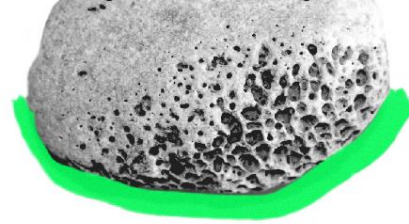


## Online Hate Speech, Media Representation on Migrants/ Refugees



### Programme

[rev.: 23/04/2022]

**28 April 2022, Auditorium B 1 (Building 02)**

### Media Representation on Migrants/Refugees

**Panel: 9.15 – 11.15 am**

**Andrea Pogliano**

#### **The strategic ritual of emotionality and the dichotomous treatment of crime news stories: an intersectional approach**

Research on media and diversity rarely compares portrayals of Us and Them. This presentation show the main results of a qualitative analysis of Italian news stories that differ only in respect to the role performed by national or foreign characters. The heart of the analysis focuses on how the emotions of the characters are narrated in the news. The strategic ritual of emotionality (Wahl-Jorgensen 2013; 2019) is a concept used in journalism studies. It aims to highlight the use of emotions in hard news. It has to do with writing practices and show how journalists allow a sense of objectivity (journalistic detachment) to be maintained without sacrificing recourse to emotions. It is particularly effective in defining the characters of perpetrator and victim. Here we analyse television and daily press news, showing that the ritual of emotionality also has an ideological function that allows forms of racism to be reproduced. The analysis is based on two cases. The first is a comparison between reports of male violence against women in which perpetrator and victim are indigenous and others in which they are of foreign origin. Here the journalistic distinction between femicide and honour killing is created and maintained through the differential use of the characters' emotions. The second case compares the news of the murder committed by Innocent Oseghale against Pamela Mastropietro (January 2018), and the journalistic account of the attempted massacre carried out by Luca Traini against black people (February 2018). The comparison already stems from the journalistic narrative, which constantly connects the two cases. The choice of this case study therefore takes advantage of this opportunity, considering that one news story presents a black (and foreign) perpetrator and a white (and Italian) victim, while the other presents a white (Italian) perpetrator and black (foreign) victims. The results of the analysis show that the very way in which the strategic ritual of emotionality is selectively used by journalists develops a process of de-humanising those described as not belonging

to the national community and rehabilitating indigenous perpetrators. These findings lead to an analysis of the news in terms of a mythical narrative (Bird and Dardenne 1988) of differences, which runs through newspapers and news programmes of different ideological orientations.

**Keywords:** *Journalism, Emotionality, Narratives, Violence against Women, News as Myth.*

**Andrea Pogliano** is lecturer of sociology of media at the Università del Piemonte Orientale. He is affiliate researcher at FIERI, a research Institute working specifically on migration, based in Torino (IT). His last book (in print) is titled *Media, policies and migrations in Europe* (Carocci, Rome, 2019). He has recently published the book chapter *Local Narrative-Making on Refugees: How the Interaction Between Journalists and Policy Networks Shapes the Media Frames*, for a Springer IMISCOE book (Glorious & Doomernik 2019). He has worked and published extensively on media images (photojournalism) of migration, both through discourse and frame analysis, and through ethnography of visual news making.

**Mahmoud Baballah**

### **The representation of the Muslim veiled Woman in the Western Media as case study**

Since the emergence of colonialism, the West and especially Europeans started an extensive exploration of the Middle East. Such large scale systematic study has become a lasting cultural reference in the mind of the West over the Middle East. Consequently, an increasingly globalized western media discourse has turned a spotlight on the Muslim world. Women's right within Islam has been brought to the front to be a big issue in Europe. The image of Muslim Veiled Woman has been represented in the western media under a lot of deception and misrepresentations, characterized by passive attitudes and inherited stereotypes based on agreed cultural archetype continuously portrayed in the media aiming to impose and maintain particular structure and representation. Therefore, the signifier, the veil, has been associated with Muslim woman's oppression and transporter of terrorism in the Muslim countries. Against this assumption, this paper will try to challenge such hatred media discourse which has shaped the relationship between the migrants and the citizens of the country of settlement.

**Keywords:** *colonialism, Veiled Woman, inherited stereotypes, cultural archetype.*

**Mahmoud Baballah** holds a Master Degree in Communication and Journalism and works at the King Fahd High School of Translation, University Abdelmalek Saadi, Tangier, Morocco.

**28 April 2022, Auditorium B 1 (Building 02)**

**Panel: 3 – 5.30 pm / 15h – 17h30**

## **Hate Speech on Migrants/Refugees**

**Jurate Ruzaitė**

### **The pragmatics of cyberhate: The case of Lithuania**

The current paper aims to identify pragmatic mechanisms and strategies used in hateful online comments against migrants in Lithuania. Recently, there has been an upsurge in researchers' concern with impoliteness strategies, such as mock politeness (Taylor 2015), name-calling (Vasilaki 2014), and the general phenomenon of impoliteness. These categories have proved to be effective when dealing with impolite behaviour in general and, as the current paper aims to show, can be successfully used when studying abusive content in hateful comments.

Following primarily the paradigm offered by Culpeper (2011), this paper takes a qualitative approach to cyberhate and studies four main strategies of impoliteness in hateful comments: (1) personalized negative vocatives (e.g. [you] [fucking/etc.][moron/etc.]), (2) personalized negative assertions (e.g. [you] [are] [so/such an X]), (3) personalized negative references (e.g. [your] [stinking/little X]), and (4) (personalized) third-person negative references (e.g. [they] [are X]). This study also accounts for some additional (more varied) strategies, such as pointed criticisms/complaints, message enforcers, silencers, threats, and curses and ill-wishes.

The data used for this study includes 734 comments written in response to four news reports on issues related to migrants in two major Lithuanian news portals. The amount of data limited, but it is sufficient for the goals of this study, which primarily aims to map out the landscape of cyberhate directed against migrants in Lithuania.

#### **References**

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- Taylor, C. 2015. Beyond sarcasm: The metalanguage and structures of mock politeness. *Journal of Pragmatics* 87: 127–141.
- Vasilaki, M. 2014. Name-calling in Greek YouTube comments. Papers from the 9th Lancaster University Postgraduate Conference in Ling. & Language Teaching.

**Jurate Ruzaitė** is Professor at the Department of Foreign Language, Literary and Translation Studies at Vytautas Magnus University, researcher at the Centre of Intercultural Communication and Multilingualism, Kaunas, Lithuania. Education professional with a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) focused in Linguistics from the University of Bergen (Norway).

Researcher and educator with rich experienced in (inter)national research projects, including a national project (*Semantika-2*, 2018-2019) in the framework of which a software for automated detection of offensive online comments in Lithuanian was created.

Coordinator of the joint-degree programme “International Master’s in Sociolinguistics and Multilingualism”; Associate Editor of the *Lithuanian Applied Linguistics Journal*; board member of the Lithuanian Association of Applied Linguistics.

Research interests include sociolinguistics, pragmatics, discourse analysis, language and ideology, and hate speech.

**Sophie S. Alves**

## **Border rhetorics and the normalization of hate speech in the United States**

Anti-immigrant advocates, policymakers, researchers and the mainstream media have been paying more and more attention to the reproductive behaviors of Mexican women (Parrado, 2011). Indeed, Mexican immigrant women's fertility rates tend to be higher than those of non-Mexican women, black or white (Parrado, 2011). Therefore, there has been a rise in public concern towards what could be perceived as the 'Reconquista' of the nation, in other words the alleged plans by Mexican immigrants to reconquer the U.S. Southwest, territories that had pertained to Mexico before the Texas annexation (1845) and the Mexican Cession (1848), as a consequence of the Mexican-American War (Huntington, 2004). Similarly, there is the fear of the nation's demise through the change in its racial complexion from a country dominated by white people to a country dominated by people of color (Buchanan, 2006). The Mexican population is specifically targeted to the point where Mexican immigrant women are now the focus of the discourse on the "Latino Threat" (Chavez, 2013) or what can be called now the "Mexicana Threat." Yet, Mexican immigrant women, whether they already have children or not, essentially go to the United States for economic and financial reasons, because they need to support their families (McGuire & Martin, 2007). Thus, how have Mexican immigrant women's reproductive choices come to be perceived as a threat that needs to be regulated by the U.S. government?

This paper will thus focus on politicians' hate speech and how it is broadcast in the media. It will examine the dehumanization of Mexican immigrant women in particular and reflect on the consequences of those narratives on lived experiences.

**Sophie S. Alves** is a Ph.D. student at the University of Arizona in Tucson. She is getting her degree in Mexican American Studies with a minor in Anthropology. She has a certificate in Gender and Women's Studies. Her research focuses on anti-immigrant discourses in the United States. She focuses on border rhetorics and how the U.S.-Mexico border is being produced and reproduced. She is particularly interested in the politics of reproduction and how Mexican immigrant women are being excluded from the national body.

**Maja Chacińska**

## **Inclusive way to speak about immigrants and refugees – analysis of the application of the Swedish public service media guidelines on their news site.**

According to the Swedish Migration Agency (*Migrationsverket*) in 2015 Sweden received more refugees per capita than any other European country. In the year of European immigration crisis almost 163 thousand people sought asylum in this country. In 2018 there were still over 52 000 people registered on entering the country by the Migration Agency. In December 2021 (latest statistical data), in Sweden, a country with population of a little under 10,5 million, over 2 million inhabitants were born outside the country. It is obvious that the question of immigration and refugees has received a broad media coverage and it became a challenge to speak about those issues in the news without prejudice and stereotypes.

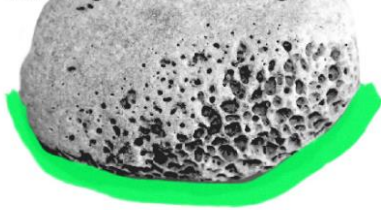
In 2016 Swedish public-service television SVT was found guilty by the Swedish Press and Broadcasting Authority when a reporter covering a school attack in Trollhättan municipality described the victims as "not completely Swedish" (*inte helsvenska*) judging by their appearance (this is how the attacker chose them). There are other examples of these kinds of cases in which SVT or other stations were found guilty. In those cases, Swedish Press and Broadcasting Authority based their criticism on a paragraph in the Swedish Radio and Television Law that claims "television's particular impact".

In light of this development it became clear that the journalists in the public-service media needed some kind of regulations or guidelines concerning the use of language. In 2015 Anne Lagercrantz, an executive at Swedish public service television's News Division, published an internal document consisting of language advice supposed to make the news coverage more inclusive. The advice for the employees included e.g. avoiding generalization about ethnic groups, areas or religions.

The purpose of this paper is to present how the SVT document was applied four years later and what language was used in news articles published on svt.se (public service television's news site). Using elements of media discourse analysis of relevant articles on svt.se from 2019 as well as quantitative analysis the paper will consider the language choices from a cultural and media perspective as well as some relevant themes and contexts. The aim of the quantitative analysis is to research how the recommended words and phrases are used in relations to those that are not recommended. Through qualitative analysis I would like to explore whether the use of the document helps the quest of inclusion and diversity or if it was just News Division's PR reaction to being penalized.

**Maja Chacińska** is an associated professor in the Institute of Scandinavian and Finnish Studies at the University of Gdańsk. PhD in political science at Social Science Faculty at Gdańsk University. Post-doctoral grade in media and communication studies at the Faculty of Journalism, Information and Book Studies at the University of Warsaw (thesis on educational aspects of public service media in Denmark, Norway and Sweden). At present in her lectures and research deals with broad aspects of mass media in Nordic countries (lectures include mass media history, media analysis, communication theories and as well as Scandinavian film, research involves press history, media history, book and press readership, electronic media, media systems and educational role of Scandinavian public-service media). She has published articles on public service broadcasting in Poland and Nordic countries as well as press and television analysis. From 2021 involved in a University of Gdańsk interdisciplinary project about hate speech.

**Online Hate Speech,  
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**29 April 2022, 9h30 – 10h30 / 9.30 – 10.30 am**

**Auditorium B1 (Building 05)**

**Research projects *NETLang* and *DeOthering***

**Sílvia Roque** (co-PI of *DeOthering*\*)

**Deconstructing risk and otherness: hegemonic scripts and the power of counter-narratives**

\*POCI-FCT Project *Deconstructing Risk and Otherness: hegemonic scripts and counter-narratives on migrants/refugees and ‘internal Others’ in Portuguese and European mediascapes*

**Isabel Ermida & Idalete Dias** (PI & co-PI of *NETLang*\*)

**Constructing a corpus of online hate speech: methodological and technical challenges of the *NetLang* project**

**Linguistic patterns in a subset of the *NetLang* corpus**

\*FCT project *The Language of Cyberbullying: Forms and Mechanisms of Online Prejudice and Discrimination in Annotated Comparable Corpora of Portuguese and English*