



Simulation of a Seminar in English

***A Simulation at the CLA Université de Franche-Comté
(Centre for Applied Linguistics)***

Quemada Lecture Hall, CLA
Thursday 16th June 2016



Thursday 16th • Programme

Each presentation will be followed by a discussion during which the audience will be able to ask questions.

• 9:00 *Opening address*

- 9.15 – 9.45 **Alexandra Laurent, Assistant Professor in Clinical Psychology, Department of Psychology, UFC**
End of life decisions in Intensive Care Units (ICU): The psychological experiences of physicians and nurses.

End of life decisions are common issues in Intensive Care Units (ICUs), but literature reviews show that such decisions are a source of conflict and suffering within the medical team (H.I Jensen & al., 2011). The aim of this study is to identify the psychological experiences of the physicians and nurses confronted with end of life decisions in intensive care units (ICU). Twenty physicians and twenty nurses who work in three ICUs in Montreal (Canada) were interviewed about their approach to withholding or withdrawing life-sustaining medical treatment. All of the interviews were transcribed verbatim and analysed thematically using Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis. End of life decisions are source of psychological stress and uncertainty. For nurses and physicians, their psychological experiences in relation to end of life decisions are very different. Physicians are responsible for decision-making and they do not base their decisions solely on patient data. They depend on more subjective dimensions such as perceptions, beliefs and culture concerning care, dying and death for both care-givers and relatives. Nurses suffer from the feelings caused by medical obstinacy. These feelings are a source of psychological stress as they create a sensation of inflicting pain on patients and lead to a lack of understanding of the care required.

- 9.45 – 10.15 **Elena Bovo, Assistant Professor, Department of Italian Studies, UFC**
The birth of the psychology of crowds (1870-1905): Is this a scientific method to control the mob?

The psychology of crowds is a science which appeared at the end of the 19th century, primarily in France and Italy. This science developed between 1870 and 1900 because of the political and economic crisis at that time: massive demonstrations of the mobs broke out in big cities. During this period, European society underwent some of the most radical transformations of its entire history: economic, political and social revolutions. The population more than doubled and there was an emergence of contradictions between bourgeois and proletarian classes. These historical events preceded the development of crowd theories. On one hand, those theories included new methods of crowd management and control and as well as analysis of the mob in general. On the other hand, they became tools to evaluate the psychology and the behaviour of the individual and the transformations that occur within the crowd. The inventors of crowd psychology were all positivists. They referred to science to explain life. Of course, positivist theories are nowadays considered to be ridiculous and out-dated, but they were, in reality, an attempt to emancipate society from religion and explain life in a rational way.

- 10.15 – 10.45 *Break*

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- 10.45 - 11.15 **Marie-Rose Guelfucci, Professor of Ancient Greek language, literature and civilization, ISTA (EA 4011) UFC**
The Greek historian Polybius and his dual view of the new Roman superpower in the second century B.C.

For the Greek historian Polybius, the Roman Republic became a new superpower in the time span of 53 years (220-168 B.C., when Perseus, the last king of Macedonia was defeated at Pydna). However, Polybius was not only the historian of this Roman conquest for power over the whole world, he was first and foremost a Greek political leader: he belonged to the political elite in his own country and was a powerful member of the Achaean Confederation in the Peloponnese. So, when the pro-Roman faction deported him to Rome along with a thousand other men, he was held hostage in Rome for 17 years. Consequently, he was able to study the Roman power with an original dual point of view: the one of a politician, since he was capable of objectively admiring and precisely evaluating the many strengths of Rome, and simultaneously the one of a foreigner who was an honored hostage - but a hostage nonetheless. Therefore, we will concentrate on both perceptions of the official and un-official Roman way of life, especially focusing on a few of its suspected and more or less hidden weaknesses.

- 11.15 - 11.45 **Teresa SOLIS, Non-tenure-staff, Department of Italian, UFC**
Siad Barre's dictatorship in Italian postcolonial literature

Italian colonialism ruled Somalia from 1883 to 1945. At the end of World War II, the UN instructed Italy to guide Somalia on its way towards independence. It was what we call the AFIS (Amministrazione Fiduciaria Italiana in Somalia) period, which lasted from 1950 to 1960. After only ten years of political autonomy, Siad Barre took power, establishing a bloody dictatorship. Our contribution aims to explore how Somali dictator Siad Barre - commonly nicknamed "Afweyne" ("Mighty Mouth") - and his regime (1969-1991) are represented in fiction by Somali authors writing in Italian. Some of them escaped from Somalia when war broke out, some others arrived in Italy a few years later, others were born in Italy from exiled families. For all of them, dictatorship is the main reason why they left Somalia and thus it plays a major role in their literary works. Reflecting and elaborating on their different experiences of dictatorship - blending, thus, memory and post-memory, as well as historical narrative and fiction - these authors give different representations of Siad Barre's dictatorship, contributing to a complex and multi-layered scenario. Representations they propose about the dictator and his dictatorship can be completely fictional, based on their own concrete experience or related through the memories of common people. We want to understand how these representations contribute to describe a regime, the Somali one, rarely known by Italian readers. Indeed, dictatorship followed AFIS and plunged the country into complete political turmoil.

- 11.45 **Closing Remarks**

The seminar is open to anyone who is interested in the subjects presented: Come and practice your oral English as a member of the audience.

For further information please contact

- By email

peggy.tyrode@univ-fcomte.fr

sarah.bure@univ-fcomte.fr



Tél. 33 (0)3 81 66 52 00
www.cla.univ-fcomte.fr

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