

The Department of Languages
&
“Association Actes Académiques”
Organize

the 10th International Conference in Humanities (InCH 9)

Intersectionalities

1-3 May, 2024

Venue: Méhari Hotel, Yasmine Hammamet



https://ssir.org/articles/entry/why_intersectional_stories_are_key_to_helping_the_communities_we_serve

Call for Papers

Intersectionality has become a salient concept in debates on identity politics across feminist theories, critical race theories, literary criticism, linguistic research, gender studies, disability studies, ageing studies, and, migration studies, to name a few. The primary aim of intersectional theories in such fields is to dismantle the essentialist approach that tend to harmonize human experiences, identities, privileges, and oppressions.

The essentialist identity has been challenged by a more constructivist take including a variety of paradigms, such as race, gender, class, age, nationality, religion, geographical location and the like. “We live in intersections,” says Rohit Bhargava. Since the concept was coined by Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw in 1989 to emphasize the gender and race-based vulnerabilities of women of color, it has developed into a theoretical framework, a research paradigm, a heuristic and analytical device, a field of study and practice, and a site of critique and debate, which encompass other intersecting identity dimensions.

In black feminism, Crenshaw’s concept of intersectionality has emerged to account for the overlapping identities that cut across gender and race in women’s experiences of privilege and subjugation as well as in their struggle for egalitarianism and social justice. While various studies of the articulation of intersectionality by scholars such as Crenshaw, Patricia Hill Collins, and Anna Julia Cooper - as well as by the Combahee River Collective Organization - diverge at some point, they nonetheless agree that the multiplicity of identity markers and positioning are necessary to understand the workings of power dynamics.

We read history and dissect texts through critical prisms to understand the power structures and relations within and without textual productions, as well as to detect their intersectional encounters with other texts, what is described as “intertextuality.” The context-specific studies brought about by literary criticism have allowed the examination of the author/readers’ individuality in relation to culture, history and politics. Reader, author, context or text-focused inquiries cut across to help “deconstruct” the text for further reconstructions, reconstructions of new textual meanings and intersectionalities. The interlocking markers of the characters’ and authors’ identity are helpful to advance a comprehensive understanding and interpretation of literary works.

The adoption of intersectional perspectives in the survey of identity-based speech and linguistic justice has also emphasized identity ramifications and social classifications. In fact, Geographical Studies and the “Linguistics of Place” inquiries into language variations and distribution in space and time seek to explore the interwoven layers of identity structure. “Just as language helps us to create certain class, ethnic, and gendered identities, for ourselves, we use language to inflect geographic territories with class-, ethnic-, and gender-based identities, to name but a few social axes,” argues Johnstone.

In the same way as cultures intersect and overlap, History and Geography meet in time and space. The crisscross between the two has led to the emergence of what is known as “historical geography.” The overlap between history and geography, on the one hand, and the emergence of social sciences, on the other, places the notion of identity(ies) outside fixed and restraining rules and orthodoxies. Such an approach is however regarded as an “invasion” by some historians, such as Richard Evans. Similarly, some geographers argue against the intersecting of both disciplines as a way “to bridge the divide.”

Additionally, standing at the nexus of two languages and two cultures, translation is sometimes seen as a subversive act, as a disloyal gesture, or “a betrayal of the democratic ideal into the law of the strongest” (Spivak 400). Though inevitable for communication between languages and cultures, translation has been met with doubt. In the same way, language is seen as corrupt and corrupting. “If thought corrupts language, language can also corrupt thought,” Orwell states. Language is also power. It subverts social control and political dominon.

In the light of the discussions of intersectional identities, approaches, and disciplines, the conference on “Intersectionalities” invites multidisciplinary papers addressing, but not exclusively, the following issues:

- Intersectional identities in black feminist thought
- “Intersectionality wars” and their impact on (black) feminist theory
- Social justice/privilege/(dis)advantage
- Co-optation of intersectionality
- Intersectional and transnational approaches to human migration
- Intersectionality across state borders and sociocultural formations
- Intersectionality in sociological research
- Pedagogical practices and teaching intersectionality
- Interdisciplinarity, multidisciplinary and transdisciplinarity as forms of intersections
- Intersectionality and sociolinguistic variation
- Intersectionality, language, and identity
- Discursive power and intersectionality
- The language of intersectionality
- Intersectional approaches to language behavior
- Translation practice at the intersection of two cultures/languages
- Intersectional readings of literary texts
- Intersectionality and decolonization in literature
- Limitations of intersectional analysis
- Intersection(s) of space and time

Scientific Committee

- Prof. Akila Sellami (University of Sfax)
- Prof. Rached Khalifa (University of Tunis El Manar, Tunisia)
- Prof. Abdennebi Ben Beya (University of Tunis, Tunisia)
- Prof. Sadok Bouhlila (University of Manouba)
- Prof. Mohamed Salah Harzallah (University of Sousse, Tunisia)
- Prof. Kola Abimbola, (Howard University, Washington DC., U.S.A.)
- Prof. Faiza Derbel (University of Manouba)
- Prof. Anwar Tlili, (King’s College, London, UK)
- Prof. Taoufik Djebali (University of Caen, Normandy, France)
- Prof. Chokri Smaoui (Sultan Qaboos University, Oman)

Steering Committee

- Dr. Mahassen Mgadmi, Ms. Habiba Maddouri (Chairs)
 - Dr. Marwa Mekni Toujani
 - Dr. Imed Sassi
 - Dr. Hana Rayani
 - Dr. Kaouther Ben Slama
 - Dr. Khaoula Hmidi
- Abstracts of no more than 250 words, together with no more than 6 keywords, as well as the author's affiliation, email address, phone number, and bio-data (100 words maximum) are to be sent by filling out this form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/19CV8ozA37yhTHReA2LowkdM5YD-ZdHjovvdeXlh LnU/edit>
 - Should you need further information, please contact us via the conference email at inch2024islaib@gmail.com

Important Dates

- **Deadline for the submission of abstracts:** January 31, 2024
- **Notification of acceptance:** February 10, 2024
- **Full papers for publication should be sent no later than July 1, 2024.**
- **Payment Deadline:** February 29, 2024

Subscription Fees

- **Participation fees for Tunisians:** TND 360 + a 30 TND supplement per night in case of single-room accommodation*
 - **Participation fees for non-Tunisians:** € 310 + a 30-€ supplement per night in case of single-room accommodation
 - **Participation fees for participants from the Maghreb countries:** € 210 + a 30-€ supplement per night in case of single-room accommodation*
 - A 3-TND tax per night is to be paid at the hotel reception desk.
 - **Attendance fees for one conference day:** 100 TND**
- * Fees include accommodation (2 nights) and food (6 meals + 3 coffee breaks a day) at a five-star hotel.
- ** Fees include a coffee break, lunch, and a certificate of attendance.
- **Payments through order forms are not accepted.**
 - Any extra food or drinks will be charged at the participant's own expense.
 - The payment amount should be deposited into either of the two bank accounts of the "Association Actes Académiques."

Below are the account numbers:

Local deposit/ transfer: Relevé d'Identité Bancaire (RIB)

BANQUE	AGENCE	N° COMPTE	CLE RIB
03	018	148 0101 000568	68

International transfer: International Bank Account Number (IBAN)

TN 59	03 018 0101 000568 68
--------------	------------------------------