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Category: Academic Meeting

Title: Social Science as Social Semiotics: Bridging Theories, Methods, and Practices

Description: 2018 is a year to celebrate two important milestones in the history of social semiotics - publication of landmark books in 1978 and 1988. Forty years ago, Michael Halliday issued *Language as a Social Semiotic*. Ten years after, Robert Hodge and Gunther Kress published *Social Semiotics*.

To mark these two important anniversaries the Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University holds the conference *Social Science as Social Semiotics* as a part of wider research and education program *Baltic Modes of Social Semiotics*. The organizers of the conference hope that the venue of the conference will serve to synergize the potent semiotic schools and traditions that have a long history in the Baltic region. The conference is open to scholars from other regions. It will provide a space for all those who are interested in social semiotics to discuss the achievements and challenges of this field.

Even though the occasion for the conference consigns mostly to the systemic-functional branch of semiotics, its agenda extends its thematic domains. Possible topics of the conference contributions include (but are not limited to):
— Knowledge transfer and methodological convergence of social and semiotic research, — Trans- and multidisciplinary: the interface of research and social practices, — Semiotic approaches and methods in social sciences, — Multimodal analysis across disciplines, — Tartu-Moscow Semiotic School and its applications to social research, — Greimas's semiotics in social studies, — Peirce's semiotics in social studies, — Interfaces of biosemiotics and social semiotics, — Methods and techniques of semiotic research beyond semiotics, — Theoretical and pragmatic challenges of social semiotics, — Semiotics of power and governance, — Social linguistics and communication studies, — Discourse analysis in social and political research, — Social representations in language, culture, and art.

Plenary speakers of the conference are

- Gunther Kress,
- Jeff Bezemer,
- Mikhail Ilyin,
- Anti Randviir,
- Suren Zolyan.

We invite proposals for individual presentations (20 minutes), panels and roundtables.

Conference languages: English, Russian.

Translations will not be arranged.

Registration fee: 2000 rubles

Important dates:

— Deadline for abstract submissions: 20 May 2018 — Notification of acceptance: 15 June 2018 — Registration deadline: 30 July 2018

Panel and roundtable suggestions are welcome and can be sent to baltic.semiotics [at] gmail.com

Abstracts (max. 300 words) should be submitted via the online form:

<https://goo.gl/forms/9ZhThRyhCZmLCvJ02>

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Place: Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University, Kaliningrad, Russia

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