THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF CROATIA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION SCIENCES

is organizing

an international interdisciplinary scientific conference named

READERS AND READING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

on November 11th, 2021 (online, via Zoom)

The development of modern media has influenced not only the traditionally understood reading culture but also the communication processes and the psychology of readers. With the emergence of new short forms, structures and communication channels, from various portals to Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and other modern forms of communication, reading physically tangible texts is becoming a feature of only a small group of people who still find traditional written texts to be sources of information, pleasure, imagination, an escape from reality, humanization, and in certain reading strategies there is also a therapeutic dimension. The young modern reader accustomed to receiving and transmitting information quickly finds it increasingly difficult to cope with the traditional notion of reading and reading culture, which is directly reflected in the forms of teaching and teaching strategies, especially in the social sciences and humanities where they still nurture traditional methods of approaching text. We are aware that in this era of accelerated digitalization, it is necessary to constantly raise awareness of the importance of in-depth and critical reading, especially of media texts. Our goal is to bring together leading experts from Croatia and abroad - communicologists, psychologists, neurologists, media literacy experts, rehabilitation educators, teachers of various professions and fields that deal with reading and face many challenges related to reading - and approach the phenomenon of reading from different perspectives.
We believe that in the *Year of Reading*, proclaimed by the Government of the Republic of Croatia at the suggestion of the Ministry of Culture and Media, this international interdisciplinary scientific conference will contribute to the promotion of reading and answer many questions we face which are associated in various ways with reading habits and culture.

Conference sponsor: the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts

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READERS AND READING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

LUX VERA
HRVATSKO KATOLIČKO SVEUČILIŠTE ZAGREB
UNIVERSITAS STUDIORUM CATHOLICA CROATICA ZAGRABIA

PLENARY LECTURES

Goran Šimić
University of Zagreb, School of Medicine, Croatian Institute for Brain Research, Croatia

The importance of reading for the development of emotional competences

Renee Hobbs
University of Rhode Island, Harrington School of Communication and Media, USA

Improving reading comprehension by using media literacy activities

Karol Visinko
University of Rijeka, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Croatia

The application of reading strategies in teaching and learning the Croatian language and literature

Anita Peti-Stantić
University of Zagreb, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Croatia

The power of concentric circles of reading ability: in-depth reading of popular science texts

Andrzej S. Wodka
Alphonsian Academy, Pontifical Lateran University, Roma, Italy

The Bible and reading rituals. Why read what's already been read?

Modules and suggested topics:

METHODOLOGICAL APPROACHES TO READING

- pre-reading skills
- reading comprehension
- reading strategies
- digitalization and reading
- modern approaches to literature

READING AND NEW MEDIA

- media literacy
- the impact of the internet on reading habits – the media and (young) readers
- media audience – from reader to author (citizen/participatory journalism)
- print media in the digital age
- media ethics and reader responsibility

READING AND LITERATURE

- children's literature and youth literature
- reading contemporary literary works
- crisis of the canon
- dialectal literature
- academic reading

READING AND NEUROLOGICAL PROCESSES

- the brain and reading
- digital media and changes in cognitive development
- reading specificities (difficulties) – dyslexia, alexia, etc.
- reading for blind and partially sighted individuals
- reading and Alzeheimer's

PSYCHOLOGY AND READING

- therapeutic reading
- the psychology of the modern reader
- reading motivation
- the influence of reading habits on development, e.g. imagination, curiousity, creativity, critical thinking, empathy, etc.
- the psychology of reading – individual differences in reading – gender, age, social status, etc.

THE SOCIOCULTURAL ASPECTS OF READING

- reading culture
- the sociology of reading
- reading and socialization / reading and alienation (reading escapism)
- the role of city libraries in promoting reading
- reading in pictures

RELIGION, SPIRITUALITY, PHILOSOPHY

- the Bible and reading rituals (why read what's already been read)
- Christianity – church – book
- the philosophy of reading and reading philosophy
- narrative ethics
- reading and ethical action (empathy, imagination, altruism, etc.).

Please note: Presentations may be expanded to similar or related topics that fit into the concept of the conference.

Conference languages: Croatian and English

APPLICATION AND REGISTRATION FOR THE CONFERENCE

***online* form on the Conference website**

http://www.unicath.hr/citatelj-i-citanje-u-digitalno-doba#

Important dates: by June 25th, 2021 – submission of abstracts

July 10th, 2021 – abstract acceptance notice

November 11th, 2021 – conference date

December 20th 2021 – delivery of the complete works for publication in the conference proceedings

Applications will open: May 1st, 2021.

Abstracts should contain **300 to 350** words, with a title, and the text of the abstract should indicate the theoretical framework of the research problems and/or hypotheses (research work), a review of theories (review work), research methods and three to four key words. If the presentation language is Croatian, the abstract must be written in both Croatian and English. If the presentation language is English, the abstract needs to be written only in English. Abstracts should be in accordance with the norms of the Croatian/English standard language (proofread). Following the review process, a booklet of the accepted abstracts will be published on the Conference website.

Participation fees according to participant category:

PARTICIPANT CATEGORY	PARTICIPATION FEE	Payment outside Croatia
early registration – by **Sept. 1st**	300.00 kn	40 €
late registration – by **Nov. 1st**	500.00 kn	70 €
doctoral students	150.00 kn	20 €
listeners	200.00 kn	30 €
registration through AZOO (listeners)	participation with registration	free
students	participation with registration	free

Payment information: IBAN: HR1123400091110353987
Privredna Banka Zagreb
Model: HR 00
Reference number: participant's personal identification number (OIB)
Payment reference: Konferencija *Čitatelj i čitanje u digitalno doba*
Note:
The participation fee is paid for each submitted work, and not according to the number of authors.

Payment outside Croatia:
IBAN: HR1123400091110353987
SWIFT CODE: PBZGHR2X, Privredna banka Zagreb

All additional information regarding the Conference will be available on the http://www.unicath.hr/citatelj-i-citanje-u-digitalno-doba# and all inquiries can be sent to the citanje2021@unicath.hr.

We look forward to your participation!

prof. dr. sc. Jerko Valković, Head of the Department of Communication Sciences
doc. dr. sc. Marijana Togonal, President of the Program Committee
doc. dr. sc. Suzana Peran, President of the Organizing Committee