

OFERTA TFG CURSO 2016-17

GRADO EN ESTUDIOS INGLESES

BLOQUE 1: TRABAJOS CO-DIRIGIDOS

1. JOSÉ ANTONIO RUBIO CABALLERO AND BERNARDO SANTANO MORENO

TITLE: To integrate or to separate? The Scottish question in the contemporary era.

DESCRIPTION: In the last five years, in Scotland the nationalist and independence movements have undergone a notable increase in popular support and in their electoral expectations. This dissertation will explore the sources of this phenomenon, the development of Scottish nationalism throughout history and the factors which explain the dispute it has with the United Kingdom.

2. JOSÉ ANTONIO RUBIO CABALLERO AND BERNARDO SANTANO MORENO

TITLE: From the Easter Rising to the Good Friday Agreement: A century of conflicts between Ireland and the United Kingdom.

DESCRIPTION: Throughout the 20th century, relations between the United Kingdom and Ireland have gone through a cycle of conflicts, in the first place, because of the independence movements in Ireland, beginning with the Easter Rising in 1916, and, in the second place, because of decades of conflict in Northern Ireland, between Catholics and Protestants. This dissertation will study the main features of these disputes between Ireland and the United Kingdom in the 20th century.

3. JUAN MARÍA GÓMEZ GÓMEZ AND LUIS JAVIER CONEJERO MAGRO

TITLE: Commonplaces from Greek and Latin epic in *Beowulf*.

DESCRIPTION: This dissertation will analyse the presence bloody battles, ekphrasis, or the hero's pursuit of glory in *Beowulf*, relating these motifs to Greek and Latin epic.

4. JUAN MARÍA GÓMEZ GÓMEZ AND FIONA MACARTHUR

TITLE: The principles of Classical public speaking in the race to the White House. Republicans versus Democrats; An analysis of presidential campaign discourse.

DESCRIPTION: The purpose of debates between candidates holding different political positions is not only to inform the public about what these positions are, but also to persuade viewers that one candidate's opinions are better than, and significantly different from, those of the other candidates. This piece of work will compare and contrast the speeches made by a Republican and a Democratic candidate in 2015-2016, tracing the presence of classical rhetoric in their discourse.

5. JESÚS UREÑA BRACERO AND JOSÉ ANTONIO HOYAS SOLÍS

TITLE: Digitized text commentary: How text annotation can facilitate reading newspaper editorials in English as a foreign language

DESCRIPTION: Text annotation can be a valuable source of support for non-native speakers attempting to read and fully understand a newspaper article or editorial in English. As more and more reading is done using electronic texts, the ability to create user-friendly digitized text commentaries is a skill that teachers, editors and others will find useful to master. This project will involve the creation of a digitized commentary on a corpus of newspaper editorials in English, using software that supports embedded or anchored text annotations.

6. FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ CALDERÓN AND FIONA MACARTHUR

TITLE: Editing texts in Spanish and English: A contrastive analysis of formal aspects of written texts in English and Spanish

DESCRIPTION: Editing works in English or Spanish require a good knowledge of the conventions governing spelling and punctuation. This dissertation will compare and contrast the conventions governing these two aspects of written text in the two languages, taking into account the differences in the major varieties of these languages (for example, between Europe and the Americas) in order to provide an account of the most important differences between them.

7. Ma. LUISA MONTERO CUIEL AND OLVIDO SORIA PEQUEÑO

TITLE: False friends and translation

This project will focus on a variety of texts to carry out an in-depth analysis of the translation of false friends English into Spanish. The student will analyze the problems posed by false friends when rendering them into our language. The project should give the student a more comprehensive knowledge of the translation techniques learned in the Translation I and II subjects of the degree.

8. M^a LUISA HARTO AND OLVIDO SORIA PEQUEÑO

TITLE: The conflict between head and heart from Classical to Shakespearean tragedy

DESCRIPTION: Greek and Latin tragedies center on passions that sway men (jealousy, ambition, anger, revenge...) and conflict with the dictates of reason. In a similar way, in Shakespeare's tragedies, characters are swept away by passions that make them perform various illicit actions that trigger a terrible ending.

9. M^a LUISA HARTO AND OLVIDO SORIA PEQUEÑO

TITLE: Reflections of the myth of Pygmalion in English Literature

DESCRIPTION: Among the stories narrated in Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, we find the one about Pygmalion, creator of a statue that ended up becoming a woman. This story has

had a great impact on different manifestations of universal literature in the course of history, and of course in English literature too.

BLOQUE 2: TRABAJOS CON UN SOLO DIRECTOR/A

10. JOSÉ ANTONIO HOYAS SOLÍS

TITLE: 1. Segmental phonology in poetry: A commentary on “This is the Night Mail” by W H Auden.

DESCRIPTION: This piece of work will examine the interlocking of sound and meaning in “This is the Night Mail” by W H Auden, and how the presence and repetition of certain sounds combine to capture the changing rhythm of the Postal Train as it brings all sort of mail and news to people on its way from London to Scotland.

11. JOSÉ ANTONIO HOYAS SOLÍS

TITLE: Supra-segmental phonology in poetry: A Commentary on “Spring and Fall: to a young child”, by G. M.Hopkins.

DESCRIPTION: This piece of work will examine how supra-segmental features such as stress, rhythm and tune interlock with meaning in “Spring and Fall: to a young child”, by G. M.Hopkins, and how that interlocking may give rise to different readings of the poem.

12. LUIS GIRÓN ECHEVARRÍA

TITLE: A contrastive analysis of two Spanish translations of Tennessee Williams's *A Streetcar Named Desire*

DESCRIPTION: This piece of work will carry out a contrastive analysis of two Spanish translations of Tennessee Williams's play *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

13. LUIS GIRÓN ECHEVARRÍA

TITLE: Slavery and the use of rhetorical devices in the *Life of the Narrative of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave*

DESCRIPTION: This project will identify and analyze the presence of figurative language and rhetorical strategies in Frederick Douglass' Life Narrative in the context of the genre of the American slave narratives.

14. LUIS GIRÓN ECHEVARRÍA

TITLE: Ngugi wa Thiong'o and Chinua Achebe on the politics of the language debate in

Africa

DESCRIPTION: This essay will focus on the differing views of Nigerian writer Chinua Achebe and Kenyan writer Ngugi wa Thiong'o over the language debate in Africa (the use of English versus the indigenous languages).

15. LUIS GIRÓN ECHEVARRÍA

TITLE: Linguistic hybridity and code-switching in Junot Diaz's *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*

DESCRIPTION: This piece of work will analyze the linguistic code-switching of Spanish and English in the Dominican American writer Junot Diaz's *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*.

16. JOSÉ LUIS ONCINS MARTÍNEZ

TITLE: Malapropisms as a comic device in Shakespeare's plays: The Merry Wives of Windsor

DESCRIPTION: A malapropism occurs when a character mistakenly uses a word that sounds like another word but that has a different meaning, thus causing laughter. This type of verbal blunder stands out as one of Shakespeare's favourite comic devices, especially in his comedies. In this essay, the student will explore Shakespeare's use of malapropisms in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* and their stylistic function.

17. JOSÉ LUIS ONCINS MARTÍNEZ

TITLE: The "Theory of Humours" as a key to understanding some Shakespearean characters today

DESCRIPTION: In *The Taming of the Shrew*, Petruchio refuses to have meat for dinner (or give it to Katherine) because he believes it causes a hot temper and arouses anger: "I tell thee, Kate, 'twas burnt and dried away. And I expressly am forbid to touch it, for it engenders choler, planteth anger; and better 'twere that both of us did fast, since of ourselves, ourselves are choleric" (Act IV, scene i). Even though a modern reader may find this passage difficult to understand, the connection between meat, choler (bile) and anger would have been easily identified by an Elizabethan audience, and is easily explained through humoral theory, a pseudo science dating back to ancient times and still very much alive in the Renaissance.

The student interested in this topic should first of all familiarize him/herself with the theory and then use it to explain a few passages like the one quoted above that may be difficult to understand today.

18. MANUEL SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA

TITLE: Metaphor: An outline of traditional and contemporary approaches.

DESCRIPTION: In this piece of work, attention will be paid to some of the main approaches to metaphor over the centuries, ranging from those in which metaphor was just an ornamental element of literary language to those for which it is an essential meaning-generator in everyday speech.

19. MANUEL SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA

TITLE: Metonymy: An outline of traditional and contemporary approaches.

DESCRIPTION: In this piece of work, attention will be paid to some of the main approaches to metonymy over the centuries. Starting with traditional approaches in which metonymy was little more than an embellishing device of literary language, the focus will then be shifted to more recent theories which consider metonymy one powerful mechanism for the generation of meaning on all levels of language.

20. MANUEL SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA

TITLE: Word formation without affixation in English

DESCRIPTION: Affixation (i.e., the creation of words with the help of prefixes and suffixes) and compounding are probably the main mechanisms of word creation in English. There exist, however, a number of other contrivances which greatly contribute to the constant formation of new words in order to satisfy the needs of speakers in an ever-changing world. This piece of work will offer an overview and analysis of some of those linguistic devices, including such diverse items as conversion, clipping, blending, eponymy and acronyms, among others.

21. MANUEL SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA

TITLE: The literary text in English: Poetry.

DESCRIPTION: This piece of work aims at offering a general account of the main features that make poetic texts poetic, thus distinguishing them from other varieties of texts. Attention will be paid to such important elements as prosody, metrics, tropes and figures of speech, among others; and to their usefulness for poets over time.

22. CAROLINA P. AMADOR MORENO

TITLE: *Hey there, I'm using Whatsapp!* Gender differences in whatsapp interactions

DESCRIPTION: This project aims at studying the differences in usage of WhatsApp amongst male and female users. The project will be based on the analysis of a small corpus created by the student, where socio-linguistic theories focusing on differences between how men and women communicate (following the guidelines provided in the subject "Análisis Sociolingüístico del Inglés") will be applied.

23. CAROLINA P. AMADOR MORENO

TITLE: *Hey there, I'm using Whatsapp!* Age differences in whatsapp interactions

DESCRIPTION: This project aims at studying the differences in usage of WhatsApp amongst users from different age cohorts. The project will be based on the analysis of a small corpus created by the student, where socio-linguistic theories focusing on differences affecting age (following the guidelines provided in the subject “Análisis Sociolingüístico del Inglés”) will be applied.

24. CAROLINA P. AMADOR MORENO

TITLE: Fictional (re)presentations of Irish English. An Analysis of *The Spinning Heart*, by Donal Ryan.

DESCRIPTION: The fictionalization of varieties of English can be dealt with from different perspectives. For this option, students will have to read the book *The Spinning Heart*, Donal Ryan’s first novel, and discuss how speech representation reflects some of the sociolinguistic features dealt with in class in relation to regional dialects, and Irish English in particular. This is aimed specifically for students who, after having completed the subject “Historia de la Lengua I” successfully at this university, have also chosen “Variación” as an optional module.

25. CAROLINA P. AMADOR MORENO

TITLE: The making of dictionaries: from Johnson to the influence of Corpus Linguistics.

DESCRIPTION: this option involves thorough reading of one of the following books:

- *Lost for Words: The Hidden History of the Oxford English Dictionary* (by Lynda Mugglestone),
- *Caught in the Web of words* (by K. M. Elisabeth Murray) and
- *The Meaning of Everything: The Story of the Oxford English Dictionary* (by Simon Winchester).

The project will analyse the story told in the book of choice in the light of the development of dictionaries during the age of prescriptivism, as studied in the subject “Historia de la Lengua I”.

26. FIONA MACARTHUR PURDON

TITLE: What does it mean to say that a use of language is “informal”? A critical commentary.

DESCRIPTION: Language teaching textbooks and dictionaries may classify specific uses of language as “informal”. This dissertation will describe the use of this word to signal usage restrictions on a given use of English and consider its advantages and disadvantages for the learner of English.

27. FIONA MACARTHUR PURDON

TITLE: Complaints in the public domain: The case of “Letters to the Editor”

DESCRIPTION: Books and websites devote a lot of attention to teaching people how to write an effective letter of complaint to a company, public institution or individual. This dissertation will examine the similarities and differences between the advice given in relation to these kinds of complaints and the way people complain in the pages of a national newspaper.

28. FIONA MACARTHUR PURDON

TITLE: Metaphors in newspaper discourse: Editorials in *The Sun*

DESCRIPTION: In terms of circulation, the daily newspaper, *The Sun*, is the most influential daily paper published in the U.K. This dissertation will examine some editorials this newspaper published in 2015-2016 about “Brexit”, analysing specifically how metaphorical language uses in these texts serve to transmit opinions about the European Union to British readers.

29. ELENA REBOLLO CORTÉS

TITLE: Teaching English to Adults.

DESCRIPTION: In the double reality of the current demands of the job market in the private sector and the increasing importance of bilingual educational programmes in schools, speaking English has become a must for many job seekers and qualified teachers. As a result, the demand for EFL courses has soared and classrooms are full of mature students who face the challenge of learning a new language later in life. This TFG proposal aims at exploring this reality, looking at the motivations that drive adult students back to the classroom, the problems and difficulties that they need to overcome along with the different learning and teaching styles involved in the process of foreign language acquisition.

30. ELENA REBOLLO CORTÉS

TITLE: Using poetry in the EFL classroom?

DESCRIPTION: When planning a language class, teachers usually focus on using a myriad of activities hoping to build their students’ linguistic and communicative skills. Reading and listening comprehensions, writings, grammar, vocabulary and phonetic activities are staples in any lesson plan. This TFG proposal stems from the following key-question: is there any room in daily English-teaching practice for poetry? Can this “difficult” and “high-brow” literary genre be engaging for students and help them expand their English skills?

31. ELENA REBOLLO CORTÉS

TITLE: Classic literature in the EFL classroom.

DESCRIPTION: It is a truth universally acknowledged that learning a language in depth involves also knowing about its culture and the works of its most celebrated writers. Nevertheless, literature in English seems to occupy an increasingly marginal position in language teaching outside academia. In spite of the numerous voices advocating for the importance of including classics in the English curriculum in high schools and the undeniable benefits that this activity reports, teachers usually find blocking obstacles in their endeavours of introducing classics in their lessons. The objective of this TFG proposal is to look at ways in which classic literature can be re-introduced in the EFL classroom, paying particular attention to the many resources made available to teachers in the digital age.

32. BERNARDO SANTANO MORENO

TITLE: Fourteenth-Century alliterative poetry

DESCRIPTION: The fourteenth century witnessed a “revival” of a form of poetic composition that was based on the traditional Germanic meters. The paper should analyse the main characteristics of both the Old and Middle English alliterative systems.

33. BERNARDO SANTANO MORENO

TITLE: Runic Inscriptions in Britain

DESCRIPTION: Although traditional views of the history of the early Germanic nations maintained that they were illiterate, the fact is that they had developed a writing system: the runic alphabet. In the British Isles, this alphabet developed its own peculiarities and for a time coexisted with the Latin alphabet. The paper should analyse the peculiarities of the Anglo-Saxon *futhorc* on the basis of the runic inscriptions and documents preserved.

34. BERNARDO SANTANO MORENO

TITLE: The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle: Composition, Surviving Manuscripts and Their Relationship

DESCRIPTION: *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* is a complex set of seven major manuscripts, of which the earliest is known as the Parker Chronicle. It is accepted that in the 9th century a chronicle was drawn up in the kingdom of Wessex. Some of the sources used for the composition of this Chronicle have been identified, other sources have been suggested. The paper should analyse the main hypotheses about the composition of the original *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, the characteristics of the surviving manuscripts and the way in which they interrelate.

35. JOSÉ ANTONIO HOYAS SOLÍS

TITLE: Origins of American English

DESCRIPTION: American English is probably the most widely spread variety nowadays, but its origin can be traced back to the XVII century, when the first wave of

English speaking settlers arrived in North America. Since then, English started to include words closely related to the daily activities and environment of the natives (*moose, tepee, chocolate, wigwam*). This project aims at researching, analysing and classifying these first hints of American English, establishing the appropriate conclusions. Even though it is true that the evolution of a language cannot be understood without, at least, a glimpse into the history of the country where it is spoken, this project is to be approached from a linguistic point of view. Historical and cultural references would be part of the background information that may help contextualize the main findings.

36. LUIS JAVIER CONEJERO MAGRO

TITLE: *Hamlet* in British culture

DESCRIPTION: It is a well-known fact that in British culture, and by extension in the cultures of the main English speaking countries in the world, Hamlet has been considered to be an emblem of doubt or hesitation and indecisiveness. As a matter of fact, this is a statement that is frequently repeated in not few histories of literature and encyclopaedias. However, the increasing number of film and theatre adaptations of the play is contributing to making people see other dimensions of the Prince of Denmark which complement, if not contradict, this image. The aim of this degree dissertation is to debate on whether these new visions are or not in keeping with Shakespeare's original text.

37. GUSTAVO A. RODRÍGUEZ MARTÍN

TITLE: The critical reception of 20th-Century drama in the English-speaking press: *Saint Joan*.

DESCRIPTION: Many plays that premiered after the circulation of printed newspapers became widespread owe much of their success to the reviews they got in those newspapers. Play reviews in the press have shaped the social reception of many works of drama, and they have also helped to popularize specific plays. These reviews, and the opinions thereof, have also changed over time - the resulting notions thus fleshing out as an aggregate or a synthesis of earlier views.

The digitised newspaper archives available today allow one to delve into these reviews and trace their evolution. In this case, the student will look into some of the reviews available for Bernard Shaw's *Saint Joan* across different periods. The purpose of these queries is to create a well-documented, creative piece of autonomous work that will provide a critical, historical overview of the aforementioned reviews.

38. GUSTAVO A. RODRÍGUEZ MARTÍN

TITLE: The critical reception of 20th-Century drama in the English-speaking press: *Waiting for Godot*.

DESCRIPTION: Many plays that premiered after the circulation of printed newspapers became widespread owe much of their success to the reviews they got in those newspapers. Play reviews in the press have shaped the social reception of many works of drama, and they have also helped to popularize specific plays. These reviews, and the opinions thereof, have also changed over time - the resulting notions thus fleshing out as an aggregate or a synthesis of earlier views.

The digitised newspaper archives available today allow one to delve into these reviews and trace their evolution. In this case, the student will look into some of the reviews available for Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* across different periods. The purpose of these queries is to create a well-documented, creative piece of autonomous work that will provide a critical, historical overview of the aforementioned reviews.

39. GUSTAVO A. RODRÍGUEZ MARTÍN

TITLE: An introduction to corpus-based phraseology in English: Phraseological Units with 'butter'.

DESCRIPTION: Students are often familiar with the dictionary definition of phraseological units and the metaphorical or allegorical meaning that certain words may have within those PUs. It is much more difficult, however, for them to come across examples of PUs in use. This, in turn, makes them unaware of when and how to use these units, let alone how they can be creatively modified.

A brief introduction to general, web-based corpora can make up for the above deficit and make students develop a better understanding of how phraseological units function in uncontrolled language. The purpose of this piece of work is to find out more about the use of PUs containing the word 'butter', so that the student is able to write a report on their use, frequency, structure, and other relevant data. The student is expected to take a creative, critical stance that will allow him/her to gain insights into the patterns at work in phraseological language.

40. GUSTAVO A. RODRÍGUEZ MARTÍN

TITLE: An introduction to corpus-based phraseology in English: Phraseological Units with 'milk'.

DESCRIPTION: Students are often familiar with the dictionary definition of phraseological units and the metaphorical or allegorical meaning that certain words may have within those PUs. It is much more difficult, however, for them to come across examples of PUs in use. This, in turn, makes them unaware of when and how to use these units, let alone how they can be creatively modified.

A brief introduction to general, web-based corpora can make up for the above deficit and make students develop a better understanding of how phraseological units function in uncontrolled language. The purpose of this piece of work is to find out more about the use of PUs containing the word 'milk', so that the student is able to write a report on their use, frequency, structure, and other relevant data. The student is expected to take a creative, critical stance that will allow him/her to gain insights into the patterns at work in phraseological language.

41. DIANA VILLANUEVA ROMERO

TITLE: Online (re)sources for the study of American Literature

DESCRIPTION: This final year dissertation aims at encouraging the student's reflection on the use of online (re)sources for the study of American Literature. In order to accomplish this, the student will be asked to reflect on the suitability of online (re)sources in an academic setting, as well as to create an annotated compilation of useful online (re)sources as a sample of what good academic (re)sources really are.

42. DIANA VILLANUEVA ROMERO

TITLE: Postcolonial Discourses on the Animal Question: The Case of J.M. Coetzee's *The Lives of Animals*

DESCRIPTION: This final year dissertation aims at analyzing J.M. Coetzee's novel *The Lives of Animals* (1999) from the point of view of zoocriticism or the study of the literary representation of the relationship between the human and the nonhuman animal. The student will be encouraged to do a close reading of the given text reflecting on issues such as the defense of vegetarianism the main protagonist, Elizabeth Costello, does throughout this book.

43. DIANA VILLANUEVA ROMERO

TITLE: Environmental Awareness in *The Hunger Games*

DESCRIPTION: In Suzanne Collins's *The Hunger Games* (2008), environmental awareness is present through the depiction of a post-apocalyptic world where the main characters find solace in what remains of the past environmental integrity of planet Earth. This final year dissertation aims at analyzing the environmental discourse of this young-adult piece.

44. DIANA VILLANUEVA ROMERO

TITLE: Oroonoko, Friend or Foe?

DESCRIPTION: This final year dissertation aims at analyzing the main character of Aphra Behn's novella *Oroonoko* paying special attention to his ambiguous nature as both friend and foe of European people. The student will be encouraged to think about the representation of people of colored in Anglophone literatures as well as the reception and reinterpretation Behn's work has had since its publication in 1688.

45. JESÚS MARÍN CALVARRO

TITLE: Bernard Shaw's plays of ideas.

DESCRIPTION: Bernard Shaw's plays dealt with contemporary problems, some of them very controversial: from the exploitation of the poor (*Widowers' Houses*) or prostitution (*Mrs Warren's Profession*) to female equality (*Candida*) or the Irish

question (*John Bull's Other Island*). This drama of ideas compelled his audience to think.

46. JESÚS MARÍN CALVARRO

TITLE: The Irish theatre of Sean O'Casey.

DESCRIPTION: Sean O'Casey's plays are set in the city rather than the country, and their intention was to portray, in realistic language and action, the Irish character, and the issues of patriotism, self-deceit, resignation, and tragedy. *Juno and the Paycock* (1924) is O'Casey's best-known play.

47. JESÚS MARÍN CALVARRO

TITLE: Samuel Beckett and his theatre of the Absurd

DESCRIPTION: Beckett takes drama to new extremes, and pushes his characters to the limits of solitude, non-communication and hopelessness. Nonetheless, they all survive, and any thoughts of suicide are dispelled.

48. JESÚS MARÍN CALVARRO

TITLE: Harold Pinter and the 'comedy of menace'

DESCRIPTION: Pinter is more concerned with the dangers inherent in the silences between characters, the menace in the meaning of what is said and not said. His characters do not have the capacity that Beckett's characters have, to fill their time with memories, chat, tortured reflections. They are much less self-sufficient and more dependent on the unstable ties that bind them to each other. *The Caretaker* (1960) and *The Homecoming* (1965) are full-length plays of menace, ambiguity and unfulfilled ambitions.

49. CARLA CARMONA ESCALERA

TITLE: The Philosophy of Art of Arthur Danto: Art After the End of Art.

DESCRIPTION: The student is supposed to present the fundamental ideas of Danto's philosophy of art. Among the issues to be discussed are the method of the indiscernibles, the concept of the art world, the idea of the death of art and his views on formalism.

