

Lend - International Summer School

21st - 24th July 2025

Salerno (Italy)

Claudia Ferradas



Plenary

Across the divide: texts as cultural mediators in the language class

The development of linguistic and cultural mediation skills, as the new descriptors included in the *Common European Framework or Reference for Languages* show, is a major focus in language education, whose central aim is to face the challenge of expressing one world view through a language normally used to express a different one. The reading experience, which can involve different media, offers opportunities to come into contact with diverse contexts and personal circumstances, thus contributing to intercultural awareness and offering a fertile soil to develop mediation skills.

In this presentation, we will explore the potential of poems, short narratives and video-poems to develop linguistic and cultural mediation skills, transcending cultural borders to build empathy. The talk is also intended as an invitation to reflect on the challenges posed by the aim of expressing of our own multiple identities in a foreign language.

Workshop

“That’s not what I meant”: activities to develop and assess mediation skills

In this workshop, we will discuss the potential of short texts and coursebook activities to develop linguistic and cultural mediation skills. We will work together to design and

adapt materials to achieve these aims and will suggest ways in which we can identify and assess the competences involved in communicating successfully as social agents.

Presenter's biodata

Dr Claudia Ferradas is based in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where she graduated as a teacher of English and specialised in Anglophone literatures. She then continued her studies in the United Kingdom and holds an MA in Education and Professional Development (TEFL) from the University of East Anglia and PhD in English Studies from the University of Nottingham. She has worked in over twenty countries and trains teachers regularly in the UK as an Affiliate Trainer for NILE (Norwich Institute for Language Education). She often works as a consultant for Oxford University Press, Trinity College London and the British Council. She co-chaired the *Oxford Conference on the Teaching of Literature* (Corpus Christi College) on five occasions and has published intercultural teaching materials as well as three poetry collections.