

III ENCUENTRO DE JÓVENES INVESTIGADORES DE LA SELGYC

CALL FOR PAPERS

1. Description

The **Spanish Comparative Literature Association** (SELGyC) is pleased to announce the **III SELGyC POSTGRADUATE AND EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS CONFERENCE**, to be held at the **University of Alcalá** on **November 21 and 22, 2019**. The conference aims mainly, but not exclusively, to bring together postgraduate and early career researchers who are currently working in the various fields of Comparative Literature, and to provide a forum for debate and dissemination of their work in progress. In this vein, postgraduate and early career researchers of all nationalities who have not yet defended their Ph.D. dissertation, as well as doctoral researchers who have defended their dissertations in the last two academic years are invited to submit original contributions for consideration. Those who wish to present a paper must complete and send their proposal using the corresponding template —available on the Conference’s website— before **September 15, 2019**. The Scientific Committee will review and select the submitted abstracts, and authors will be notified of the results before September 30. The final program will be announced on October 15.

ECOCRITICISM

Lorand Gaspar, the French doctor and poet of Hungarian origin, describes in his work *Feuilles d’observation* the artificiality of a separation between human beings and nature: we exploit the latter as if it were something outside of us, just as if we could ever exist beyond it¹. This idea is at the core of the concept of ecocriticism, that is to say, the study of those relationships between literature and the environment that Cheryl Glotfelty underscored in the introduction of the seminal work of the discipline. According to her, “all ecological criticism shares the fundamental premise that human culture is connected to the physical world, affecting it and affected by it” (*The Ecocriticism Reader*, 1996, xix). After witnessing the disasters caused by the breach between human beings and their environment, we are now increasingly aware of the importance of taking a critical eye and attitude towards ecology that should also permeate literary studies. The III SELGyC CONFERENCE seeks to highlight this need by bringing together young researchers who are concerned about the environment and interested in Comparative Literature.

¹ “Curieuses ces idées de rompre, de nous dresser contre la nature sur terre, de la soumettre, de l’exploiter comme une chose extérieure à nous, comme si nous pouvions être jamais au-dehors” (Gaspar, *Feuilles d’observation*, 1986, p. 59).

Ecocriticism has been part of North American literary criticism since the 90s. From the prism of environmental awareness, this movement explores the presence (and absence) of nature imagery in past and present works. Ecocriticism is, consequently, inextricable from ethics and advocates that literature can play a role in raising people's awareness and modifying the prevailing discourse and cultural attitudes (Carmen Flys, "Literatura, crítica y justicia medioambiental", in *Ecocríticas*, 2010, p. 103).

Given its transversal nature, its scope has been extended over the years until encompassing different theories. Consequently, ecocriticism has become a meeting point for several disciplines such as literature, pure, social and political sciences, education, and other arts. In this vein, it now spans a wide variety of topics, such as the study of literature from a scientific perspective, the existing analogies between oppressed minorities and the exploitation of nature (e.g., ecofeminism), the role of environmental education in literature, or the ecological concern present in films or the plastic arts.

The III SELGYC CONFERENCE seeks to reflect this diversity; therefore, it welcomes proposals related to any aspect of ecocriticism. The following is a **non-exclusive list** of topics authors may want to explore:

- Theoretical aspects of ecocriticism
- Nature writing
- Literature and sciences
- Forerunners of ecology in literature
- Ecofeminism
- Environmental education and literature
- Ecocriticism and other arts
- Utopias and dystopias
- Nature and/versus the city
- Ecocriticism and youth literature
- Ecocriticism and travel literature among others.

2. Important dates

September 15: Paper submission deadline

September 30: Announcement of selected abstracts

October 6: Registration deadline

October 15: Publication of final program

November 21: Opening of the Conference

3. Papers

Presentations will be delivered over a number of sessions and should not exceed **15 minutes**. At the end of every session, a discussion of 10 minutes will be held. Papers can be submitted **in Spanish, English, or French**.

Paper proposals must be submitted via e-mail to encuentroselgyc@gmail.com using the corresponding form available on the Conference's website. The deadline for submissions is **September 15**. The Scientific Committee will notify its decision regarding all submitted proposals before **September 30**. The number of participants is limited.

Participation is open to any researcher who has not yet defended his or her Ph.D. dissertation, as well as to doctoral researchers who have defended their dissertations in the last two academic years. Those who do not meet these requirements can still enquire about the possibility of participating by sending an e-mail to encuentroselgyc@gmail.com

4. Committee

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Chair: Dámaso López García

General coordinator: Julia Oeri

Secretary: Bruno Echaury Galván

Honorary Committee

Rafael Alemany Ferrer

Ana González-Rivas Fernández

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Isabel Berzal Ayuso

Olivia Wen

Slavka Madarova

Rayda Nodis

Cristina Salcedo González

5. Registration

There are three ways to participate in the event:

1. Paper presentation (members of SELGyC): FREE.

In this case, those participants who are not yet members of SELGyC must join the association by following the instructions they will find on the website

<http://www.selgyc.com/index.php/es/services/inscripciones>.

Postgraduate and early career researchers of SELGyC pay a reduced annual fee of **30 euros** (SELGyC members only) or **40 euros** (which allows them to become full members of both SELGyC and ICLA —International Comparative Literature Association).

Besides participating in the Conference, as a new member of SELGyC you will:

- Be included in our mailing list to receive news about activities organized at a national or an international level in the field of comparative literature, as well as to disseminate information about your own activities and projects.
- Enjoy special discounts on the participation in conferences and other events.
- Receive the annual journal *1616* (ICLA partners will also receive the online newsletter *Recherche littéraire / Literary Research*).

2. Paper presentation (non-members of SELGyC): 25 euros.

In this case, participants in the Conference must deposit 25 euros using the Paypal link below.

3. As an attendee: FREE. Attendance certificate: 5 euros.

Attendance is completely free of charge. Those who wish to receive an attendance certificate must register as “attendees” using the registration form, attend at least 80% of the sessions, and make a payment of 5 euros using Paypal system (see webpage).

6. Program

Available on October 15!

7. Contact

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Jóvenes-Investigadores-SELGyC-2240917879456004>)

E-mail: encuentroselgyc@gmail.com