Writing Space in the Other's Language: Migration Journeys and Language Teaching and Learning

General information

Objectives and Description:

Description:

This thematic school, organised by the four partner universities, brings together specialists in linguistics, literature and language teaching to explore multilingual writing and the development of teaching materials using unpublished texts within the broader context of migration pathways and language teaching and learning. The workshop follows on from an introductory research project led by Carmen Avram (ALTER-UPPA), a specialist in language teaching and migration-related issues in education and training. Furthermore, the school forms part of a collaborative effort between four lecturer-researchers – Carmen Avram, Monica Vlad, Alina Bako and Marina Hernández Royo – across various projects and in the supervision of students. The BIP also aims to develop a joint European project on language teaching and learning (to be submitted in 2028).

Reasons:

In language teaching, texts (literary, scientific, administrative, etc.) are essential resources for conveying the target language and its culture. Reflection on the use of diverse written texts and authentic documents in language classrooms is currently (re)gaining ground, with the aim of diversifying the types of supporting materials and making their use more dynamic from a multimodal and plurilingual perspective. Similarly, the concept of space, in its multifaceted and polysemic sense encompassing notions such as landscape, route, journey and border (among others), is a key concept in the study of migration pathways and the diversification of learner profiles. The partner universities are engaged in this line of inquiry focusing on the issue of language teaching and learning using authentic source materials that address the concept of space in a general sense (maps, routes, borders, etc.).

Motivations:

To set up a think tank that will develop into a sustainable European network, focusing on the training of future language teachers.

To bring together the three Romance languages (French, Spanish and Romanian) within a framework of cross-linguistic reflection that can subsequently incorporate plurilingual reflection on and with other European languages taught as 'foreign languages'.

To work together to lay the foundations for a plurilingual corpus of source texts (literary texts, administrative texts, graffiti etc.) and open-access teaching resources.

Research objectives:

To integrate the concept of multimodal space into an interactive and immersive teaching approach. To advance research in language teaching by incorporating the dimension of didactisation of multimodal textual materials.

Methods and outcomes:

Teaching methods
Interactive, participatory teaching.

Comparative linguistics.
Multimodal textual analysis.
Immersion. Experiential learning (a sensory and playful approach).
Collaboration, discussion, group dynamics.

Teaching format
Hybrid seminars and webinars organised in turn by the partners.
Practical workshops and face-to-face lectures.
Multilingual focus group, bringing together participants from the four partner universities, following the BIP.

Equipment and resources
A room equipped with a screen and a video projector. Whiteboard and felt-tip pens.
Internet access and videoconferencing facilities.
Whiteboards and felt-tip pens.
Printed documents.

Educational and scientific objectives:

- To train students in the analytical reading of unpublished textual materials.
- To train students in the teaching and learning of languages and literature in a multilingual environment.
- To develop collaborative approaches for the creation of teaching resources that can be adapted from one language to another, within a European context.
- To integrate the concept of multimodal space into an interactive and immersive teaching approach.
- To advance research in language teaching by incorporating the dimension of didactisation of multimodal textual materials.
- To create a European corpus of texts drawn from migration experiences, incorporating the spatial dimension (borders, routes, landscapes, etc.) as well as linguistic analysis.

Field of Education: language sciences, literature, linguistics, language teaching

Target audience / Participant profile:

Students enrolled on degree programmes (undergraduate and/or postgraduate) in language and/or literature (Romanian, Spanish, French, etc.), or on initial teacher training programmes for future language teachers (language teaching, philology, pedagogy).

Students with an interest in the teaching and learning of languages (French, Spanish, Romanian) for non-native speakers who are part of a migration process or an international mobility programme (children, teenagers, adults).

Number of ECTS credits awarded: 3

Language of instruction and requirements:

French, Romanian, Spanish, English

Participants must have a minimum B2 level in one of the BIP languages (Romanian, Spanish, French) and a B1 level in English.

Dates for the in-person session:

Monday 15 – Friday 19 March 2027

Venue for physical activity:

Pau (UPPA Campus, Lettres building)

Dates for the virtual component:

1–14 March 2027

Description of the virtual component:

12.5 hours

Online lectures and seminars, followed by themed workshops.

The lectures aim to provide theoretical knowledge on multilingualism, language policies and migration policies in Europe, specifically in the three countries represented by the BIP. The aim is to provide the necessary theoretical background for the workshops that will be organised during the face-to-face sessions.

Both conferences aim to provide further insights into the creation of educational resources (tools for people in emergency situations and issues relating to exile).

Organising Committee

Host university:

University of Pau and the Pays de l'Adour, SSH Faculty

*Carmen Avram*avram.ec@univ-pau.fr

Sending/Partner universities:

1. 'Lucian Blaga' University of Sibiu, Romania
Alina BAKOalina.bako@ulbsibiu.ro
2. 'Ovidius' University of Constanța, Romania
Monica VLADmonicavlad@yahoo.fr
3. University of Zaragoza – Spain

Marina Hernández Royomhroyo@unizar.es

Detailed programme

1. Planned activities during the virtual component:

Module	**Speaker** *(name, institution)*	**Format** *(lecture, workshop, group work, etc.)*	**Number of hours**
Presentation of participating universities – networking	Students from the four participating universities	Workshop	1.5 hours
Migration, mobility, language policies and multilingualism in Europe (the example of the three participating countries)	Carmen Avram (UPPA) Alina Bako (Sibiu, Romania) Marina Hernández Royo (Zaragoza) Monica Vlad (Constanța)	Lecture and Online workshop (presentation in French with course materials translated into Romanian and Spanish)	1.5 hours

Creating basic communication tools for people in situations of migration and humanitarian emergencies – the example of the CommuniKite project (Erasmus+)	Freiderikos Valetopoulos (University of Poitiers)	Seminar (project presentation and discussion, in French and English)	1.5 hours
Writing about exile in another's language: multilingualism, intercomprehension and the memory of the *Retirada*	Estel Aguilar Miró (University of Zaragoza)	Lecture (presentation in French and Spanish, with supporting material in Romanian)	1.5 hours
Key concepts in language teaching: a focus on language teaching and learning for migrants	Carmen Avram (UPPA) Ana Ionita (Ovidius University, Constanța) Marina Hernández Royo (Zaragoza)	Lecture (presentation in French with course materials translated into Romanian and Spanish)	3 hours (two 1.5-hour sessions)
Writing about space, inhabiting languages. Narrative cartographies, mobility and intercultural imaginaries	Alina Bako (Sibiu)	Lecture Reflection workshop to prepare for the face-to-face session	1.5 hours
Linguistic repertoires and representations of reading and writing in the other's language	All partners	Workshop Group work (in preparation for face-to-face sessions)	2 hours

2. Planned activities during the face-to-face component:

Day 1:

Day 1: Getting to know one another, expressing oneself, writing (6.5 hours)			
Reading and writing in each other's languages – immersion in an unfamiliar language and making contact	Students from partner universities	Workshops by target language (1 hour) and group discussion (1 hour)	2 hours
Language biographies (speaking, writing and illustrating one's multilingualism)	Monica Vlad, Alina Buzatu (Constanta)	Workshop	1 hour 30 minutes
Writing about space: mapping migration journeys – narratives, memoirs and lived spaces (multilingual texts)	Alina Bako (Sibiu)	Lecture followed by a workshop – creating a digital narrative map based on a migration story	3 hours

Day 2:

Day 2: Linguistic landscapes and supporting materials in language classes (6.5 hours)			
Multilingual and multicultural communication strategies	Monica Vlad (Constanta)	Lecture	1h30
Linguistic landscapes Textual materials – authentic documents	Sandrine Bédouret (UPPA) Carmen Avram (UPPA)	Lecture Workshop	2 hours
Mapping Pau through public texts – identifying elements that make	The coordinators of the four teams and students from Pau	Group work (taking photos, taking notes)	3 hours

up the linguistic landscape (signs, shop signs, graffiti, etc.)		-immersion in the city	

3rd day:

Day 3: Cultural outing and workshop on the Béarn landscape (6.5 hours)			
Writing about water, writing about connections: stories, flows and aquatic memories (reflection on literary texts)	Marina Hernández Royo (Zaragoza)	Lecture Workshop	2½ hours
Landscapes of Béarn: a visit to a farm in the Ossau Valley Experiencing, living and writing about the landscape	External guests (Claire Saporta)	Cultural outing to Busy immersion Writing workshop	4 hours

Day 4:

Day 4: Mapping: illustrating/writing about one's migration journey (6.5 hours)			
Feedback on the city mapping workshop (Day 2) and work on adapting the identified materials for educational purposes	UPPA team	Workshop	1h30
The diversity of source materials in language teaching: adapting an authentic document for teaching purposes	BIP coordinators (French, Romanian, Spanish)	Lecture	1h30
Writing about one's migration journey. Presentation of the Pluma-MNA project (*Languages and well-being at the heart of unaccompanied minors' journeys*) *'Sensitive Cartography'* exhibition *focusing on languages* at the UPPA University Library	External guests (team led by Malory Leclère and Michelle Auzanneau, Sorbonne Nouvelle University)	Workshop Exhibition	3.30 pm

5th day:

Day 5: Reading and writing in language classes using literary texts on exile (6 hours)			
Writing about space in another's language: literature, the imagination and cultural mediation	Alina Bako (Sibiu)	Lecture and discussion	1 hour
Writing about lived space: multilingual writing workshop (memories, emotions, impressions, photos taken during the BIP)	Participating students	Workshop	2 hours
Compiling a mini multilingual glossary of places and spatial	Co-ordinators Students	Workshop	2 hours

emotions experienced during the BIP (setting up a joint project, first stage of work)				
Feedback and outlook	Group meeting	Discussions	1 hour	

Application procedure

Complete the application form available here: *to be generated later*

Deadline: February 1st 2027