



DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH SPECIALISATION IN FRENCH

Barkhuizen, Albertus du Plooy

Albertus du Plooy Barkhuizen was born in the North West Province on 3 February 1988. He received his secondary education in Pretoria, where he matriculated at Hoërskool Waterkloof in 2006. He obtained the degree BA Languages in 2009, French Hons in 2010 and MA Applied Language Studies with specialisation in Translation and Interpreting in 2014. He started as a Junior Lecturer at the University of Pretoria in 2011. Between 2012 and 2016 he practised as freelance translator and interpreter in South Africa and France, a career move that would later lay the foundations for his PhD studies. In 2016 he was appointed as Lecturer in the Department of Afrikaans & Dutch, German & French at the University of the Free State.

With his thesis titled, LES BÉNÉFICES DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT DES TECHNIQUES DE BASE DE PERFECTIONNEMENT DE LANGUE À DES APPRENANTS (FAUX) DÉBUTANTS DE FLE DANS UN CONTEXTE NON-FRANCOPHONE, (Benefits of Teaching Basic Language Perfecting Techniques to (faux) Beginners of FLE in a non-Francophone Context) the candidate studied the teaching of French as a Foreign Language (FLE), focusing on its importance in South Africa and the teaching of the subject at tertiary institutions. The study proposes an innovative approach for vocabulary learning which was tested on a second-year university group of 'faux' beginners in French as a foreign language, to establish the benefits of using basic language-perfecting exercises in the FLE classroom. The results show that these exercises offer learning development to the extent where a portable language laboratory can be engineered to boost autonomous learning.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH SPECIALISATION IN PHILOSOPHY

CAWOOD, Helen-Mary

Helen-Mary Cawood was born in Tarkastad, Eastern Cape, on the 22nd November 1984. She received her secondary education in Graaff-Reinet, where she matriculated at Union High School in 2002. She obtained the degree BA General with Philosophy, Psychology and English, in 2007 (University of the Free State); Honours in Philosophy with distinction in 2008 and Honours in English Literature in 2009, (University of the Free State); MA in Philosophy (Cum laude) in 2014 (University of the Free State); and PhD in Philosophy in 2020. She worked as tutor at the Philosophy Department until appointed as a lecturer in 2011.

In this thesis titled, THE NOSTALGIA INDUSTRY: THE COMMODIFICATION OF MEMORY AND THE SEARCH FOR COMMUNITY IN MODERN FOOTBALL, it is argued that the collective memories of modern football fans (with a particular focus on English fans) have been heavily curated by contemporary 'museal cultures', thus providing them with a decontextualised view of the past. Furthermore, an analysis is undertaken as to whether these collective memories have been hijacked via institutionalised nostalgic sentiments in order to create nostalgic consumers of meaning and subjectivity – also referred to as the 'Nostalgia Industry'. The framework for this investigation is that of 'critical communitarianism', which seeks to integrate critical, collective, communitarian, and historically grounded notions of reason, love, and subjectivity. More broadly this thesis contributes to modernity studies by analysing how elements of tradition are instrumentalised in contemporary capitalism with English football as a case study.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH SPECIALISATION IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

GROBBELAAR, Alta

Alta Grobbelaar received her secondary education in Welkom and matriculated at Goudveld Hoërskool in 2008. She obtained a BA degree in Media Studies and Journalism in 2012. In 2013 the BA Hons degree cum laude in Political Science, in 2015 a Master of Arts in Political Science cum laude and the PhD in Political Science in 2020 at the University of the Free State. She started her career as academic in Bloemfontein. In 2010 she was appointed as tutor in the Department of Political Studies and Governance and at present she is lecturer at the University of the Free State.

With her thesis titled, A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF THE INTERRELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE MEDIA AND TERRORIST GROUPS IN AFRICA, the candidate draws attention to media usage as an international phenomenon; so drawing on internationalised and established methods in studying Africa, the terrorists that abide on African soil, and the messages that they communicate through innovative means. Thus, learning from the rest of world but not grouping Africa under the “terrorism umbrella” that has taken the world by storm. By applying focuses such as framing, Critical Discourse Analysis, the politics of fear and varying influences on the immediate problem in Africa. By understanding and analysing the constant evolution of terrorism and how it manifests in Africa, the study hopes to open the door to study the role of the media, influences on the media, and the eventual influence on international and local policy – all within the African context.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH SPECIALISATION IN SOCIAL WORK

ESAU, Merlene Christobelle

Merlene Christobelle Esau was born in Port Elizabeth on 23 October 1969 where she also received her secondary education. She matriculated at Westville Senior Secondary School in 1987. She obtained the degree Baccalaureus Artium in Social Work at the University of the Western Cape in 1991 and the degree Master of Social Work in 1999 at the University of the Free State. She started her career as a social worker at the Department of Social Development in Botshabelo, Free State in 1992. In 2007, she was appointed in the Department of Social Work at the University of the Free State whereas a lecturer she is responsible for teaching the theory and practicum of community development and community work in social work.

With her thesis titled: A COMMUNITY-BASED INTERVENTION PROGRAMME FOR CHILD-HEADED HOUSEHOLDS, the candidate makes a contribution to developmental social-work practice, focusing on child-headed households as a vulnerable group. She demonstrates that social arrangements should aim to expand these children's capabilities, that is, their freedom to promote or achieve what they value doing and being. Using the Capability Approach of Amartya Sen as a theoretical framework, and a participatory action research design, a community-based intervention programme to enable them to improve their quality of life was developed. The results of this investigation serve as an indication of the value of child-headed households co-researching and collaborating with the social worker to identify and develop their capabilities and functionings for increasing dignity, justice and freedom.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH SPECIALISATION IN SOCIOLOGY

GOODRICK, Wade Francis

Wade Francis Goodrick was born in Bloemfontein on 10 February 1988. He received his secondary education in Bloemfontein, where he matriculated at Saint Andrews School in 2006. He obtained the B.A. General degree in 2010, Sociology Honours with distinction in 2011, and Masters in Sociology with distinction in 2013. All three of his degrees were completed at the University of the Free State. He started his career as a facilitator in the Department of Sociology in 2010, and presently he occupies the post of junior lecturer in the same department at the University of the Free State.

With his thesis titled, THE SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE PERCEPTION OF RISK ASSOCIATED WITH UNCONVENTIONAL GAS DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA, the candidate makes a sociological contribution to understanding how risk perceptions concerning unconventional gas development are constructed over time as a result of several interacting social variables. Using a qualitative approach, 17 key informant interviews with proponents and opponents of unconventional gas development in South Africa found that defining variables and factors differ between proponents and opponents and were found to be a result of contextual differences, individual and group goals, and personalised experiences. The study's findings can be used to strengthen risk assessment, communication, and management strategy concerned with potential unconventional gas development in South Africa, while also possibly helping to reduce some of the divisions and misunderstandings that exist between proponents and opponents of unconventional gas development.