**Language & Linguistics**

**Title** Incremental learning of Chinese orthography: ERP indicators of animated and static stroke displays on character form and meaning acquisition.

**Author** Chang, L.-Y., Stafura, J. Z., Rickles, B., Chen, H.-C., & Perfetti, C. A.

**Source** Journal of Neurolinguistics, 2015 33(0), 78-95.

**Abstract** We examined the hypothesis that encoding Chinese characters through stroke-by-stroke animation produces orthographic learning that is different from conventional static displays. We used behavioral responses and ERPs to index the incremental learning that occurs of character forms, and the attention allocation to dynamic vs. static encodings. Adult, native English speakers learned form-meaning associations for characters displayed either statically or dynamically while ERPs were recorded. During learning, in both conditions, the P600 component decreased over exposures, indexing incremental and episodic learning of characters. Moreover, dynamic displays, relative to static displays, produced a larger P300, indexing attention-based updating of orthographic representations. Furthermore, the P300 predicted retention for dynamically encoded characters. On a form-meaning judgment task immediately following learning, an incongruity N400 effect was found for only the statically-encoded characters, although behavioral accuracy was similar across conditions. Our findings suggest multiple pathways to orthographic learning that result in trade-offs in learning form and meaning lexical constituents.

**Database** ScienceDirect

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**Title** Gaps, Ghosts and Gapless Relatives in Spoken English.

**Author** Collins, C., & Radford, A.

**Source** Studia Linguistica, 2015. doi: 10.1111/stul.12033

**Abstract** This paper looks at the syntax of so-called gapless relative clauses in spoken English. §1 contrasts gap relatives (like that italicised in ‘something which I said’, in which there is a gap internally within the relative clause associated with the relativised constituent) with gapless relatives (like that italicised in ‘They were clowning around, which I didn’t really care until I found out they had lost my
file', in which there is no apparent gap within the relative clause). In §2, we note that a number of recent analyses take which to function as a subordinating conjunction in gapless relatives, but we argue against this view and provide evidence that the wh-word in such clauses is indeed a relative pronoun. In §3, we argue that the relative pronoun in gapless relatives serves as the object of a ‘silent’ preposition. In §4, we present an analysis under which a preposition can be silent when it undergoes a type of deletion operation called Ghosting. §5 discusses gapless relatives which have a Topic-Comment interpretation, and argues for an extended Ghosting analysis under which a TP containing a predicate of saying associated with the ghosted preposition is also ghosted. Our overall conclusion is that supposedly ‘gapless’ relatives are more properly analysed as containing a gap created by relativization of the object of a ghosted preposition.

Database Wiley Online Library

Title Lexical Properties of Slovene Sign Language: A Corpus-Based Study.
Author Vintar, Š.
Abstract Slovene Sign Language (SZJ) has as yet received little attention from linguists. This article presents some basic facts about SZJ, its history, current status, and a description of the Slovene Sign Language Corpus and Pilot Grammar (SIGNOR) project, which compiled and annotated a representative corpus of SZJ. Finally, selected quantitative data extracted from the corpus are presented. The article discusses certain lexical and semantic properties of SZJ, for example, the role of fillers and gestures. Figures are compared to related works, particularly corpus-based studies of British Sign Language (BSL) and Auslan. The article concludes by outlining plans for future research and ways in which the present corpus could improve basic reference works for SZJ and serve as a basis for new technologies.

Database Project Muse

Music

Title The laurel and the axe: Petrarchist execution lyrics in late-Renaissance Italy.
Author Cox, V.
Abstract A little-investigated feature of the lyric tradition in late sixteenth-century Italy is its increased engagement with the social world. Occasional poetry in this period constitutes a potentially rich resource for social historians, yet this remains almost entirely unexploited to date. This article examines a body of verse of particular interest in this regard: a collection of around eighty mainly anonymous printed and manuscript poems commemorating the execution for murder of two young lovers in Bologna in 1587. These poems represent a rare case of Petrarchist lyric intruding into a literary space more commonly associated with popular forms such as ballads and broadsheets, and they provide novel and striking documentation of gender attitudes and attitudes to crime and punishment in this period. Particularly interesting is the diversity of opinions expressed in the lyrics, and the sometimes sharply polemical tone they assume. Taken as a whole, this body of literature illustrates the continuing vitality of civic conversation in Counter-Reformation Bologna, during a pontificate,
that of Sixtus V, when the administration of papal justice was a highly politicized issue.
**Movie**

**Title**  Revisualising ‘porn’: how young adults’ consumption of sexually explicit Internet movies can inform approaches to Canadian sexual health promotion.

**Author**  Hare, K. A., Gahagan, J., Jackson, L., & Steenbeek, A.

**Source**  *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 17(3), 269-283. doi: 10.1080/13691058.2014.919409

**Abstract**  The Internet offers an invaluable opportunity to re-imagine ideas, constructs and disciplines to create innovative sexual health promotion interventions. To gain insight into what young adults (aged 19?28) may be seeking in online sexual resources and approaches, this study explored how young people perceived their sexual health to be influenced by their consumption of the highly utilised sexual medium of Sexually Explicit Internet Movies (SEIM). Employing an exploratory, qualitative methodology, data were collected through semi-structured interviews with 12 urban, heterosexual young adults, who self-identified as having consumed SEIM for a period of at least one year. All interviews were audiotaped with permission, transcribed verbatim and the data were analysed to identify emergent thematic concepts. Participants described utilising SEIM as an all-inclusive sexual forum to learn more about the positive aspects of sexual health, in a context that they viewed as being devoid of alternatives. Young adults’ perceptions of the utility of SEIM suggest that it would be beneficial to create novel, sex-positive online sexual health interventions. Further exploration is clearly warranted on how Internet resources that are related to sexual health, such as SEIM, can be utilised to facilitate innovative approaches to online sexual health promotion.

**Database**  Routledge [Taylor & Francis]

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**Cultural communication**

**Title**  Tag Writing, Search Engines, and Cultural Scripts.

**Author**  Hirsu, L.

**Source**  *Computers and Composition*, 2015, 35(0), 30-40.

**Abstract**  In this article, I explore the social, political, and ethical implications of search engine use and tag writing. Unlike scholars in economics, law, information science, and media studies who have weighed on these issues for more than a decade now, I argue that scholarship in rhetoric and composition has taken a narrow approach by connecting search engines and tag writing primarily with the teaching of research skills. Relying on a folksonomic approach, I conduct a case study of a Romanian online campaign that aimed to work with and against Google in order to change Romanians’ online identity. Based on this example, I show how search engines can be used, on the one hand, to write new identity scripts and to change cultural patterns, and, on the other hand, to reinscribe power relations and limited identity politics. I also argue that the campaign is an example of public rhetorical education that calls on us, teachers and scholars of composition, to rethink our pedagogies and to expand our teaching tools. Ultimately, integrating search engines and tag writing into the classroom can teach students to use technologies more responsibly and to reflect critically on their everyday writing practices, which, in their simplest manifestations, are powerful forms of culture-writing.

**Database**  ScienceDirect
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Reading difference: picture book retellings as contexts for exploring personal meanings of race and culture.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Lysaker, J., &amp; Sedberry, T.</td>
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<td>Abstract</td>
<td>In racially and culturally homogeneous school settings, opportunities for children to interact with those who are unlike themselves are not always available. Picture book retellings provide contexts within which students are exposed to racial and cultural differences by allowing them to engage in vicarious events with people they might not otherwise encounter. In this article, the authors explore two fourth graders’ aided and unaided picture book retellings. They argue that retellings are dialogic literacy events that provide children with opportunities to explore difference through social imagination and develop empathetic response to a wide range of fictional others.</td>
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Information science

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Conceptualizing the Integration of Digital Humanities in Instructional Services: Possibilities to Enhance Digital Literacy in the 21st century.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Raymond, P.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>In this paper, three DH projects hosted in the New York Public Library (NYPL) are closely examined as teaching tools to identify the development of new digital literacy skills. In this context, &quot;digital literacy skills address the fact that information is no longer limited to text but also includes still images, video, sound, interactive web pages.&quot; By introducing and integrating these DH projects into the library’s instructional services program, participants can gain research skills that were not acquired initially through traditional library workshops. Traditional library skills often focused on finding and using print and digital resources effectively for research, and gaining information literacy core skills such as critical thinking skills, which are still important and relevant. Additionally, there could be an expansion and integration of these “traditional” skills with newer ones that involve visualization, data, and information systems. Thus, the possibilities of opening up new learning outcomes, program opportunities, research engagements and discoveries could be realized and seized through DH projects as teaching tools.</td>
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