

13 MAY 21

Trinity Term | Week 3
1900 - 2130 hrs (UTC+1)
Live on Zoom

ACADEMIX

2021: INTERCOLLEGIATE CONFERENCE

**Sub furcam prudens: Paradoxes
of Enslavement in Horace's
Epistle 1.10**
Sarah Marshall

**Italian Cinquecento & the
Rediscovery of the Troubadours**
Francesco Feriozzi

**Editing the Absolute Evil: A
publication history of Mein Kampf
in English**
Anna Weber

**Effectiveness of content-based
trilingual education: A systematic
review**
Kai Richter

**Outlining an Alternative Model of
Immigrant Integration:
Conceptualising social integration
as behavioural**
Assad Asil Companioni

**Self-Employment and the Role of
Tenure in the Mexican Labour
Market**
Abelardo De Anda Casas

**Phenotypic coexistence as a
facilitator of cancer invasion**
Chloe Colson

**Human Genetic Enhancement: For
one, or for all?**
Tess Johnson

Organizers: *St Anne's, St Hilda's &
St Catherine's Colleges*



PROGRAMME

19:00 | Opening Address

19:05 | Sub furcam prudens: Paradoxes of enslavement in Horace's Epistle 1.10
Sarah Marshall

19:20 | Italian Cinquecento & the Rediscovery of the Troubadours
Francesco Feriozzi

19:35 | Editing the Absolute Evil: A publication history of *Mein Kampf* in English
Anna Weber

19:50 | Effectiveness of content-based trilingual education: A systematic review
Kai Richter

20:05 | **ACADEMIX** SESSION

20:25 | Outlining an Alternative Model of Immigrant Integration: Conceptualising social integration as behavioural
Assad Asil Companioni

20:40 | Self-Employment and the Role of Tenure in the Mexican Labour Market
Abelardo De Anda Casas

20:55 | Phenotypic coexistence as a facilitator of cancer invasion
Chloe Colson

21:10 | Human Genetic Enhancement: For one, or for all?
Tess Johnson

21:25 | Closing Address

PROGRAMME

Sub furcam prudens: Paradoxes of enslavement in Horace's Epistle 1.10

This paper explores Horace's Epistle 1.10, a poem (in epistolary form) on the superiority of the country – its unaffected beauty, its simplicity, the refuge it offers from the anxieties of civic ambitio – to the excesses of city living. The subtle complexities of Horace's paradoxical self-positioning are probed with reference to ecocritical and postcolonial theory.

The most intriguing feature of 1.10 is its displacement of the impulse for freedom – specifically, freedom from interference – from the poet's human persona onto nature itself. The resulting identity of poet and nature does not confine its voice to a cry for freedom on the part of the exploited and enslaved, nor, indeed, is it enough to repeat the observation variously articulated by critics Harrison, Gowers, and West: that Horace alternates between the guises of City and Country Mouse, of urbanity and nature. Rather, the poet's self-identification with the natural world in 1.10 negotiates, with characteristic sensitivity to the irony of his position, the paradox of being enslaved to oneself, the unreality of the nature he evokes, and the inconsistency of behaviour that is the privilege of self-determination.

Horace's complex and often paradoxical presentation of freedom and slavery is explored with reference to the parable of the bridled horse, the poet's sympathetic treatment of streams confined to leaden pipes, and the resurgence of nature driven back by a pitchfork. This paper concludes with a discussion of Horace's representation of a crumbling countryside shrine dedicated to Vacuna, a Sabine goddess identified with the Roman Victoria, goddess of victory. The association of the shrine, a man-made structure, with the goddess Victoria offers an ironic confirmation of the triumph of the only victrix explicitly named in the poem: nature.

Keywords: Latin, Horace, poetry, nature, freedom

Sarah Marshall | MSt Classics



Sarah Marshall is completing a Masters in Greek and Latin Languages and Literature at the Faculty of Classics. Her main research interest is classical ecocriticism, in particular ancient attitudes towards environmental destruction and the tension between the anthropocentric and 'ecocentric' world views. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Vassar College with a degree in Medieval and Renaissance Studies, and is currently in the process of publishing her undergraduate dissertation on Aristotelian self-sufficiency in Shakespeare's Coriolanus

PROGRAMME

Italian Cinquecento & the Rediscovery of the Troubadours

The troubadours' poetry, written in the Occitan language in the Middle Ages, is at the root of the modern conception of lyric poetry. Despite its importance, it was all but forgotten during the 1400s, until a few Italian scholars began rediscovering it at the beginning of the following century. These scholars were moved by their interest in the history of the Italian language and of its literature, themes that were at the time at the centre of a heated debate that involved intellectuals from all over the peninsula. I will focus on a scholar of the first generation, Pietro Bembo, and describe how he tried to make sense of these ancient and foreign texts within his ideological system.

Keywords: Renaissance, troubadours, philology, Italian, Occitan

Francesco Feriozzi | DPhil Medieval & Modern Languages



Bachelor's Degree in Lettere Moderne and Master's Degree in Filologia Moderna at Università degli Studi di Roma 'Sapienza', AHRC OOC DTP Studentship holder (2020-22)

I am currently working on a DPhil project (Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages, Italian sub-faculty) aimed at exploring the mutual influence of the Cinquecento *Questione della lingua* and the contemporary Medieval Occitan studies. Among my research interests are Medieval Occitan literature, the survival and reception of (mainly Romance) Medieval culture in Renaissance Italy, theories of literature and language in 16th-century Italy, theory and methods of traditional and authorial philology, and Alessandro Manzoni's *Promessi sposi*. I am the current Section Chief for the Humanities of the St Catherine's Academic Review (SCAR).

PROGRAMME

Editing the Absolute Evil: A publication history of *Mein Kampf* in English

My project traces the publication history of Hitler's 1925 memoir-cum-manifesto *Mein Kampf* in the UK and the US. English was the first language that *Mein Kampf* was translated into in 1933, which underlines the special importance that the Nazis attached to making it available to British and American readers. *Mein Kampf* turned out a bestseller in English and continues to sell a significant number of copies, while it was banned in Germany between 1945 and 2015 and has since only become available as a scholarly edition. In the problematic absence of such a contextualising, historicising edition in English, my project is the first to analyse how mainstream British and American publishers have presented *Mein Kampf* instead. Analysing British and American editions' visual design, introductions, footnotes and other editorial interventions, I show how editions from 1933 till the present have consistently failed to frame Hitler's book in an adequately critical manner. To different degrees, they have played into the National Socialist myth that the original seeks to propagate by providing insufficient background information about the author's theories, failing to adopt a critical stance in introductions and footnotes, and taking up the original's visual design. In this way, mainstream British and American publishers like Random House have arguably imbued Hitler's work with some amount of legitimacy, rather than framed it as a deeply problematic historical source.

Keywords: Book history, publishing, propaganda studies

Anna Weber | English 1900-Present



Anna Weber is currently completing her MSt in English (1900-Present) at the Faculty of English. She holds a BA in British Studies and Sociology from the University of Leipzig and has also spent a year as a visiting student in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Her main research interest lies in modern and contemporary writing, specifically all things transnational.

PROGRAMME

Effectiveness of Content-Based Trilingual Education: A systematic review

Much research has investigated various forms of bilingual education and their respective efficacy. As a result, content-based instruction, or immersion, has surged in popularity over the past few decades. This model emphasizes the use of a non-native language as a medium of instruction. However, less work has targeted education systems with more than two languages of instruction. This systematic review aims to highlight the case of models of education that employ three languages of instruction, assessing the extent of research in the field and drawing conclusions where possible as to the effectiveness of these programs.

The research has significant implications in our rapidly globalizing world, where there is a growing pressure in many places for more foreign language education.

Keywords: Foreign language education, immersion, trilingualism, systematic review

Kai Richter | MSc Applied Linguistics & SLA



Kai is an MSc Student in Applied Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition within the Department of Education. He has a Bachelor's in Linguistics and Modern languages with a focus on Mandarin and Spanish. Before coming to Oxford he spent four years working in bilingual schools in China and Spain. With a breadth of foreign language education experience as both a student and teacher, he is passionate about investigating effective modes of language pedagogy.

PROGRAMME

Outlining an Alternative Model of Immigrant Integration: Conceptualising social integration as behavioural

How might integration be best theorised as a concept which is analytically useful? The literature on integration is marked by a good deal of disagreement over what it means, whether it has analytical value, or how it ought to be theorised. So, in order to move towards determining how integration may be best theorised, I seek to, firstly, map out the variation in analytical approaches behind integration and sociocultural integration as found in policy reports and academic research: for example integration has often been used as a property of an individual, has referring to well-being, or as being a property of a community or system. Secondly, I will critically consider the analytical value and flaws that these approaches bring. Crucially, the criteria for analytical value are not only their coherence and utility, but also whether the approaches ought to be identified as approaches of “integration”. Thirdly, I will identify which approaches are most compelling. Fourth, where providing further analytical detail would be useful or where there are gaps and weaknesses identified even with the most compelling approaches, I will attempt to add detail to them, modify them, suggest alternative theoretical models, or at least outline further criteria. In this respect, (1) I will argue that the analytical unit of integration ought to be a specified social sphere, not “society in general” without specification. (2) I suggest that “integration in general” struggles to be a useful analytical category by virtue of its breadth; it should continue to be recognised as a family-of-resemblances concept. (3) Turning to sociocultural integration, I make the argument that it should be understood in behavioural terms, explicitly excluding a defining role for values or identity. (4) Sociocultural integration may be defined in terms of behavioural adherence to a set of norms that, if violated, would generate a negative response. (5) It may also be defined as acquisition of the know-how and skills needed to participate/live in a social sphere whilst remaining in behaviourally adherent. (6) The definitions in (4) and (5) are distinct and incompatible, but they bring distinct kinds of analytical utility; it is not yet clear to me which is preferable and should dominate.

Assad Asil Companioni | MSc Migration Studies



Assad is a MSc in Migration Studies student based in the Oxford Department of International Development. His main areas of research are currently in immigrant integration, but he also has a broader academic and also policy interest in far-right political activity, migration and human rights, global governance, and sustainable development. He did his undergraduate degree in International Relations and developed a background oriented around critical theory at that time.

PROGRAMME

Self-Employment and the Role of Tenure in the Mexican Labour Market

I analyse self-employment in the Mexican labour market by focusing on individuals' decision of becoming self-employed in light of their accumulated human capital. It is argued that individuals become self-employed after having accumulated sufficient financial and human capital, following motivations such as having more flexibility or increasing their earnings. Using household survey data from the past decade in Mexico, I find strong quantitative and qualitative evidence to support this claim. Moreover, following recent empirical evidence on the importance of tenure in developing countries, I show that tenure is a significant determinant of wages in Mexico, even when covariates such as experience are considered. I also show that tenure is an important determinant of the transition to self-employment. Finally, I show that there is positive assortative matching in the choice of employment sector after transitioning into self-employment and that the effect of tenure on the likelihood to transition is higher for individuals that choose the same sector. Therefore, I propose that tenure can capture the human capital component that makes the transition into self-employment easier.

Keywords: Self-employment, human capital, tenure, wages, Mexico

Abelardo De Anda Casas | MPhil Economics



Abelardo De Anda Casas is a second-year candidate of the MPhil in Economics at the Department of Economics and a member of St. Catherine's College. His main research interests are applied microeconomics in fields such as development, labour and behavioural economics. He likes to focus his research on developing countries, particularly Mexico and Latin America. He holds a bachelor's degree in Economics and Finance from the Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico City, and during his undergraduate degree he was part of the Yale Visiting International Student Program at Yale University, where he studied for a full academic year.

PROGRAMME

Phenotypic Coexistence as a Facilitator of Cancer Invasion

Invasion of healthy tissue is a hallmark of malignant tumours. For a long time, the hypothesis was that tumour cells that successfully invaded healthy tissue had acquired all of the phenotypic traits necessary for breaking down the body's defences. However, there is now substantial experimental evidence suggesting that tumour populations are phenotypically heterogeneous. This has led to the emergence of a new theory, according to which tumour cells with differing and varying traits could be working collectively towards the most effective invasion. We study this hypothesis through mathematical modelling. Our approach is based on two separate pieces of work. Strobl et al. (Bulletin of Mathematical Biology, 2020) extended the Gatenby-Gawlinski reaction-diffusion model of cancer invasion (Cancer Research, 1996) to derive a system of five coupled partial differential equations (PDEs). These describe the evolution of two tissue components: stroma and extracellular matrix (ECM), two phenotypically-distinct tumour components: acid-producing cells that kills stromal cells and ECM-degrading cells and the acid concentration within the tissue and tumour microenvironment. Ardaševa et al. (Journal of Mathematical Biology, 2020) developed a PDE model of the evolutionary dynamics of two competing, phenotypically-structured populations in response to fluctuating environments. Using their approach, we extend Strobl et al.'s model to account for the possibility that cells express a phenotype that is neither fully acid-producing nor fully matrix-degrading and that cells can change phenotype over time. We then study how the initial phenotypic distribution within a tumour affects its invasion of healthy tissue in terms of speed, depth of invasion and tumour burden. We also look at the long-term phenotypic distribution that emerges in our model and show that the model does not capture phenotypic selection.

Keywords: Mathematical modelling, tumour invasion, phenotypic coexistence

Chloe Colson | DPhil Mathematics



Chloe Colson is a DPhil candidate in Mathematics at the Wolfson Centre for Mathematical Biology. Her research focusses on continuum models of cancer invasion as well as tumour growth and treatment effect, with a focus on combined hyperthermia and radiation therapies. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from the University of Warwick and a Master of Science in Mathematical Sciences from the University of Oxford.

PROGRAMME

Human Genetic Enhancement: For one, or for all?

Human enhancement—whether pharmaceutical, physical, technological or genetic—is both a growing area of ethical inquiry, and a pressing issue for policymakers around the world. A large part of the academic and political debate on human genetic enhancement has, to date, concerned whether and how we should allow individual couples to edit the genes of their future children, to improve them in some way. But this discussion leaves unanswered important questions about how we should consider the impacts of enhancement on others. How might future genetically enhanced people affect others' chances in competitions, whether they be for employment, education or limited resources? How might we harness the power of genetic enhancement to provide benefits not only for the enhanced individuals, but for all members of a society?

The idea of 'altruistic' genetic selection (as opposed to editing) has been explored before. It has been proposed that parents wishing to select between embryos for implantation in a womb according to their genes may have a moral reason to select for one embryo over another if, say, we can predict based on its genes that that future person will be less aggressive, or more productive. But this is still an individual-level ethical analysis: it concerns parents' decision-making, not the regulation of the technology at national or international levels. It also has not translated, yet, to genome editing for enhancement, as opposed to selection. In order to adequately account for society-wide concerns regarding genetic enhancement, we must look not only at parental decision-making, and not only at outcomes for the future child, but at high-level regulatory options, and at outcomes for other members of a future society where genetic enhancement may be widespread.

My talk examines the problems with considering only individual-level ethical concerns with enhancement, and how, supplementing existing ethical analyses with a collective-level perspective, we can better account for the widespread impacts of enhancement on society.

Tess Johnson | DPhil Philosophy



Tess Johnson is a DPhil candidate in Philosophy, at the Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics. Her current research focusses on the ethical analysis of germline genome editing for enhancement. Her novel public health-oriented approach aims to provide tools to inform state regulation of enhancements. Previously, Tess studied a Master of Bioethics at Monash University, and a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science at the Australian National University. Her most recent publications include *Genetic Immunisation*, a chapter in David Edmonds' popular-audience collection, *Future Morality* (forthcoming), co-authored with Dr Alberto Giubilini. For more, visit her website, at <https://sites.google.com/view/tessjohnson/home>.

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