

Language and Violence: Literary Mediations in the Age of the Anthropocene

Facultade de Filoloxía e Tradución
Universidade de Vigo

in partnership with the
Universidade de Santiago de Compostela

16th and 17th January 2020

CALL FOR PAPERS

The “Language and Violence: Literary Mediations in the Age of the Anthropocene” international conference seeks to explore the way in which violence appears to have impregnated contemporary literary discourse. The destruction of the environment, animal cruelty, social and gender brutality, amongst others, are some of the most obscene manifestations of human violence. This conference aims to identify the discursive codes that perpetuate violence through notions of subalternity, oppression, hegemonic power and class struggle.

The urge to analyse how language acts in worldmaking motivates this conference, which will consider how we think and feel about ourselves and about other beings, be they human and/or non-human. Dichotomies such as centre vs periphery, power vs resistance, global vs local, for instance, can be identified among the issues explored by contemporary authors in the cultural fictions of the Anthropocene – a term that marks a point of inflection due to the massive impact of humankind on the ecosystem. The various manifestations of violence in literary discourse expose the social changes of the last few decades and assist us in the reassessment of the ties between literature and public affairs.

We are interested in proposals that bear witness to how discourse on violence is experienced through the most diverse literary practices. With this idea in mind, we invite all those who wish to participate in the “Language and Violence: Literary Mediations in the Age of the Anthropocene” international conference to send their proposals for twenty-minute papers, exploring the questions presented here, with an abstract of no more than 250 words to malonsoalonso@uvigo.es before 15 September 2019. Papers are welcome in either English, Spanish, Galician or Portuguese. Notification of outcomes will be announced by the end of September. Please include title, name, institution and email. Among other possible avenues of research, the following are suggested:

- Animal Studies
- Ecocriticism
- Social exclusion
- Gender Studies
- Diasporic identities
- Refugee literature
- Crime fiction
- Language and worldmaking
- Globalisation
- Environmental humanities

**More information about the conference at:
www.linguaeviolencia.wixsite.com/conference**