

The Section of Comparative Studies and the Laboratory of Intersemiotic and Intermedia
Research of the Institute of Polish Literature,
Faculty of Polish Studies at the University of Warsaw

together with

The Institute of World Literature at the Slovak Academy of Sciences

would like to invite you to participate in the academic conference

Broadening of Poetics 4

Signs of Culture/Signs of Nature

Semiotics and Poetics in Relation to Sustainable Development

which will be held online
from 28th until 29th of October 2024

Poetics has been developed primarily within literary studies, which has nowadays proved to be an illuminating point of reference also for poetological reflection within other disciplines. It does not cease to inspire descriptions of various, not only literary or artistic, semiotic forms in the dynamically changing cultural reality of the 21st century, as well as to provide new perspectives on earlier phenomena. At the same time, we observe how analyses of the poetics of different cultural texts, discourses, and media are expanding its boundaries.

In our fourth cyclical conference dedicated to broadening the boundaries of poetics, we focus on the mutual relationships between poetics and semiotics. We inquire about their research perspectives, categories, and potential in the analysis of different semiospheres: in the reading of communication consisting of multiple signs, so characteristic of contemporary culture, as well as intersemiotic, intermedia, transsemiotic, and transmedia relationships. We propose reflecting on categories of poetics and semiotics in relation to the idea of sustainable development, which we intend to reinterpret in broad contexts, asking about its possible meanings and applications in different fields. We invite you to reflect on the directions in which poetics and semiotics are developing, both in the research on human and non-human cultures.

We propose discussions on the following issues:

1. The relationship between poetics and semiotics: mutual conditioning, connections, influences – forms of symbiosis, development of forms, texts and genres; poetics in relation to different semiospheres; the role of semiotic and media features in developing the poetics of artistic texts; inseparability of semiotics and poetics: semiopoetics; poetics of communication consisting of multiple signs; contemporary directions of the relationship between poetics and semiotics; poetical and semiotic categories of literary texts in the discourses of different disciplines.

2. Sustainable development – a concept? idea? ideology? spaces of sustainable development; ways of talking about actions for the multi-faceted development of contemporary generations

without hindering the development opportunities of future generations; protection of biological diversity (climate and natural resources), of social diversity (excluded groups in the past and present) and of cultural diversity (dichotomy of dominant and dominated languages, literatures, discourses, modes of communication); sustainable development as a sign and a figure organising a text, a form of discourse, a persuasive device; textual representations of sustainable development: its presence in the semiotics and poetics of cultural texts, genre forms and media forms.

3. Signs and texts of culture versus signs and texts of nature: cultural perception of nature, representations of signs of nature in texts of human culture, representations of signs of human culture in texts of nature; from anthroposemiotics to biosemiotics, semiosphere of nature and of non-human cultures; categories of poetics in the field of biosemiotics; reading (by humans) of signs created by other species; poetics and semiotics of texts of non-human cultures; co-creation by human and non-human subjects (*sympoiesis*).

4. Faces of semiotics: modern semiotics of literature; semiotics of contemporary culture; new readings of signs of previous cultures, factors influencing the changes of interpretation of signs and texts (why do we read differently when we read differently?); posthuman semiotics; sensory semiotics; semiotics of space; semiotics of audiosphere, iconosphere, and audiovisuality; semiotics of digital space and forms (e.g. digital literature, video games); intersemiotic and transsemiotic relationships; semiotic translation; ecosemiotics and biosemiotics; semiotics and bioethics.

Conference Organizers:

Weronika Lipszyc, PhD
Bogumiła Suwara, PhD
Anna Tenczyńska, PhD
Prof. Ewa Szczęsna, PhD

The conference will take place in digital format (via Google Meet). We are planning panels in different languages (English, Polish, Slovak). There will be no conference fee. Conference proceedings will be published, after a positive peer-review, in a special issue of an academic journal from the list of journals published by the Polish Ministry of Education and Science.

Proposals of papers with abstracts (500-800 characters) should be submitted to kompar.polon@uw.edu.pl by **August 15, 2024**. We will send confirmation of paper's acceptance by August 25, 2024. We will also send other conference details subsequently.