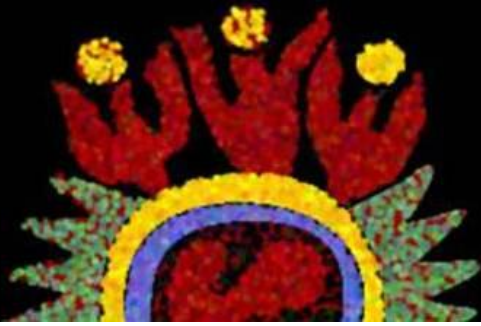


Portuguese Language Journal



Volume 9, October 2015

Book Reviews

Portuguese in the World Today

Flannery, Mércia Regina Santana. *Uma Introdução à Análise Linguística da Narrativa Oral:*

Abordagens e Modelos. Pontes Editores. Campinas São Paulo. Coleção NPLA. Volume 42. 2015.

A very stimulating survey book carefully prepared by Professor Mercia Flannery, the director of the Portuguese program of the University of Pennsylvania and an accomplished researcher in the field of sociolinguistics and narrative studies. The book consisting of six chapters and a conclusion addresses the narrative and its multiple dimensions such as structure, orality, discourse analysis, contexts, interactions, identity, and forms and a review of the respective research in a span of over fifty years, beginning with Erwin Goffman and William Labov and including her own recent research on identity and race. The chronological chain of findings and relevant discussion of issues such as classroom discourse, authentic discourse, and the role of a rapidly evolving technologically interconnected world are addressed.

This book has an important role as a guide for a variety of needs in the field of second language teaching and learning such as university academic programs and professional

development for language teachers. It will also inform classroom teachers on ways of incorporating authentic discourse in the classroom through the use of technology. In addition, and most importantly, it will guide the preparation of leaders and curricula designers of study abroad programs by providing them with the necessary awareness and tools to optimize their students experience abroad. The incorporation of observation strategies, the development of questions and tools for ethnographic observation abroad, and the analysis of findings will add value and substance to the experience.

This is a valuable well-written textbook highly recommended for a variety of purposes in the field of language teaching for the 21 century. An English translation merits consideration as it will serve well a much broader global community.

Maria Antonia Cowles

University of Pennsylvania, Retired