



LANGUAGE OF EMPOWERMENT

INTERNATIONAL WEEK
FOR EQUALITY AND INCLUSION
@ FACULTY OF ENGLISH, AMU

NOVEMBER 15-19, 2021



The Faculty of English at Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, cordially invites everyone to participate in the second edition of our annual seminar series entitled "Language of Empowerment" as part of the *International Week for Equality and Inclusion* between the 15th and 19th November 2021. Through this event, we aim to raise awareness of the dangers of discrimination and contribute to the global debate on values such as acceptance and equality, in accordance with the UNESCO proclamation that:

"Tolerance is respect, acceptance and appreciation of the rich diversity of our world's cultures, our forms of expression and ways of being human. It is fostered by knowledge, openness, communication, and freedom of thought, conscience and belief. Tolerance is harmony in difference. It is not only a moral duty, it is also a political and legal requirement. Tolerance, the virtue that makes peace possible, contributes to the replacement of the culture of war by a culture of peace." (UNESCO's 1995 Declaration of Principles on Tolerance).

The "Language of Empowerment" at the Faculty of English AMU will feature five 45-minute lectures delivered in English (Monday-Wednesday) and Polish (Thursday-Friday). All lectures will be streamed live via Facebook: www.facebook.com/wydzialanglistykiuam

MONDAY, 15/11/2021, 6:00 PM (CET)

Opening address by **prof. Joanna Pawelczyk**, Dean of the Faculty of English, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan

Kornelia Boczkowska, Faculty of English, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan

Horse is not a metaphor: Human-animal relations, gender and the body in experimental film

Despite the growing interest in animal studies, which has continuously challenged the anthropocentrism of the humanities, there are no accounts on how human-animal relations

are represented in experimental film or how they link to gender, displacement and the body. In this talk, we will discuss how the work of contemporary experimental makers (Francisca Duran, Barbara Hammer, Kamila Kuc, Frederic Moffet) echoes the animal and corporeal turn in film studies and questions the conventionality of gendered expression through its complex exploration of ecocinematic sensibility and the materiality of the film medium. While mainstream cinema often allegorizes animals as stand-ins for humans by objectifying, victimizing or displacing them from their natural contexts and habitats, experimental film undermines the power of (human) gaze, eliminates the human-animal boundary and equalizes human with nonhuman as it directly connects animal species and plant life to feminine and masculine bodies, desires and identity.

TUESDAY, 16/11/2021, 6:00 PM (CET)

Joseph N. Cooper, College of Education and Human Development, University of Massachusetts Boston

Anti-Racism, Inclusive Excellence, and The A.R.C. of Justice Framework: A New Paradigm for Sport Leadership

Internationally the institution and cultural practice of sport has simultaneously yielded benefits and detriments for various groups across diverse backgrounds. The purpose of this presentation is to offer a critical analysis of how sport can be more culturally responsive, inclusive, and transformational where equitable outcomes can be manifested. Key foci areas discussed in the presentation include language, policies, representation, resource allocation, partnerships, and measures of success.

WEDNESDAY, 17/11/2021, 6:00 PM (CET)

Magdalena Zabielska, Faculty of English, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan

It gave the impression that I wasn't welcome: Foreigners' disempowering experiences with healthcare institutions in Poznań

In this talk I would like to focus on foreigners' experiences with healthcare institutions in Poznań, as shared during ethnographic interviews, which have been conducted for a year now. As we will see, foreign patients describe regular check-ups and consultations as well as various (emergency) situations during which they sought medical help but could not communicate in Polish, thus feeling helpless at expressing their concerns. The accounts feature experiences ranging from the category of nightmares to relatively positive and include such topics as coping strategies, patients' personal take on the situation reported and suggestions for improvement. Apart from revealing the experience of the apparent problems which are yet to be solved by healthcare institutions, the accounts the interviewees share offer an insight into the way in which they talk about these apparently sensitive issues which concern their wellbeing and feeling of safety.

THURSDAY, 18/11/2021, 6:00 PM (CET)

Monika Browarczyk, Faculty of Modern Languages and Literatures, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan

Ants among elephants. Auto-/biographical narratives of exclusion and marginalisation in India

In today's India, there is a growing recognition of auto-/biographical literature from writers who belong to groups that face exclusion and economic, political, social and cultural marginalisation. Through such literary testimonies, women, Dalits, Adivasis, Hijras and religious as well as ethnic minorities are constructing an identity-based community, which gives them subjectivity and agency. Even though these texts belong to literatures written in regional languages, more and more often they are translated to English, as a result of which they find their audiences across the entire Subcontinent and beyond it, reaching international readers. In the present talk, I will discuss this literary phenomenon on examples which were originally composed in regional languages (Hindi, Marathi, Tamil and others) and subsequently translated to English, along with a few examples originally written in English. This analysis will allow us to gain an insight into conflicts which arise as two opposing tendencies come into contact: an equality-oriented one, which strives to democratise Indian society, and a traditionalist one, whose ambition is to maintain status quo and preserve the traditional forms of social division and exclusion.

The lecture will be delivered in Polish.

FRIDAY, 19/11/2021, 3:00 PM (CET)

Dariusz Drajzkowski, Faculty of Psychology and Cognitive Sciences, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan

Research-based methods of preventing the activation of stereotype threat at universities

Stereotype threat results in worse academic performance by students who belong to the groups that are subjected to negative stereotypes. For students from ethnic or racial minorities, this has an adverse effect not only on their educational achievement, but also on their level of happiness and health. Therefore, there is a justified need for inventing methods of combating this phenomenon, which has been addressed in recent years through research in social psychology. The aim of the lecture is to present and systematize the results of studies examining interventions intended to reduce stereotype threat at universities. The review of those studies will be centered around interventions focused on society and the university, interventions related to the behavior of lecturers and the conditions of examinations, and on interventions that are student-centered. The results of the studies point to effective and often easy to implement methods of reducing stereotype threat among students. Interventions based on these approaches can support the creation of equal conditions for all students, irrespective of race, ethnicity or gender.

The lecture will be delivered in Polish.