Letters, History, Philosophy and Theology on the topics of francophone literature what will serve to the development of transnational and transdisciplinary curricula.

Description:

The political upheavals of the late 20th and early 21st centuries (the fall of the Berlin Wall, wars) and the economic ones (financial crises, decline in individuals' quality of life) have affected societies around the globe. The migratory flows of the past thirty years are a consequence of these social transformations, which have influenced the fate of individuals from various communities. Among the migrants are writers of diverse origins for whom France and Francophone countries have served as a place of refuge. By adopting French as their language of writing, they have contributed to the creation of a revealing literary corpus.

Their works, positioned at the intersection of at least two languages (one of them being French), are rich in references to the territories of their countries of origin and their material (forms of human habitation, nature) and immaterial (myths, legends, traditions, spiritualities, beliefs) components. Within the French-language text, words and expressions from the authors' mother tongues, associated with the geography of the area they come from, serve as another marker of identity and contribute to the heritage preservation of places.

Through an interdisciplinary approach involving partners from 3 countries and 4 universities that all have, in very different ways and to a different extent, looked at the issues present in the novels of plurilingual writers (French-speaking in particular) of the ultra-contemporary period or tackled themes concerning space from a (non-)literary perspective, this BIP aims to establish a correlation between literature and space. This correlation will be achieved through complementary approaches: an analysis of ultra-contemporary French-language works to identify representations of space with various associated elements: landscapes, culture, customs and traditions, language.

Methods and outcomes:

From the beginning of the BIP, various ice-breaking activities will facilitate exchanges between participants from different establishments and countries. Group work, daily communal meals and, above all, excursions and cultural outings will help to forge strong links between them. The joint development of a multilingual creative project (podcast, film, fictional text), which proved extremely successful in 2023, 2024, 2025, will reinforce these links. In addition to these on-site initiatives and the creation of an e-mail list distributed to all, a WhatsApp group is planned, as well as a virtual meeting about a month after the end of the BIP to

consolidate the network. The results of the group's multilingual creative work will be presented at the end of BIP, and then made available to all BIP participants on a digital platform (google classroom), as was done in 2023, 2024 and 2025 with great success.

The network of contributors was created in part before the 2022 BIP „Auteur.e.s plurilingues de langues romanes”. It was expanded and consolidated during the four previous BIP, and subsequently through numerous meetings and scientific exchanges in Timisoara, Turin, Rome and Pau. This consolidation will continue with further scientific meetings and BIPs organised by UVT or the three other partner universities. In the next years, we also plan to offer shared courses as part of our study programs.

Field of Education:

Humanities

Target audience / Participants profile:

Students M1/ M2/Doctorants

No of ECTS issued:

3

Language of instruction and requirements:

French language level B2+/C1/C2

Dates for physical activity:

4-8 May 2026

Location of physical activity:

West University of Timisoara

Dates for virtual component:

27 March 2026

Virtual Component Description:

Introductory course about plurilingual writers done by a teacher from one of the four universities. For the virtual component we will use the platform „google meets” and a PPT presentation. The teacher will also use new and modern methods to involve students in discussion and various activities. The students will have access to all documents via an e-learning platform.

Organizing Board

Receiving/Host university:

Universitatea de Vest din Timișoara, Romania (Ileana Neli Eiben, ileana.eiben@e-uvt.ro)

Sending/Partner universities:

P1. Caroline Fischer - Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour, (F PAU 01);

P2. Franca Bruera - Università degli Studi di Torino (I TORINO01);

P3. Marina Ortrud Hertrampf – University of Passau (D PASSAU01);

Detailed programme

1. Planned activities during virtual component:

Introductory course about plurilingual writers done by a teacher from one of the four universities.

2. Planned activities during physical component:

1st day:

Welcome day, ice-breaking activities, 1 course, Timisoara city tour

2nd day:

Courses

3rd day:

Excursion to discover Romanian history and culture (part of the Romanian multilingual writers' texts), cultural evening

4th day:

Courses and meeting with a multilingual writer

5th day:

Courses; feedback and closing of the event

Application procedure

fill in application form available here: to be generated later