

Την Πέμπτη 9 Μαΐου 2019, στις 2.00 μμ, στην αίθουσα 417 junior, θα μιλήσει η **Jacinta Maria Matos**, Associate Professor, University of Coimbra, στο πλαίσιο των σεμιναρίων "Problematics of Culture and Theory." Η ομιλία της θα έχει τίτλο: "George Orwell in the age of Trump: the uses and abuses of language."

Η εκδήλωση απευθύνεται στο Προσωπικό, στους προπτυχιακούς και μεταπτυχιακούς φοιτητές/τριες του Τμήματος, καθώς και στο ευρύτερο κοινό.

Ακολουθεί η περίληψη της παρουσίασης και το βιογραφικό της ομιλήτριας.

Δρ Ε. Μποτονάκη και Δρ Τατιανή Ραπατζίκου
Problematics Seminar Co-ordinators

"George Orwell in the age of Trump: the uses and abuses of language"

Synopsis

In what has come to be known as 'the age of Trump', dystopian fiction like Orwell's *Nineteen Eighty-Four* seems to speak directly to a wide and international audience. One of the most influential political novels of the 20th century, Orwell's text provides us with a vocabulary to discuss the state's totalitarian control of the individual. No wonder, therefore, that his fame has again peaked in recent years, in an age of increased surveillance and where the perversions of language seem to dominate public discourse in countries where right-wing populism is on the rise. This paper will discuss Orwell's views on language and the centrality he accorded it in his political project both as an instrument of state control and a powerful antidote against the authoritarian tendencies present in his, as well as in our own, society.

Jacinta Maria Matos is Associate Professor in the Anglo-American Section, Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Faculty of Letters, University of Coimbra, Portugal. She holds an MA from Birmingham University, supervised by David Lodge, on *George Orwell's Nonfiction Narratives*. Her doctoral thesis on English Travel Writing from World War II to the 1990's was published in Portugal (1999: Edições Afrontamento). She has also published in Portugal and abroad on Edward Said, V. S. Naipaul and Daniel Defoe, among others. Her main research interests are in the area of nonfiction narratives as well as in Postcolonial, Surveillance and Urban Studies. She is also a George Orwell scholar and has just published a book on Orwell's life and work (2019: Edições 70).