Recording and sorting the diploma thesis file, 2008 – 2018, from the Greek postgraduate program in Cultural Studies: Semiotics and Communication

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Abstract
The postgraduate program of Cultural Studies: Semiotics and Communication of the University of Western Macedonia of the Preschool Department lasted ten years, starting in 2008 and ending in 2018. During this time there are recorded historical data, narratives, conferences, a large number of professors and students who took part, as well as all the diplomatic work that was done (162). In this study, we record and analyze the titles of the diploma thesis that are traced throughout. The methods and theoretical schemes that are chosen are related to archival research of the postgraduate program, applying the leximetric and thematic analysis.

Keywords: recording, archives, semiotics

1. Introduction
The Hellenic Semiotic Society deals with the study and dissemination of semiotics in Greece. Semiotic is the scientific area that studies in depth all the phenomena of civilization in today's societies, but also in societies of the past, as point systems. Objectives of the semiotics study are, among other things, the daily behavior, the meanings of the gestures and the way of dressing, the structures of poetry and literature, the way the music, the painting and the other arts communicate, the messages emanating from the theater, cinema and the media, as well as the experiences from architecture and in general the built space. The HSS is a member of the International Semiotic Society (IASS-AIS, http://iass-aiss.org) and participates in its processes with two national representatives at the IASS Executive Committee and a representative of the Balkan Association for Semiotic Studies, who are entitled voting (http://hellenic-semiotics.gr/).

The subject of this postgraduate thesis is part of the completion of the postgraduate curriculum entitled Cultural Studies: Semiotics and Communication, which belongs to the Educational Sciences, of the University of Western Macedonia of the Preschool Department. This is a research that is not based on an earlier one as it relates to the sorting and recording of the archive of diploma theses that have been implemented since the start of the postgraduate program in 2008 until its expiration in 2018 for the feedback and evaluation of the program, ending in 2019 and highlighting gender, status, and thematic variables identified. The methods and theoretical forms chosen are for archival research, leximetric and thematic analysis. The Research Materials composed a) from the Government Gazettes (2008 to 2017), b) from the Recording of the open interview by the founding members (Papoutzis Lazaros), c) The Thematic Analysis of the Interview and d) The Thematic Classification of the Titles Selected by students and teachers. The postgraduate program was founded on the occasion of the conference held in Florina in 2006-2007 (Government Gazette 1572 / B / 6-08-2008) by the Hellenic Semiotic Society, with the main rapporteurs Alexandros Lagopoulos and Karin Boklund. A second occasion is the innovation for that time, establishment of a graduate program in Semiotics and refers to a field unexplored by the data of the time, especially for the Pedagogical Departments.

The transmitters of the postgraduate program are the professors who support specialties and participate in in cognitive subjects in a) Pedagogy, b) Social and Cultural Studies, c) Media and Communication, d) Urbanism / Architecture, e) in English Literature, in feminist studies and queer issues. The total number of artists and experts participated is 11 and the resulting specialties: Musician, poet, composer, photographer, sculptor, painter, theatrologist. Different sciences cooperated with the Hellenic Semiotic Society and created this new postgraduate program. The students and graduates of the department have contributed to diffusion the concept of Semiotics in a wider context, while many of them have used it as a contraption in their work in areas such as a) journalism, b) communication, c) graphic design, and d) education. Many participations of graduate students identified in schools, meetings, summer schools and conferences, not only in Greece but also at a global level. Some of them concerned cities and countries such as: a) Sozopol of Bulgaria, b) Sofia, c) Italy, d) Tarto, e) Torino, g) Helsinki, and h) Finland. Also important are the collaborations recorded: a) with Ero Tarasti (former world president of the global semiotic society) and b) with Cyprus and the Visual Semiotics Lab.
The total number of professors registered is 90 and cognitive fields are: History, Psychology, Statistics, Cultural Studies, Pedagogy, Theatrical Education, Modern Greek theater, Linguistics, Law, Graphic Design, Painting, Film, Sculpture, Educational politics, Music, Sociology, Literature, Social Anthropology, Architecture, Mathematics, Urban Planning, English Literature, Informatics, Printing, Business Administration, Literature, Literature, Philosophy, Russian Literature, Rhythmic Education, Marketing, Musicology and Composition, Dance and Kinetics, Special Education. As far as the teachers' biological sex are concerned, 34 women and 56 men arise, while geographically attended by teachers from Bulgaria, England, Finland and Italy. The conferences that took place are total 54. Quantitatively and geographically there are 18 Greek conferences, 4 European conferences, 32 international conferences arise. Interdisciplinary and group work and studies also emerged and promoted one of the objectives of the postgraduate program for interdisciplinarity.

2. Methodology

We attended the archival research: “Archives are those evidence that accumulate by physical process at any time in the course of an activity, public or private, and therefore maintained for use - reporting under the supervision of the persons responsible for the activities or their successors” (Jenkinson, 1980).“Historical archives are the evidence of public or private organizations that have been judged worthy of maintenance for study and research and which have been deposited or selected for filing in an archive establishment” (Shellenberg, 1956). “The archives are the yarn of the social fabric of human interaction and offer: proof of the activities and interactions of human relationships and information on the relationships of people, organizations, occurrences and places” (McKemmish, 2000). We have implemented thematic analysis (thematic analysis), which attempts in a systematic way to detect, to organize and understand and understand patterns of meaning (“themes”) within a set of elements and thus to provide cognitive access to collective significances and experiences (Braun & Clarke, 2006).

We also combined the application of lexicometric analysis, because it is about counting the nouns and adjectives and is a contraption of analysis of the research material in the field of grammar and the syntax of titles that making small narratives.

The narrative according to Eco (1982), is a material from linguistic signs of semiotic suspension, signifier and signified. It is a way of involving the linguistic elements of the exemplary axles of narrative with the constitutional axles in order to give forms to the signifier and the signified. Thus, the reader will be able through the contrasts, alternations and substitutions of the axles to understand the material as a narrative that will pass through time. The narrative should be combined with plot, the way the reader perceives and knows the myth. The plot consists of smaller narratives that incur the myth and through the description give liveliness, purpose and content to the narrative. The myth of narrative contains and derives ideologically and politically significant elements that reflect the social cohesion from which the author derives the content of the myth, or there are elements that restrict him.

The adjustment of lexicometry to a narrative, aims at the analysis of grammar and syntax in relation to the political and ideological content. The survey of place names, national names and surnames in this research, apart from identifying the structural elements and content of the narratives we are consider, also identifies the rhetorical elaboration of speech.

The process of analyzing principles, derived in the context of a qualitative research, is associated with an interesting and demanding chain of decisions that the researcher is called upon to take. These decisions have to do with the choice of the specific analytical approach to be attended, as well as with a range of explicit and inexplicit ontological, epistemological and methodological assumptions to be adopted during the analytical process (Tsiolis, 2015).

There are several approaches to analyzing quality elements, which have different theoretical and epistemological endpoints. These approaches are distinct from each other both in relation to their objectives and in their processes and techniques they apply. The researcher chooses a qualitative analysis approach based on the theoretical position he adopts, the type of research questions he has formulated and the type of material he has produced. In all of these approaches, we can incorporate thematic analysis, content analysis and empirically ground on theory. These approaches can be adopted by researchers starting from different theoretical positions and setting different research objectives.

As far as thematic analysis is concerned, we attempt in a systematic way to understand meaning standards (“themes”), within a set of elements, and in this way to be produced cognitive access to collective significances and experiences concerning the choices of students and professors.
3. Research Material

1.1. Titles of Diplomatic works

1. “Clovers, Thieres and Cannons ...” European Football Team Logo: A Historical, Sociological and Semiotic Reading”
2. “Football and juvenile subcultures: A case study of fans of ARIS Thessaloniki”
4. “Elias Byzantis (1910-1980) store inscriptions in Florina, a contribution to local history”
5. ”Historical facts and fiction in the Greek cinema for the Civil War: The Troupes, The Hunters, The Times of the Storm, ... - Soul Deep, Knit Red Thread, (1975-2010)”
7. “Visual workshop, Second Primary School of Palaia Thessaloniki (1998-2010), case study: design and aesthetic stages”
9. “Representations of women in modern Greek photography”
11. “Gender stereotypes in print advertising: a longitudinal study of women's and men's magazines”
12. “Simon Norfolk: Photojournalism as a Topography of Destruction”
14. “Greek State Tourist Advertising (GOT). Semiotic analysis of posters”
15. “Powerful weblogs: Design and Semiotic Description”
16. “Semiotic approach to Kostas Sfika's film <Metamorphosis>”
17. “Long-term unemployed and their social choices: education, work, social planning”
18. “Students of Fine Arts Florina paint the place names of the surrounding villages”
20. “Students and athletics: Opinions, preferences and habits”
21. “Class validity and Class Diversity in the Greek Musical of the 1960s”
23. “Linguistic and visual material in the "Civil Press" (KKE version)”
24. “Mapping of the site: Spatial and Historic significant, Students fifth and Sixth Primary map the place”
25. “Russian proverbs for marriage: interlingual translation, values and meanings”
27. “School mathmanual of C Primary school: Semiotic representations of the values of culture”
28. “Historical research: renaming settlements in the Florina area at the beginning of the 20th century”
30. “Significants and signifiers in T. Adorno’s work on music”
31. “Socio-semiotics study of printed advertisements of the Greek press: The sex and the connotations of”
33. “Semiotic and school manual: Case study of religious manual of C’ primary school and Analytical Program”
34. “Semiotic analysis of past papers in the English language. Case Study of Cambridge Michigan University Issues”
35. “Families of musicians and self-taught instrumentalists in Florina (beginning of the 20th century until today)”
36. “The historical evolution of the development of the sciences and Technology, 11th-20th Century: Geographic investigation”
37. “Seeking the image of the Greek in the years of 1821: Case study of language and visual texts of children of sixth class of Primary Education in the history lesson”
38. “Massive Culture from the Frankfurt School to Postmodernism - The Case of Popular Music”
40. “Applied education policy for chess in primary education, with dimensions of semiotic approach: Case
study in Florina”
41 “Semiotic analysis of children’s clothing catalogs. Case study of companies: Lapin House, Alouette, Benetton”
42 “Soviet posters from the collection of Sergio Gregorian (1918-1921), aesthetic and historical analysis”
43 “College of Hellenic guidance of Florina: Recording the history of the society”
44 “The concept of Democracy in Article 16 of the Constitution”
45 “Family businesses in the traditional settlement of Nymfeo today: Case study”
46 “Semiotic Analysis of Images in the Presentation of Cultural Characteristics. Case study of Greek teaching manuals as a Second Language GEIA SAS1 & 2”
47 “Routes to the Goumenissa Communities”
48 “Representations of Civil Conflict and Ideas in the Political Cartoons of Archelaus (1945-1947) - Semiotic Readings and Didactical Approaches”
49 “Feminism and Advertising: Investigating gender stereotypes in Pantene’s #whipit campaign (LABELS AGAINST WOMEN: Do not Let Labels Hold You Back)”
50 “Representations of Civil Conflict and Ideas in the Political Cartoons of Archelaus (1945-1947) - Semiotic Readings and Didactical Approaches” (2)
51 “Art therapy. Visual Arts, Dramatherapy, Music Therapy: Explanatory and Semiotic Approach”
52 “PIXAR characters: Semiotic approach”
53 “Gender and Cinematic representation: Racial projections and Discrimination in Disney Cartoon Movies”
54 “The kind of science fiction in cinema in the 21st century, topics, representations, ideologies”
55 “Stereotypes of the two genders in the rebetiko subculture (1900-1952)”
56 “Media and Politics: The referendum of 5th July 2015 through the headlines of the newspapers”
57 “A map of Semitic through postgraduate studies in the specific field of knowledge. Classifications-thematic-methods”
58 “By capturing the crisis. An Interpretative Approach of Painting and verbal expressions of Students of the 6th Primary School for the Economic Crisis in Greece”
59 “The handsome and the ugly man in the paintings of early and early school children. Identities, stereotypes and social representations”
60 “The image of the child in the modern cartoon. The case of the cartoonist KYR (Ioannis Kyriakopoulos) [1972-2015]”
61 “The child in street art - Graffiti. Optical representations of childhood”
62 “Quantitative and qualitative research - 2nd generation immigrants in Greece attending Greek universities and schools”
63 “The image in the modern Greek fairy tale (2010-2016). Semiotic and pedagogical analysis”
64 “Cultural dimensions of sport and culture through educational activities. Case study of a non-profit organization "Panhellenic Mathitiada"”
65 “Recruitment of teachers for human rights education”
66 “Using Facebook as a Social Networking Tool: Investigating the User Profile of”
67 “The Representation of Childhood in Traditional Song - 19th to the Beginning of the 20th Century”
68 “Gender stereotypes and social representations in preschool age. Case study: contradictory images and interpretations of two fairy tales”
69 “Investigation of the way" musical culture "is formed by the students of the University of Western Macedonia in Florina”
70 “Arts and Learning, Education through the Arts. Didactic and Pedagogical Approaches”
71 “Gender Representations in the Illustration of the school manual at Greek Language of the sixth class primary School”
72 “The phenomenon of school violence and intimidation in the film narrative - Case study: the film In a better world (2010)”
73 “The operation of the musical narrative in ‘Politika Kitchen’ in the historical context of the era”
74 “The Exodus of Mesolongi: Semiotic Analysis of Tables and Texts”
75 “Semiotic Analysis of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child and proposals for its implementation”
76 “Art Exhibitions in Kindergarten: Approaching the Concept of Economy”
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| 114 | "The administration of the educational process in the schools of Droseros Xanthi through the views of
115 "Children's Literature in the early childhood education. Case Study: 'The Little Prince' by Antoine de Saint Exupery"

116 "Sociology at School: Semiotic Analysis of the School manual of the 3rd high school class"

117 "Bouzouki in Greek Music Schools and his Greekness: Zeibekiko of Evdokia, a case study"

118 "The Costumes of the superheroes in the Watchmen Comic. A Semiotic Research"

119 "The role of education in the citizen of the future. Ken Robinson's video case study"

120 "Professional development and assumption of professional roles in the Primary School. Semiotic analysis of the cross-curricular activities of the school manuals of the Greek language course"

121 "Semiotic Analysis of Comics: The Case of Carl Marx"

122 "The Pretty and the Beast: Semiotic Analysis of the Cinematic Narrative for Children"

123 "Libraries of the Municipality of Thessaloniki as places for education and entertainment for children. Educational programs for children 8-12 years of age five-year 2012-2017. Case study"

124 "60 Years State Orchestra of Thessaloniki, Leadership and Administration: Archival Research and Oral History"

125 "Vulnerable groups in cinema: case study of cinematographic works for autism"

126 "The Theater in Education as a way of teaching values, Eleni Euripides in Secondary Education"

127 "The sorcery in Ancient Greece: Curses and adultery. Semiotic analysis of the adultery at the Archaeological Museum of Pella"

128 "Bibliographic survey for the study of QUEER STUDIES in English bibliography (2000-2017): Researches in Greece"

129 "Healing springs of Eleftherwn Kavalas ZA Zachos: Vision and creation"

130 "Music in Cinema: The case of "Soul Deep" by Pantelis Voulgaris"

131 "Sociological Analysis of the Semiotic Historical Monuments of Veria"

132 "Greece as a new homeland: Studying the views of refugee children from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan on Greece and the notion of the homeland"

133 "YES, We CAN of will.i.am: Music Video or Political Propaganda?"

134 "Religious encounter in Thessaloniki (15th century - 21st century): Places of worship and museum education"

135 "Music, Sound and Sound Effects at Jurassic Park"

136 "Semiotic analysis of visual images through children's sketches of Greek students for the refugee child"

137 "Semiotic Analysis of Political Optical Symbols of the far-Right Political Space: Case Study of the Xrisi Avgi Party"

138 "Semiotic analysis and comparative study of the "Cross-curricular curriculum (DEPPS, 2014) with the" Detailed program of Pre-school Education (3-6 years old) "(2016)"

139 "Teaching to refugees: An evaluation of teachers' experience"

140 "Language practice and attitudes towards the native language and the language of the host country to second-generation migrants in Greece"

141 "Theaters and Lifelong Learning: Investigation Teachers' Views on Lifelong Learning"

142 "Herbert Marcuse's "One-Dimensional Man" in Giorgos Lanthimos's "Astakos": A Sociological Approach to an Eclectic Affinity"

143 "The posters of the Thessaloniki Film Festival: a semiotic analysis"

144 "Semiotic analysis of child commercial advertising. Case study of the Yfantis Group"

145 "Images of Disability in Greek Children's Literature"

146 "Administration of multiculturalism at school"

147 "Down syndrome optics in cinema"

148 "The Museum as a means of education and training of the child. The study of the Museums of Florina - The Museum Education in Gymnasium Children"

149 "Representations of ecclesiastical and religious issues in the newspaper "Voice of Florina" 1960-1985"

150 "The woman in cinema: scripts based on real stories"

151 "Mainstream Queer Cinema: A Socio-semiotic Approach"

152 "The Role of a Creative Movement Program in Relationships between male and female Students in a 5th class of Primary School. An experimental approach"
1.2. Indicative analysis of all material

- **1st sample:**
  "Clovers, Thieres and Cannons ...” European Football Team Logo: A Historical, Sociological and Semiotic Reading. **Significant:** Three phrases with dominantly nouns without a verb, with two subjects (Logo, Reading), in plural and singular. Adjectives are used for determinations and properties as historical, sociological and semiotic Reading.
  So, it results as interpreting the field of sociology of sport.

- **2nd sample:**
  Football and juvenile subcultures: A case study of fans of ARIS Thessaloniki. **Significant:** Two phrases with dominantly nouns without a verb, with three subjects (Football, subcultures, of fans), in plural and singular. Also determined without verb and the method (case study). Adjectives are used for chronological determinations (juvenile) and properties, roles attributed to the noun (of fans) as predicates (of ARIS, Thessaloniki).
  So, it results as interpreting the field of sociology of sport in a local national field

- **3rd sample:**
  Danae Stratigopoulou (1913-2009): Life and Work, Contribution to the History of Women. **Significant:** a famous woman in singular, as a biography from the music world: so, it results as interpreting the feminist historical narrative in national field

- **4th sample:**
  Elias Byzantis (1910-1980) store inscriptions in Florina, a contribution to local history. **Significant:** Two phrases with dominantly nouns without a verb, with two subjects (inscriptions, history), in plural and singular. Adjectives are used for local determinations (in Florina) and properties.
  So, it results as interpreting the field of history in local and national field.

- **5th sample:**
  Historical facts and fiction in the Greek cinema for the Civil War: The Troupes, The Hunters, The Times of the Storm, ... - Soul Deep, Knit Red Thread, (1975-2010). **Significant:** One phrase with dominantly nouns without a verb, with one subject (War), in singular. Adjectives are used for chronological determinations (Civil, 1975-2010) and properties as historical facts.
  So, it results as interpreting the field of history in cinematography in the national field.

**Results- Discussion**

The thematic that arise from the whole of the material, are those of visual culture as advertising, cinema, music and visual arts, local history, history of education and issues of racism and gender diversity.

Gender and class variables appear to penetrate into the most tasks and geographic specifications identified relate to places, nations, microscale, but also in European and international bibliography, both with field studies and bibliographic analyzes. The Cultural Studies developed a special sub-section of Visual Culture Studies, in which emphasize this postgraduate, because it is based in the unprecedented importance of depiction and optical technologies in modern society and deals with all kinds of visual information, its connotations, pleasures and consumption, including all optical technologies, from oil painting to the internet.
The Social Semiotic of Visual Communication deals with the study of images within their social context and provides a detailed and clear method of analyzing connotations arising from constitutional relations between people, places and objects depicted in the images.

These connotations are described as representations, regarding the modality or the perceived plausibility of the images, as interacting (the images do something for or for the viewer) and synthesis (such as placement of images and text in specific ways). The images are analyzed either to capture the reality or as evidence of how their creators (re)constructed reality, as traces of prejudice, ideologically colored interpretation. The issue of "recording" versus "construction" arises from the nature of the images, especially when some of them contain both elements and require a method of analysis sensitive to both categories.

Advertising images are 'constructions' and the analysis aims at their deconstruction. Content analysis is also often and combined with semiotic: requires at least two different groups of elements for the purpose of comparison and in addition, each of these groups needs to include a sufficiently large number of similar images in order for the groups to be representative and statistically adequate. However, any method of analyzing optical material provides a fairly wide range of defined image characteristics and they are associated with specific connotations and / or communication results. The combination of content and semiotics analysis in the image and in the media has already been implemented. The social semiotic of visual communication includes the description of the semiotics resources: what can be said and done with images and how can things that people say and do with images can be interpreted?

Semiotic tried to study cultural artifacts and practices of any kind based on unified principles, at best giving some consistency to the study of communication media and cultural studies. While the semiotic analysis was widely applied to literary, artistic and musical works, it was also applied to the decoding of a wide variety of popular cultural phenomena. This helped to encourage a serious study of the popular culture.

Another variation of the semiotic is that of Foucault, emphasizes the "results of dialogic practices" (Tagg 1988, 22). It is certainly fair to note that many of the criticisms of semiotics took the form of self-criticism of those who practiced it. The theoretical literature of semiotics depicts a continuous effort by many semiotics to capture the impact of new theories on their own semiotic view. In addition, modern apologists have written that there is nothing new in emphasizing the social dimension of semiotic. The roots of social semiotics can recur to the first theorists. Saussure himself (1974) referred to semiotics as "science that studies the life of points in society", while the notion of notation as a process is central to Peirce's thought. However, it must be recognized that the emphasis on the social dimension of semiotic is relatively recent and is not yet apparent at the center of semiotic practice.

Semiotic is not, it never existed, and it seems unlikely to ever become an independent academic department. It is now widely regarded as a way of analyzing texts of cultural forms (Deacon et al., 1999, 135). Contrary to Deacon's (a.m.) theoretical approaches and predictions, it is clear that in epistemology of the 21st century, Semiotic is now approaching a wide range of scientific objects and is not used only for the deconstruction and analysis of texts. It combines and is counted on equal terms with subjects of humanities, arts and culture, education and strengthens its methodological tools, supplements in terms of triangulation studies and researches of young researchers.

In the above context, the Semiotic methodological tools have been successfully applied for a decade in the Postgraduate Program of Education Sciences: Semiotic and Communication, approaching a variety of subjects and specialties of researchers - rapporteurs and students, which ended up applying the models taught and transferring them accordingly to their working lives. Ultimately, this is the clear pursuit of a postgraduate program that will mutate knowledge into a way of working, lifestyle - culture and perception.

Reference List


