

The student scientific-applied seminar "Lusophone Literary Readings" was held between 28 May and 10 June at Sofia University's Faculty of Classical and Modern Philology (FCMP), as an initiative of the Chair "José Saramago". The first edition of the seminar, which is to be organised annually by the program of Portuguese Philology of FCMP, was dedicated to the creative genius of the Renaissance poet Luís Vaz de Camões, famous by his epic on the planetary endeavour of Portuguese discoveries and an inexhaustible source of creativity for subsequent epochs.

The seminar was held as a series of webinars, structured in two parts. In the first part, under the guidance of the lecturer Prof. Dr. Yana Andreeva, the students got acquainted with the selected corpus and discussed the leading thematic, formal-structural and stylistic aspects of the texts. Illustrating the impressive genre diversity of the author's poetry, the corpus included both works from the late medieval poetic genres and Renaissance compositions. The commentary on the texts focused on those themes that stand out in Camões' poems that transcend time and make it sound especially relevant today - the contradictions and variability of human nature, the transience of human time, the interest in the other and in the diversity of races and cultures, in the individual as a citizen of his homeland, but also as a citizen of the world, as Camões himself was because of his many years of wandering in Asia and Africa, where he wrote many of his works. The seminar focused on the intertextual connections between Camões' works and examples of the latest Portuguese poetry, including selected poems by renowned contemporary poets Ana Luísa Amaral and Manuel Alegre, in which the dialogue with Camões' poetry is clear.

The second part of the seminar, led by lecturer Prof. Dr. Vesela Chergova, was held in two webinar meetings, after the students had previously read the selected texts, having in consideration their artistic and thematic characteristics, and had read them independently. The practice of reciting aloud intended to introduce the students to breathing techniques suitable for public speech and to overcome "stage fever", to organise the overflow of voices in the recital, trying to trace the specific articulatory features of learning phonological segments, namely the allophones of the hissing-buzzing archiphonem, the tense vibrant phoneme, some semi-high vowels and nasal diphthongs in the European orthographic norm, as well as the phrasal emphasis in phonological syntagms and the construction of the intonation melody of verses with communicative, interrogative, exclamatory and exclamatory with a view to potentiating the transmission of the poetic message and emotional content

of Camões' verses and the verses inspired by his poetry, invariably emphasising the expressiveness of the reciter's personal experience. Awareness and use of the prosodic characteristics of measured speech contributes to the artistic effect and emotional impact on the audience.

The results of the seminar were presented as part of the celebrations of the Day of Portugal, Camões, and the Portuguese Communities at Sofia University's Faculty of Classical and Modern Philology, which counted with the presence of the Portuguese Ambassador Ms Ana Maria Ribeiro da Silva, as well as Camões - Institute for Cooperation and Language, I.P Director Ms Anaísa Gordino, students, lecturers, PhD students and postdoctoral students in Portuguese Philology. The students who participated in the seminar, Antoaneta Stoycheva, Gergana Radisheva, Denitsa Urumova, Dimitar Atanasov, Joana Atanasova, Kiril Terziiski, Mirjana Gateva, Mihail Marchev, Monik Borisova and Tereza Vasileva rendered a poetic recital with poems by Camões and others.