



Call for papers
International conference
The Sensitive Dimension of Canadian Time and Space
July 3-6, 2025
Galați, Romania

The conference aims to bring together specialists in the field of socio-human sciences (philology, geography, history), members of the CEACS, around the perception/aesthetics of time, temporality, space, and spatiality in their Canadian real or fictional hypostases. The two paradigms, temporal and spatial, are considered from the perspective of meanings, representations, mutations, individual and collective identity assertions, in a general or particular outlook, through more advanced approaches or, on the contrary, by focusing on specific studies.

We prioritize not only literary approaches but also geographical ones since geography is, above all, a science of the sensitive in the philosophical sense, that is, of what can be known through the senses.

The temporal matrices, universal or individualized, have forged the Canadian nation, the Canadian spirit, and its complex and plural identity. They have become fixed in reductive stereotypes of space vastness and climate that abound in a distinct literature, culture, and civilization. That is why each specific field of research "extracts" from Canadian spatiality and temporality its own space and its own time of research, which it invests with maximum importance and priority.

From this perspective, the realm of sensitivity encompasses multiple meanings—psychological, physiological, somatic, mental, etc.—which become manifest in various types of writing and literary expressions. The geographical space is then probed, questioned through the prism of the sensitive, i.e. subject and object of the senses and sensitivity. The subject describing a sensitive space turns towards a profound interiority, reflects, meditates, and questions ipseity, alterity, and even identity hybridity, inscribing itself in a time of history and History.

How does a space become sensitive? What are the external or internal factors that make

the subject sensitive to a space? And what are the facets and implications of a sensitized space? There is, of course, a conscious relationship between geography and sensory experiences that has an impact on the psyche. Thus, the sensory perceptions of space have entered literature and have taken on various descriptive forms. We will question the taxonomies, the characteristics that make a space sensitive. What imprint does history leave on certain places, transforming them into sensitive ones? The "implementation" of the sensitive, the said and the unsaid of sensitivity, occurs both in fictional romance (novels, short stories, travel narratives and chronicles, essays, even poetry) and in the testimonies, chronicles, narratives, and studies of geographers, chroniclers of a sensitive locus amœnus. From the direct and intimate contact of the body, of (all) its senses with a certain known, unknown, or unfamiliar place, on well-trodden paths or with the unusual, arise unheard-of, unspeakable, original, extravagant experiences of the extraordinary. How are the experiences that result from it in writing? What perspective and what tools are used?

Exploring time opens a rich and multidimensional opportunity to deepen our understanding of Canada's history, culture, and contemporary challenges. Temporal exploration could begin with a reflection on the Indigenous origins of Canada, examining how the First Nations lived and interpreted time through their traditions and seasonal cycles, in contrast to the European chronology established by colonization. Another perspective could focus on the impact of immigration on the perception of time in Canada, specifically how different ethnic and cultural groups have brought their own temporal conceptions, thereby enriching the social and cultural fabric of the country. Moreover, an exploration of historical policies and national narratives could reveal how Canada has shaped its identity over time, by integrating inclusive narratives that reflect the growing diversity of its population. These interdisciplinary approaches could catalyze productive dialogues and new collaborations, thereby clarifying our understanding of the exploration of time in the modern Canadian context.

Writing creates space and existential territories, inscribing itself in a real, tangible time of the writer as a social being, as well as in a fictional, dreamlike, fantastic, or fantasized time.

The intended participants are university professors, researchers, and doctoral students who question the thematic axes indicated below in their research activities. The (non-exhaustive) lines of thought / research areas are centered around sensitive time and space and are outlined as follows:

- the sensitive space of routine and proximity to contingency;
- sensitive time and temporality;
- sensitized space, vector of identity modeling;
- the sensory introspection in public space;
- "translating" sensitive space and time;
- the "transcription" and narrative construction of the sensory space;
- vectors of meaning, the sensitive, and sensitivity in the travel narratives of the first Canadians;
- the sensitive territories of Indigenous Peoples / First Nations;
- sensitive Indigenous literature
- existential metaphors frozen in time;

- the writer, geographer of the sensitive;
- palimpsests of the sensitive in the exiled, uprooted and rooted;
- appropriation of space and time in the exiled subject.

The conference is organized by members of the Romanian Association for Canadian Studies in Central and Eastern Europe, the Department of French Language and Literature, the Department of English, the Research Center of Theory and Practice of Discourse, The Research Centre of the Interface Research of the Original and Translated Text: Cognitive and Communicative Dimensions of the Message from the Faculty of Letters, and the Department of Socio-Human Sciences of the Cross-Border Faculty, under the high patronage of the "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați, Romania, and the AECEC / CEACS.

Scientific committee of the conference:

Sophie BEAULÉ, Saint-Mary's University Halifax, Canada
 Carmen ANDREI, "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați, Romania
 Mirna SINDIČIĆ SABLJO, University of Zadar, Croatia
 Marija PANIĆ, University of Kragujevac, Serbia
 Octavian MORE, Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania
 Virgil BORCAN, "Transilvania" University of Brașov, Romania
 Iulia-Corina DOBROTA, "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați, Romania
 Oana Celia GHEORGHIU, "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați, Romania
 Mehmet Ali ÇELIKEL, Marmara University of Istanbul, Turkey

Organizer of the conference

Carmen ANDREI, Professor, PhD Hab. (French)

Co-organizers:

Iulia-Corina DOBROTA, Associate Professor, PhD (English)
 Oana Celia GHEORGHIU, Associate Professor, PhD Hab. (English)
 Delia OPREA, Associate Professor, PhD (French)

Secretaries of the conference:

Iulia Chloé ROMAN, PhD student, "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați, Romania
 Nicoleta DIMA, PhD student, "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galați, Romania

Speakers who wish to organize thematic workshops with other participants, with students in French/English, and master's students from our faculties, or to share their professional experience related to the conference topic, are invited to submit proposals. We strongly encourage proposals for workshops and the chairing of thematic sections.

Participation fees

- 60 euros for AECEC / CEACS members to be paid after the acceptance of the communication and the confirmation of participation;
- 80 euros for non-AECEC/CEACS members

The fee includes the conference materials and coffee breaks.

The travel and accommodation expenses and any visa formalities for the participants are the sole responsibility of the participants; assistance will always be available on-site.

A tourist and cultural excursion (Tudor Vladimirescu Orthodox Monastery) and a boat ride on the Danube will be offered to all participants (registration on site).

All necessary information regarding the trip to Galați, accommodation, and meals will be provided by the conference secretaries - contact.chloeroman@gmail.com, dima.nicoleta91@yahoo.com

The languages of the conference are **French** and **English**.

Conference schedule:

February 25, 2025 – Launch of the Call for Papers;

May 1, 2025 – submission of communications;

May 10, 2025 – notice from the scientific committee and notification sent to selected speakers;

June 2 – provisional schedule;

July 3-6, 2025 – conference proceedings;

September 1, 2025 – sending articles to reviewers for double-blind scientific review;

December 2025 – submission of revised articles

February 2026 – publication.

The proceedings of the Conference are scheduled to be published in ACROSS (BDI-indexed journal).

The communication proposals should be sent to:

carmen.andrei@ugal.ro -French

corina.dobrota@ugal.ro – English

oana.gheorghiu@ugal.ro - English

Coda: The deadline for receiving proposals is set for **May 1, 2025**.

The communication proposals will include:

- the last name, first name, and institutional affiliation;
- the privileged thematic section;
- a summary of 300 words with the objective, problem statement, originality of research, expected outcomes;
- 3-5 keywords;
- a selective bibliography (3-5 titles);
- a biographical note introducing the speaker (max. 10 lines).

Presentation of communications:

The time allotted for each presentation is 20 minutes, followed by 10 minutes for

discussions/questions.

The presentations will be organized into thematic sections.

The conference will be held at the Faculty of Letters (building AS), 112 Domnească Street, Galați. The opening of the conference on July 3 will take place in the Senate Hall of the University Rectorate, 47 Domneasca Street.

In-person communications are preferred, but remote or hybrid synchronous participation is always possible exceptionally.