

Faculty of Arts University of Prešov

Topics of dissertation supervisors in accredited study programmes of the 3rd degree of study (doctoral studies) for the academic year 2025/2026

Študijný odbor: filológia

Študijný program: anglický jazyk a anglofónne kultúry (jazyk poskytovania štúdia slovenský a anglický)

Študijný program: English Language and Anglophone Cultures (jazyk poskytovania štúdia anglický)

Osoba zodpovedná za študijný program: prof. PhDr. Milan Ferenčík, PhD.

doc. PhDr. Klaudia Bednárová Gibová, PhD. (klaudia.gibova@unipo.sk)

1. Re-narrations and their Functions within Intersemiotic Translation

Prerozprávania a ich funkcie v rámci intersemiotického prekladu

The thesis draws on the concept of intersemiotic translation and its contemporary interpretation in the context of the post-translation studies turn. Intersemiotic translation can be regarded as part of cultural translation because of its connections with cultural artefacts. The thesis explores cultural affinities and dissonances between translations and film versions of selected literary works as *re-narrations* of cultures at the micro-, macro- and transtextual levels. The thesis attempts to answer the question to what extent the relationship between translation and film adaptation of intercultural communication can be considered a form of *rewriting* or a specific discursive-semiotic act. From a theoretical-methodological perspective, the thesis builds upon inter- and transdisciplinary approaches of discourse analysis, semiotics, translation and film studies.

2. Digital and Post-digital Translation in the Contemporary Translation Industry

Digitálny a postdigitálny preklad v súčasnom prekladateľskom priemysle

This PhD. thesis seeks to explore the impact of digital technologies including neural machine translation, post-editing and AI on translation products and current translation practices addressing hot issues of sustainability, accessibility and employability in the contemporary Slovak translation industry. How do professionals in various roles (from CEOs, translation product managers to translators) view the evolving translation market? To what degree is the growing automation of the translation profession compatible with the economic sustainability of the translation industry? Aspiring to contribute to the sociology of translation, the research should outline how the contemporary training of language professionals should be updated to keep up with the ever-increasing digitalization of translation.

prof. PhDr. Milan Ferencík, PhD. (milan.ferencik@unipo.sk)

1. Interpersonálna pragmatika verejného priestoru: porovnávacia štúdia

The Interpersonal Pragmatics of Public Space: a comparative study

The thesis explores the potential of public space for pragmalinguistic research by focusing on how actors of semiotic processes actualize the interpersonal function of language to enact their private or institutional roles and which semiotic resources they use to do so. The theoretical-methodological foundations are geosemiotics, linguistic landscape studies, sociolinguistics (English as a lingua franca) and interpersonal pragmatics (politeness theory). Its comparative linguacultural dimension is ensured by collecting, analysing and interpreting English and Slovak linguistic data which will be compiled in two comparable urban settings.

2. English in a plurilingual setting of globalized tourist destination – a comparative study

Angličtina v plurilingválnom priestore globalizovaného turizmu – komparatívna štúdia.

The thesis detects, analyzes and interprets presence and manifestations of English in the plurilingual semioscape of two comparable destinations of globalized tourism with the aim of explaining the ways of how the local presences of globalized semiotic means and discourses are connected to the processes of geo-cultural globalization. The theoretical-methodological background is provided by the transdisciplinary approaches of linguistic landscape studies, geosemiotics, language as a local practice and language management theory. The thesis aspires to contribute to the research on how linguistic landscapes of globalized tourist places are shaped by a mutual interplay of global and local socio-semiotic processes.

doc. PhDr. Miroslava Gavurová, PhD. (miroslava.gavurova@unipo.sk)

1. Výhody a limity prekladu z angličtiny do slovenčiny pomocou nástrojov neurónového strojového prekladu

Advantages and Limitations of English to Slovak Translation Using Neural Machine Translation Tools

The accelerated progress and relatively high quality of neural machine translation outputs raise questions about the limitations of this technology and its ability to reliably compete with human translation. By analyzing texts from various communication domains – professional, journalistic, and literary – the thesis explores the use of neural machine translation tools, highlighting their advantages while also addressing the inherent limitations of this type of translation.

2. Preklad pre deti a mládež – rutina alebo výzva pre prekladateľa?

Translation for Children and Young Adults – a Routine Task or a Challenge for a translator?

Translating children's and young adult literature involves addressing various unique challenges stemming from the nature of this genre, as well as the cultural and linguistic differences between the source and target texts. This thesis explores the methods and strategies best suited for translating literary works intended for this audience. It also investigates whether the specific demands of literature for children and young adults place greater or equal challenges on the translator compared to translating for adult readers.

3. An essay as a challenge for translator

Esej ako výzva pre prekladateľa

The essay as a literary genre of a specific character places increased demands on the translator's extra-linguistic knowledge and his ability to identify intertextual allusions and references. The thesis addresses the question of how translators should transform them into the target text. Can they rely only on an informed and textually experienced target reader, or must they also incorporate into the translation explicative elements that were not necessary in the source text, given the reader's experiential complexity?

prof. Mgr. Martina Ivanová, PhD. (martina.ivanova@unipo.sk)

1. Kontrastívna analýza diskurzívnych markerov v slovenčine a angličtine

Contrastive Analysis of Discourse Markers in Slovak and English

Práca sa bude venovať sémantickým, syntaktickým a pragmatickým aspektom diskurzívnych markerov v slovenčine a angličtine. Metodologicky bude práca vychádzať z paralelného slovensko-anglického korpusu. Cieľom práce bude opis tzv. translačnej paradigmy prekladových ekvivalentov a zachytenie významovej dynamiky jednotiek, opis syntaktických aspektov procesu tzv. pragmatického posilňovania a opis pragmatických/interakčných a textových/diskurzívnych aspektov použitia týchto operátorov.

prof. PhDr. Jaroslav Kušnír, PhD. (jaroslav.kusnir@unipo.sk)

1. Literatúra a rapová hudba: Próza Ricarda Corteza Cruza a Colsona Whitheada

Literature and Rap Music: Ricardo Cortez Cruz's and Colson Whitehead's Fiction

In the past decades, rap music and hip hop culture has significantly contributed not only to the change of understanding of the function of subcultures in the contemporary world and in the context of popular culture, but according to such critics as Daniel Grassian, there is a generation of especially Afro-American authors who depict a sensibility of rap music and hip culture in their literary works, especially after 1980's. This thesis will give a comparative analysis of select fiction of both Cruz and Whitehead and the way they depict not only cultural atmosphere influenced by the rap music and hip hop culture, but also subversive and other roles of rap music in the context of both contemporary American culture and in popular culture.

2. Kultúrna identita v próze Briana Castra

Cultural Identity in Brian Castro's Fiction

Brian Castro is a contemporary Australian author of a mixed cultural background which also manifests itself in his depiction of cultural background and identity of his characters. This thesis will explore Brian Castro's depiction of cultural identity in the context of various cultural theories (Stuart Hall, Frantz Fanon, H. Bhabha, etc.). In addition, the thesis will analyze the function of both Australian and other cultural identities in Castro's understanding of contemporary cultural space as depicted in his novels such as *Garden Book*, *Bach Fugues*, and *Shanghai Dancing*.

3. Postava “trickstera” a kultúra amerického pôvodného obyvateľstva v prozaickej tvorbe L. Erdrichovej a Lindy Hoganovej

Trickster Figure and Native American Culture in L. Erdrich's and L. Hogan's Fiction

The trickster figure represent an important aspect of Native American cultural tradition and he/she appears in various forms in contemporary Native American authors' fiction. This figure often represents both a specificity of Native American culture and a resistance to the western culture understanding of time and space. This thesis will analyse select fiction of contemporary Native American authors such as L. Erdrich, L.M. Silko, G. Vizenor and L. Hogan and the way they use both the figure of a trickster and other forms of Native American culture (myth, performativity, rituals, etc.) to point out the position of Native American culture in contemporary American society

4. Región a regionálna identita v prozaickej tvorbe Williama Faulknera a Willy Catherovej

Region and Regional Identity in William Faulkner's and Willa Cather's Fiction

The depiction of region and regional culture and identity plays a crucial role in the development of American literature, highlighting the cultural specifics of each region. This dissertation will focus on a comparative analysis of selected works by American authors who portray the uniqueness of the American South (W. Faulkner) and the American Midwest (W. Cather).