


EDITORIAL

Synergy is once again in contact with its readers with a new and relevant issue, 2/2021. We are inviting you to read eight original research articles in the areas of intercultural studies, literature and linguistics, as well as two book reviews of recent academic publications by Palgrave MacMillan (2021) and University of Turku, Finland (2020).

INTERDISCIPLINARY AND CULTURAL SYNERGIES is opened by Adina Ciugureanu's article, DEVOTIONAL DISCOURSE AND FEMALE AUTHORSHIP: FROM THE STEELE CIRCLE TO MARY WOLLSTONECRAFT, which brings forward a very important discussion around the writings of some female authors from the Age of Reason: Mary Steele, Mary Scott and Mary Wollstonecraft. The other two articles in this section deal with the topical issue of the Covid 19 pandemic regarded from a feminist lens in two case studies applied to India. In INVISIBILITY OF WOMEN MIGRANT WORKERS AND COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN INDIA, Fatima Tauseef & Mridula Chauhan consider the situation of women migrant workers faced with downsizing and lockdown due to the pandemic. Anubhuti SINGH looks into the time spent at home inside the extended family by Indian women and the impact this has had on women's mental health (HER MENTAL HEALTH DURING COVID-19: FAMILY A STRESSOR OR A DE-STRESSOR).

In the LITERARY STUDIES section we publish three articles analysing novels from very diverse temporal and spatial frames. In the first one, DIALOGIC ADIGA: THE NEOLIBERAL GOSPEL AND ITS CONTEXTS IN *THE WHITE TIGER*, Florian Andrei Vlad engages in a fruitful analysis of Indian neo-liberal context as mirrored in a contemporary novel, winner of the Man Booker Prize in 2008. In TOWARDS A POSTMODERN METONYMY OF FORMAL LIBERATION/EMPOWERMENT: ANA CASTILLO'S *THE MIXQUIAHUALA LETTERS*, Monica Got discusses feminine/ feminist identity in the first novel by one of the most important contemporary chicana poets (1992). Irina David delves into the world of diseased female characters depicted by the 19th century French author and concludes that the relationship between sickness, power and identity is a tight one (THE THREAT OF DISEASE ON FEMALE IDENTITY IN EMILE ZOLA'S NOVELS).

The APPLIED LINGUISTICS section includes an article which examines the common mistakes made by learners of professional business writing, based on a research conducted by the co-authors Antonia Enache, Marina Militaru and Viorela-Valentina Dima within the Bucharest University of Economic Studies in 2020: PITFALLS OF PROFESSIONAL WRITING – THE MOST COMMON

MISTAKES IN WRITING FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES. Mihaela Parpalea describes different aspects of communication and its intercultural context in her article KÖRPERSPRACHE IM KONTEXT DES KOMMUNIKATIONSPROZESSES - BODY LANGUAGE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COMMUNICATION PROCESS.

In the *Book Reviews* section Roxana-Magdalena Bârlea (*ROUMANITÉ ET MÉDIATION CULTURELLE SOUS L'ANGLE DES MYTHES, DES LÉGENDES ET DES CONTES*) presents the intricate intercultural dialogue mediated by the 17 articles of the collective volume *Translation and Cultural Mediation 2. Myths, Legends and Fairytales in Romania and across the World* (co-edited by Roxana Ciolăneanu & Paul Nanu (University of Turku, 2020). Anca-Teodora Șerban-Oprescu presents the diversity of academic writing, from theoretical aspects to practical education and training, as it transpires from the 17 chapters included in the volume *ACADEMIC LITERACY DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVES ON MULTILINGUAL SCHOLARS' APPROACHES TO WRITING* co-edited by Laura-Mihaela Mureșan & Concepción Orna-Montesinos (Palgrave MacMillan, 2021).

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